

Hannah Gray- Director of Indigenous Health Platform (492 words)

Background on Candidate

I am a First Nations woman from Wahnapiatae First Nation, currently in my fourth year of medical school at NOSM University, on my traditional territory. Coming home to train as a physician is not something I take lightly. It shapes how I move through this work, and what I believe medicine can and should look like in Indigenous communities. I also hold a Master of Public Health specializing in Indigenous Health from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Ottawa. My path into medicine was never separate from my identity, it grew from it.

Relevant Experiences

I have spent years showing up in spaces where Indigenous health meets medical education. As Local Officer of Indigenous Health with NOSMU Student Council, I advocated for the inaugural VP of Indigenous Health on NOSMU's Student Council. I served on NOSM's Indigenous Health Subcommittee for Admissions, bringing a community-informed lens to how we welcome future physicians. Through CIHI, I have worked alongside national teams to advance data standards that reflect OCAP principles and honor the realities of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis communities. I have delivered clinical simulation training to nurses at Sandy Lake First Nation, co-authored a scoping review on barriers to postpartum depression care for Indigenous women, and attended IPAC National Gatherings in 2023 and 2025. My current role as Global Health Associate with CFMS has taught me what it takes to hold a national portfolio with care and intention.

Tending the Relationships That Ground This Work

IMSAC and IPAC are not just partner organizations, they are relationships that have been built over time and need to be actively tended. I will show up consistently at national gatherings, follow through on joint initiatives, and make sure Canadian medical students have a real, present voice in these conversations. Relationships do not sustain themselves, and I take that responsibility seriously.

Honoring Legacy and Sharing Knowledge Widely

The Dr. Yotakahron Jonathan Award carries a name and a legacy that deserves to be celebrated loudly. I will not only continue this award but work to make sure every Indigenous medical student across the country knows it exists. Alongside this, I will finalize and distribute the National Indigenous MedEd Report, a resource that I am committed to seeing reach every Canadian medical school.

Rooting This Role in Accountability

I want to create Terms of Reference for this directorship because this work is too important to be held together informally. I have done this kind of foundational work before in a way that centers community values rather than institutional ones.

Conclusion

I am running for this role because I know what is at stake when this work is not done with integrity. I bring my whole self to this work, my training, my experience, and the parts of my

story that brought me to medicine in the first place. I would be honored to carry this forward with you.

Hannah Gray Bio (234 words)

Hannah Gray is a First Nations woman from Wahnapiatae First Nation and a fourth-year MD candidate at NOSM University, where she trains on her traditional territory. She holds a Master of Public Health specializing in Indigenous Health from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Ottawa, and brings over a decade of experience spanning clinical care, public health, and Indigenous community health.

For Hannah, this work has never been abstract. She served as Local Officer of Indigenous Health with NOSMU Student Council, where she advocated for and initiated the inaugural VP of Indigenous Health position on NOSMU's student council -- a structural change designed to outlast her tenure. She has contributed to NOSM's Indigenous Health Subcommittee for Admissions, delivered clinical simulation training to healthcare providers at Sandy Lake First Nation, and co-authored a scoping review on barriers to postpartum depression care for Indigenous women on Turtle Island. Her work with the Canadian Institute for Health Information has focused on advancing national health data standards grounded in OCAP principles.

Currently serving as Associate Global Health with CFMS, Hannah understands what it means to steward a national portfolio responsibly. This year, she was recognized for her contributions through the Niigaanegabow Indigenous Leadership Award at NOSM.

Hannah brings her whole self to this work, her training, her lived experience, and her deep responsibility to the communities that shaped her.

