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THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF CANADA  
LE COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE DU CANADA

# The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sadok Besroun Global Health Conference

## “Strengthening the Foundations” Summary Report

**November 5-8, 2013**

Renaissance Hotel

Vancouver, Canada

## Executive Summary

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sadok Besrouer Conference (November 5-8, 2013) built on the groundwork established one-year earlier during the 1<sup>st</sup> Besrouer Conference. This foundation of interest in a family medicine focused global health network set the stage in November 2013 for three days of collaboration, resulting in the creation of tangible tools and strategies aimed not only at translating the broad vision into reality, but also for the purposes of developing the materials required to “make the case” for family medicine with policy-makers and deans.

The conference brought together faculty from departments of academic family medicine in Canada and delegates from 15 low and middle income countries. Presenters brought their unique perspectives on a wide-variety of topics including the unique contributions of the generalist physician, the Brazilian experience in primary care, information about the systemic changes in primary care in Ontario over the last decade, academic foundations at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, and lessons learned and experiences in both Uganda and Tunisia. Lively discussion followed these sessions wherein delegates were able to more broadly explore critical concepts and key themes with their peers.

The core goal out of the sessions was to take the information presented by the speakers, as well as knowledge from the discussions, and develop several foci of work which could then be translated into deliverables developed throughout the year.

As the themes took shape, five working groups formed.

1. **Besrouer papers**- A series of documents that could help provide the evidence for the value of family medicine.
2. **Toolkit for community engagement**- Tools such as an activity map/inventory, community assessments, train the teacher workshops, and community engagement activities designed to facilitate partnership with the community.
3. **Narrative development**- The gathering of case-studies that focus on the inherent relationships that are a critical component of family medicine.
4. **Advocacy framework**- Tools that help to advocate for family medicine with policy-makers.
5. **Continuing medical education and faculty development for specialists teaching family medicine**- The need to educate specialists tasked with training early cohorts of family physicians.

The CFPC will play a significant role in supporting these working groups as they develop their tools and strategies to be presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Besrouer Conference in the fall of 2014.