



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***New Brunswick Medical Education Foundation partners with New Brunswick Medical Society to support medical learners***

**ROTHESAY, NB (April 8, 2021):** The New Brunswick Medical Education Foundation Inc. (NBMEFI) is pleased to announce a new partnership with New Brunswick Medical Society (NBMS). The NBMS has transferred its endowment fund to the foundation to continue providing two \$5,000.00 scholarships for an Anglophone and Francophone New Brunswick resident to attend medical school. These scholarships are designed to be return to service pledges which means for each year a scholarship recipient receives a bursary, they must provide an equal amount of time up to four years as a practising physician in New Brunswick.

"Since our inception in 2010, return to service scholarships are the primary focus and reason for the work of this foundation. The province is facing major hurdles in health care including over 44,000 people on the waiting list for a family physician and 20 per cent of doctors now over the age 55 and contemplating retirement," said NBMEFI Co-Chair Dr. James O'Brien. "We look at the work of the foundation as a key partner in supporting the future of health care in the province and keeping our best and brightest students here to practice medicine."

Since 2016, the NBMS has provided funding to the foundation to provide two medical school scholarships. "The NBMEFI has years of experience in developing, managing, and stewarding medical scholarships to help our students return or remain here to practise medicine," says Dr. Jeff Steeves, President of the NBMS. "Rather than duplicating efforts to support medical learners, the NBMS chose to transfer our endowment fund and management of our Iype/Wilfred Resident Award that recognizes outstanding achievement during residency training to the foundation."

NBMEFI is the only not-for-profit organization in Canada dedicated to providing scholarships for New Brunswick residents to attend medical school and practise in the province through return to service pledges. Understanding the challenges our health-care system faces, the foundation is an important partner in addressing the need for physicians in the province. "In 2020, the foundation received a record 109 applications and we were able to fund 42 scholarships worth \$304,000.00, including the NBMS bursaries. Imagine what we can do with an increase in donor support to grow the number of scholarships available to applicants we were unable to fund," said Darren McLeod, the Foundation Executive Director.

If you would like to learn more about the New Brunswick Medical Education Foundation and how to support its role to keep our best and brightest in the province, please contact the office at 506-848-0036, email [Darren.McLeod@nbmeded.ca](mailto:Darren.McLeod@nbmeded.ca) or visit our website at <https://www.nbmeded.ca> for more information.

Want to learn more about the foundation and meet our best and brightest medical students, follow us on the foundation's social media through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Linked-In.



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About the New Brunswick Medical Society

Founded in 1867, the New Brunswick Medical Society (NBMS) is the professional association representing all physicians in New Brunswick. The NBMS has a two-part mission: to represent and service all practising and future physicians in the province, and to advocate for the health of New Brunswickers.