



Indigenous  
Physicians  
Association  
of Canada

2020-21 Activity Summary

## IPAC 2021-22 Activity Summary

### Relationships with Elders and Knowledge Keepers

We have been honoured to learn from and work with Elder Syexwaliya on IPAC activities such as town halls, wellness events, PRIDoC planning and the Roundtable discussions on Anti-Indigenous Racism in Medical Education. In planning for PRIDoC 2022, we are working with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Elders from across the country.

### Relationships with Partners and Stakeholders

IPAC continues to nurture relationships with partners and stakeholders including but not limited to NCIME, AFMC, CMF, CMA, CMAF, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, CFPC, Black Physicians of Canada, and Canadian medical schools. In 2021, IPAC became a member of the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Medical Forum.

### Membership

Through relationship building, we have grown from less than 90 active members to 281 active members in two years. We have made great strides in working with Canada's medical schools to sponsor the membership fees for Indigenous medical students. Our 2021/22 work plan includes increasing membership in areas that appear underrepresented and to continue working with Canada's medical schools on sponsoring student memberships.

Alberta	70	Nunavut	2
BC	41	Ontario	94
Manitoba	14	PEI	1
New Brunswick	0	Quebec	6
Newfoundland & Labrador	8	Saskatchewan	9
North West Territories	2	Yukon	0
Nova Scotia	4		

### NCIME

IPAC is managing the NCIME Physician Wellness and Joy in Work portfolio for the next three years. The working groups are currently being confirmed and will begin meeting fall 2021.

### Anti-Indigenous Racism Work

IPAC has hosted two national Roundtable Discussions on Anti-Indigenous Racism in Medical Education and has actively attended the National Dialogues on Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Healthcare Systems. Board President Dr. Nel Wieman and Acting Director Melanie Osmack, attend weekly meetings as part of the planning committee for the National Dialogue. IPAC has participated in several media interviews and released statements on the death of Joyce Echaquan and the Investigation into the graves at Canada's residential schools.



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### **PRIDoC 2022**

PRIDoC 2020 was postponed to 2022 due to COVID-19. The event is taking place July 10-15, 2022. And registration is open [www.pridoc2022.com](http://www.pridoc2022.com) Subcommittees have been onboarded and are meeting regularly. The PRIDoC council (International) and the PRIDoC Planning Committee (National) meet monthly to keep planning on track.

### **IPAC Committees**

In the fall of 2020, a group of IPAC members dedicated to lifting up and celebrating our colleagues for their amazing work, formed the IPAC Champions Committee. The deeper aim being to elevate the voices of Indigenous physician leaders to greater spheres of influence to impact system-level change for care of Indigenous people. Results so far include Dr. Terri Aldred receiving an RDoC award and the Royal College assisting us with putting Dr. Thomas Dignan forward for the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

### **TRC Calls to Action 23/24 Medical School Survey & Report Cards**

IPAC continues to support this student led project through advocating for student voices and administrative support. The 2020/21 survey went out August 16, 2021. This survey is intended for Indigenous learners who have completed at least one year of medical school. The results of this survey will provide reconciliation tools for Canadian Medical Schools.

### **Events**

In the last year, IPAC has organized and facilitated the following online events

- Culture is Medicine – A Social and Creative Workshop with Artist Sabian Rawcliffe
- Anti-Indigenous Racism in Healthcare – A Canadian Perspective During COVID-19
- Two national Roundtable Discussions on Anti-Indigenous Racism in Medical Education
- The 2021 Indigenous Medical School Graduation Celebration

### **Mentorship**

IPAC members have told us that while they appreciate the organic mentorships that come from attending IPAC gatherings, they would like a more formal mentorship program. We have been working with our funding partners and are pleased to announce that this request is becoming a reality beginning September 2021. More details in the funding section.



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### **Funding**

IPAC has:

- More than tripled membership in 2 years. IPAC is a member-based non-profit that depends on membership fees for sustainability.
- Worked with partners and Canada's medical Schools to financially support travel and accommodations for 16 students to attend our Annual gathering and AGM in Newfoundland in 2019
- Raised \$135,372.71 to date for PRIDoC 2022, has commitments from 9 of Canada's 17 medical schools to financially support travel and accommodations for 3 students/school, and raised \$32,000.00 towards supporting more learners to attend.
- Procured funding from the Affinity Fund (CMA Foundation, Scotia, MD Financial) for COVID-19 PSA campaign that aired on APTN, Global, and social media.
- Renewed funding contract with RCPSC for another three years.
- Working with ISC on funding for further roundtable discussions and working groups on anti-Indigenous racism in medical education.
- Procured \$1,000,000.00 (two-year term) from the CMA Foundation to build capacity and establish an IPAC mentorship program.

### **Capacity Building**

IPAC Coordinator Melanie Osmack was promoted to Acting Director March of 2021. This was based on the fact that she had been filling the role of an executive director for the previous year and her accomplishments during this time. Through the funding procured from the CMA Foundation, we will be hiring three more staff members: A Membership and Mentorship Coordinator, an Administrative Coordinator, and an Event Coordinator. These positions will be posted imminently.