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**Multiculturalism
in Medicine
Showcase**

**CALGARY MEDICAL
STUDENTS'
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Multiculturalism through the lens of **Medicine**

One of the most important, yet under-taught, skills in medicine is understanding cultural competency and humility. With Calgary becoming increasingly diverse every year, learning about different cultures and their various perspectives on health is crucial for patient-centered care. Our event, themed around celebrating multiculturalism in medicine in the many forms that it takes, aims to recognize the importance of inclusion and cultural awareness among future physicians-to-be and beyond, creating not only culturally competent doctors, but an entire community based around the principles of respect and inclusion.

This event will foster collaboration between the medical community and the greater Calgary community. Our showcase focuses on the incredible diversity found within our city, and highlights the importance of celebrating the things that are at the core of our identity as Calgarians and Canadians. With healthcare being identified as the second-biggest issue facing Albertans today, we understand the importance of providing quality care for everyone, regardless of background.



Why is this showcase important?

- Medicine in North America often focuses on the biomedical model of healthcare, which thinks of the human body as a machine that just needs to be fixed.
- It ignores other aspects that impact health, and the other forms of health that exist, including the mental, spiritual, and emotional.
- As future healthcare practitioners, we need to work together and empower our patients from different backgrounds to explore health in a holistic manner.
- By teaching about cultural competency, we are equipping the next generation of doctors with the necessary tools to provide healthcare for all.

Questions we want to answer

- There are various forms of medicine knowledge across the world - how can we acknowledge and celebrate this expertise and diversity?
- How can healthcare practitioners support patients hoping to navigate a complex and confusing healthcare system?
- How can an understanding of cultural competency and humility create deeper connections between physicians and patients, leading to the betterment of patient care?

About us

We are medical students at the University of Calgary. Throughout our medical education, we are taught about the importance of respecting people from all cultures and backgrounds. Yet, there are few opportunities for us to learn about the different beliefs different groups hold around medicine.

Alberta is home to people from all over the world, and has a diverse array of cultures and traditions. Among urban areas in Canada, Calgary has the third-highest proportion of immigrants, with Edmonton being fifth-highest.

Our medical school reflects the diversity of Alberta. We are a diverse array of students and staff, coming from all walks of life, with our own unique cultures, languages, traditions, and personal experiences navigating the healthcare system. As future health care practitioners, the students at the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine are committed to celebrating our diverse identities and bringing our unique experiences into the medical sphere.



It's not just medicine for the body. It's medicine for the heart and soul.

-Kerry Yang (Vice-President Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Class of 2026)

This initiative is the first of its kind - not only at our medical school, but at medical schools across Canada. We hope that this initiative will be a tradition that our school carries forward, inspiring future doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, and other allied healthcare workers in Calgary and the rest of Canada to strive towards a medical culture that focuses on acceptance, cultural competency, and cultural humility.

We are inspired by our school's commitment to support our Calgary community. We hope to have our Multiculturalism in Medicine Showcase be a leader in terms of connecting passionate and motivated medical students with cultural organizations found within Calgary, and with attendees that will eventually become our future patients.



OUR AIM

Our first ever Multiculturalism in Medicine showcase will be hosted at the University of Calgary's Foothills Campus, and all members of the community are welcome to attend. Attendees and volunteers will be invited to wear their traditional clothes, and will be free to share their cultures throughout the evening.

Our event aims to tackle 4 main goals, as outlined below.



Educate

1

Educating future medical practitioners and community members on cultural competency and humility, and the importance of diversity.

Celebrate

2

Celebrating the diverse cultures, traditions, and foods that make up our multicultural Calgary community.

Connect

3

Connecting students with community members to foster collaborative relationships and develop a future where healthcare is accessible to all.

Empower

4

Empowering Alberta's healthcare community to lead the change in providing competent care for all.



We are the University of Calgary's Medical Students' Association

Our team serves as the governing body for medical students at the University of Calgary. Our mission as an organization is to provide governance, representation, and communication for all matters pertaining to the general welfare and activities of our members for the duration of their time in medical school. As an elected council, we are responsible for supporting our student body through academic advocacy, equity, diversity, and inclusion-based initiatives, mental health support, communication with provincial and national medical associations, and developing our school's many events.

Our commitment to creating competent, community-centred physicians within Calgary and beyond is what drives us forward.

"Striving for excellence, embracing diversity, shaping the future of healthcare together."

-Rafael Sanguinetti (President, Class of 2026)

Components of our event

Our event has 3 major components.

Keynote Speakers and Performances

For our main-stage event, we will be inviting speakers from various walks-of-life, including Indigenous Elders, practicing physicians, and community members, to speak on their experiences with multiculturalism in medicine, and their key takeaways.

Throughout the evening, different cultural groups will be invited to perform on our main stage to honour and celebrate the cultural diversity of Calgary.

Open Tabling

Cultural organizations from the University of Calgary and the greater Calgary community are invited to table, where they can share their cultures, food, medical practices, and more.

The tabling event will provide attendees the opportunity to connect with and learn about various community organizations within our city, and explore various cultures they would have otherwise not encountered.

Educational Workshops

Cultural groups are invited to host small sessions to educate attendees on their various cultural practices. These sessions will be held in several classrooms throughout University of Calgary's Foothills Campus.

Examples for these sessions can include learning about the different medicinal herbs used in cultures throughout the world, acupuncture, ceremonies, and more.

Schedule

<u>Time</u>	Keynote Speakers and Performances	Open Tabling	Educational workshops		
5:30PM - 5:40PM	Indigenous performance	Tabling event occurs concurrently with all other events	*The number of workshops ran is dependent on capacity, logistics, and interest		
5:40PM - 5:45PM	Land acknowledgement		Set-up time for workshop organizers		
5:45PM - 5:50PM	Introduction from Faculty				
5:50PM - 6:00PM	Introduction from event organizers				
6:00PM - 6:10PM	Keynote from a physician				
6:10PM - 6:20PM	Keynote from a community leader				
6:20PM - 8:00PM	Open time for performances			Workshop sessions ran concurrently	
8:00PM	Event ends			Event ends	Event ends

Thank You

