



20/25

NOSM University
*Achievement
Celebration*

Friday, May 9, 2025



MD Financial
Management

Scotiabank.
Healthcare+

Evening Program

Master of Ceremonies

Jessica Pope, Manager, Public Affairs and Government Relations

Blessing

Perry McLeod-Shabogesic

Opening Remarks

Marc Lepage, MD Financial Management

Dr. Michael Green, President, Vice-Chancellor, Dean and CEO

Faculty Promotions & Recognition

Dinner

Physician Clinical Teachers' Association (PCTA) Award

Dr. Jon Smith, Associate Professor and PCTA President

Health Sciences Awards

Cara Green, Manager, Dietetics

Jennie Carroll, Manager, Rehabilitation Sciences

NOSM University Awards of Excellence and Scholarship

Faculty Awards

Dr. Harshad Telang, Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs

Learner Awards

Dr. Jason Shack, Assistant Dean, Learner Affairs

Alumni Awards

Dr. Michael Green, President, Vice-Chancellor, Dean and CEO

Dr. Sarita Verma Awards for Distinguished Leadership

Dr. Michael Green, President, Vice-Chancellor, Dean and CEO

Indigenous Leadership Award

Dr. Joseph LeBlanc, Associate Vice President, Equity and Inclusion

Closing Remarks

Dr. Michael Green, President, Vice-Chancellor, Dean and CEO

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PCTA Award

This award is given to a physician leader who has demonstrated commitment to excellence and innovation, has had a lasting impact on clinical education, and embodies and integrates the values of professionalism, communicator, collaborator, manager, and advocate.

Dr. Edward Hirvi
Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences and Family Medicine Section Chair

Health Sciences Awards

Innovative Preceptor Award

Given to a preceptor who embraces innovation in providing clinical learning experiences, this award recognizes an educator who is prepared to do things differently—with innovation—in order to meet the needs of the learner.

Nina Vendetti

Preceptor, Occupational Therapy

Alexa Tipper

Preceptor, Physiotherapy

Bethany McKinley-Young

Preceptor, Speech-Language Pathology

Caitlyn McLeod

Preceptor, Dietetics

Interprofessional Collaborator Award

This award celebrates individuals who are recognized by their peers and learners for being a good collaborator or leader of interprofessional learning.

Kristi MacWilliam

Preceptor, Occupational Therapy

Sarah Jones

Preceptor, Physiotherapy

Lisa Lees

Preceptor, Dietetics

Commitment to Clinical Education Award

The Commitment to Clinical Education Award recognizes a preceptor who demonstrates commitment towards the education of health science professional learners in the North as evidenced by being a frequent and willing participant, supporter and champion of education.

Michael Ivany

Preceptor, Occupational Therapy

Sandhya Aiyer

Preceptor, Physiotherapy

Susan Coulter

Preceptor, Speech-Language Pathology

Erica Dubois

Preceptor, Dietetics

Northern Ambassador Award

This uniquely Northern award is a celebration of a preceptor who is recognized for being a strong ambassador for their community, and who creates a welcoming environment for learners of all disciplines.

Kate Stadnyk

Preceptor, Occupational Therapy

Tyler Neil

Preceptor, Physiotherapy

Karen Figliomeni

Preceptor, Speech-Language Pathology

Nola Thompson

Preceptor, Dietetics

Awards of Excellence and Scholarship

Faculty, residents, and learners at NOSM University play an integral role in achieving the University's mission and make outstanding contributions to teaching, research, clinical care and administration in Northern Ontario.

Faculty Awards

Academic Leader Award

This award recognizes individuals in the Clinical, Medical, or Human Sciences Division with demonstrated leadership skills in NOSM University administrative roles such as Program Directors, Theme Course Chairs, Phase Module Coordinators, Academic Directors, Medical Directors, as well as other administrative positions outside the University.

Dr. Katherine Richardson

Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences

Clinical Scholar Award

Members of the Clinical Sciences Division are recognized with the Clinical Scholar Award for their research, presentation of papers, production of posters, invitations to speak at professional meetings/other institutions, and mentorship of faculty in the aforementioned areas.

Dr. Olexiy Aseyev

Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences

Clinical Teacher Award

The Clinical Teacher Award recognizes members of the Clinical Sciences Division for excellence in clinical teaching/supervision skills.

Dr. Arianne St. Jacques

Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences

Community Champion Award

A Community Champion is a Clinical Sciences faculty member who has had a significant impact on their community through clinical services, teaching, research, volunteer work, or other community involvement continually advocating accessibility for the best health care available.

Dr. Jennifer Jocko

Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences

Medical Educator Award

Recognizing members of the Clinical, Medical or Human Sciences Divisions, the The Medical Educator Award acknowledges outstanding contributions to medical education research, and/or curriculum development.

Dr. Cheryl Clayton

Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences

Learner Awards

Learner: Advocate/Leader Award

This award recognizes learners for their achievements in advocacy and or leadership particularly with respect to improving education programs.

Emma Harland

Third-year medical student

Learner: Scholarly Activity Award

The Learner Scholarly Activity Award recognizes learners for their teaching, research, and administrative contributions to NOSM University.

Dr. Travis Quevillon

Second-year Internal Medicine resident

Learner: Peer Teaching Award

This award recognizes learners at all levels who strive to improve the teaching, learning, and educational environments for other NOSM University learners.

Dr. Michelle Chae Min Lee

Second-year Internal Medicine resident

Learner-Nominated Teacher Award

Nominated by a learner, this award recognizes members of the Clinical, Medical, or Human Sciences Division for excellence in either academic teaching, or clinical teaching and supervision.

Dr. Amparo Wolf

Assistant Professor, Clinical Sciences

Alumni Awards

Rising Star Award

The Rising Star Award is presented to a recent graduate of NOSM University (within one to five years of completion of residency training) who has demonstrated significant professional achievements, made significant contributions to their community or as a volunteer, or has displayed promise of significant future accomplishments in Northern Ontario.

Dr. Athena Young

Clinical Lecturer, Clinical Sciences

Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award

This award is presented annually to a NOSM University alumna/alumnus who has achieved excellence, personally or professionally, and whose actions and influence have made a positive impact in health care, medical education, or research in Northern Ontario. The recipient will have made a strong contribution to NOSM University and demonstrated their commitment to bringing equitable and accessible health care to Northern Ontario.

Dr. Jason Sutherland

Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences and Program Director, Family Medicine

Honorary Alumni Award

The Honorary Alumni Award is presented to an individual who is not a graduate of NOSM University, but whose actions have embodied its vision, mission, and values. The recipient has positively contributed to the Northern Ontario health-care community and the medical profession.

Kenneth Boshcoff

His Worship, Mayor of Thunder Bay

Jim Gordon

Former Mayor of Sudbury, MLA, Ontario Cabinet Minister, Member of the Order of Canada

Dr. Sarita Verma Awards for Distinguished Leadership

Established in 2024 with the retirement of Dr. Sarita Verma, NOSM University's inaugural President, Vice Chancellor, CEO and second Dean of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. Dr. Verma served as Dean from July 1, 2019, to March 30, 2022, then became President, Vice Chancellor, Dean and CEO when NOSM was proclaimed Canada's first independent medical University on April 1, 2022.

These awards celebrate the work of Dr. Verma, a passionate and courageous leader who championed visionary and transformative change. The award recipients have demonstrated leadership impact and achievements within the NOSM University community; innovation and creativity in addressing challenges and fostering positive change; and, made contributions to the overall well-being and success of NOSM University.

Faculty

East: Dr. Edward Hirvi

*Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences
and Family Medicine Section Chair*

West: Dr. Justin Jagger

*Associate Professor, Clinical Sciences,
Pediatrics Section Chair*

Nominees included:

- Dr. Grace Ma
- Dr. Florence Morriello
- Dr. Kris Opryszczko
- Dr. Nicole Ranger
- Dr. Anne Robinson

Staff

East: Denise Raftis

Dietetic Practicum Lead

West: Anita Arella

Director, Faculty Affairs

Nominees included:

- Anita Arella
- Lance Dyll
- Jason Lind
- Joanne Musico
- Melanie Poulin
- Denise Raftis
- Mike Ravenek
- Sonya Richard
- Alex St-Amant
- Cassandra Whymark

Learner

East: Chantae Robinson

Fourth-year medical student

West: Emma Harland

Third-year medical student

Nominees included:

- Emma Harland
- Claire Poulin
- Brooklyn Ranta
- Chantae Robinson

Indigenous Leadership Award

The Indigenous Leadership Award is presented to a learner who has demonstrated exceptional leadership within the Indigenous community at NOSM University throughout their undergraduate medical education. The recipient has shown a strong commitment to advancing Indigenous health and culture, while also maintaining a high standard of academic excellence.

Chloe Smith

Third-year medical student

Artwork Synopsis

Title: "Ode Mushkiki"

Medium: Mixed Media - Acrylic/LED/wood/
pearl/abalone shell/feather

Size: 36" x 48"

Artist: Elliott Doxtater-Wynn

Date of Completion: April 10, 2025

Re: Chloe Smith

In an interview, Chloe Smith related that her story was about the duality of carrying both her Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage. Although they were counter to each other, she found love and support from both sides of her family. Growing up dominantly with her Indigenous family.

Inspired and nurtured by her family, especially her grandparents, she chose to follow medical studies. Her path led to studies off reserve but with the connection, motivation, and love to return to her family. Even her aspiration as a doctor is intended for her home community.



Another part of the story is part of the Indigenous experience. Being fair skinned and having light coloured hair, Anishnaabehkwe Chloe found that she needed to prove herself as 'Indian enough' to both non-Indigenous and Indigenous people alike. In the end, Chloe represents a strong, intelligent woman who does not need to prove anything to anyone.

In the image, the background represents the people of the four directions. These are all the people carrying criticism, comment, judgement, but also, support, compassion, and love. The representations around the central figures head are white and red strawberries. The change from white to red is maturation. Both white and red strawberries also represent their own medicine. The wooden spoon represents the spoon from the Dish with One Spoon wampum covenant. The freshwater pearls and abalone shell represent water and the lakes around Chloe in her childhood.

The pearls also represent knowledge and sharing. The central figures' clothing are divided to represent the past and the future but they are on one person. There are two feathers that represent the two roads that Chloe is a part of in the duality of her life and which she brings together in her holistic health and journey. Light is radiance.

The following teachings referenced in this work:

- Medicine Wheel
- Indigenous Multisensory Inclusion
- Ezhinaabiiyen
- Indigenous Numerology
- Andisokaanaan
- Odaamin
- Water Teachings
- Women's Berry Teachings
- Eagle feather
- Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty

The complexity of Indigenous knowledge adds to the meaning and continued learning needed to fully understand what is in the design.



Faculty Promotions

Professor Emerita

Dr. Sarita Verma

Professor

Dr. Alexandre Anawati

Dr. Roy Kirkpatrick

Dr. Bryan MacLeod

Dr. Sarah Newbery

Dr. Ioannis Voutsadakis

Associate Professor

Dr. Mohammed Bassuony

Dr. Vishaal Bhambhwani

Dr. Amber Dudar

Dr. Sarah Giles

Dr. Ella Goodman

Dr. Gautam Kumar

Dr. Joseph LeBlanc

Dr. Jennifer Loo

Dr. Sonja Lubbers

Dr. Derek Manchuk

Dr. Amber Menezes

Dr. Salima Oukachbi

Dr. Nicole Ranger

Dr. Caelen Rody

Dr. Julie Samson

Dr. Nicole Zavagnin

Years of Service

As NOSM University proudly celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2025, we extend our deepest gratitude and heartfelt congratulations to the dedicated staff and faculty who have been with us for two decades. Many of you were here before we officially opened our doors, laying the foundation for our mission to transform health education and research in Northern Ontario.

2022

- Lori Piccolo

2023

- Rita Campbell
- Dr. Kristy Côté
- Deborah Modin
- Diane Moncion

2024

- Jonny Barnstorf
- Robert Bertrand
- Nicole Bessette
- Sharon Boudreau
- Patty Fink
- Dr. Geoffrey Hudson
- Steve Kelly
- Dr. Tom Kovala
- Dr. David MacLean
- Lyne Morvan
- Catherine Powell
- Dr. Brian Ross
- Dr. Greg Ross
- Dr. Zacharias Suntres
- Dr. TC Tai
- Grace Vita

Congratulations on your 20 years of service!

Honouring Excellence

Each year, NOSM University community members are recognized with prestigious awards and honours from various conferences, associations and organizations nationally and internationally. We are immensely proud to showcase the external award recipients in celebration of their outstanding achievements. Scan the QR code for an extensive list of external award recipients and a digital version of this program.



Please email communications@nosm.ca
if you or a colleague receives an award or special recognition.

#NOSMUExcellence | @thenosm

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Sponsors

NOSM University Achievement Celebration Sponsor

Our Gold Sponsors are vital partners in advancing medical training, research, and community engagement. Your generosity strengthens health-care networks across the North.



NOSM University 20th Anniversary Sponsors

Thank you to our Silver Sponsors for helping us empower learners, faculty, and health-care professionals in rural and remote communities.



NOSM University 20th Anniversary Sponsors

Your support fuels our efforts to train the next generation of health-care leaders and improve patient outcomes. We appreciate your dedication to NOSM University's mission!





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