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In solidarity with anti-racism leaders in Canadian medical education

En solidarité avec les leaders de la lutte contre le racisme dans l'éducation médicale canadienne

Brent Thoma, Nancy Fowler, Thomas Maniatis, Anna Karwowska, Lyn K. Sonnenberg, Linda Snell, Damon Dagnone et Glen Bandiera

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[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

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In solidarity with anti-racism leaders in Canadian medical education

En solidarité avec les leaders de la lutte contre le racisme dans l'éducation médicale canadienne

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We are writing today as a group of physicians involved with the CanMEDS 2025 update who are committed to advancing the cause of anti-racism in Canadian medicine. As leaders in medical education, we seek to create a safe and inclusive environment for all healthcare providers, learners, and patients.

Racism is a public health crisis^{1,2} and it is our responsibility as physicians to address this issue. We cannot let racism continue to harm the health and wellbeing of our patients, communities, and healthcare providers. Both the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada³ and the College of Family Physicians of Canada⁴ have released statements outlining our position on racism in Canadian medicine. Additional work calling for the integration of anti-racism principles into medical education has recently been published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal⁵ and Canadian Medical Education Journal.⁶

Unfortunately, leaders of this important work have been harassed. Dr. Amy Tan received death threats that resulted in her stepping down as the co-chair of the CanMEDS 2025 Health Advocate Committee, while Dr. Kannin Osei-Tutu received communications calling for an end to his work. We stand in solidarity with them and fully support efforts to advance anti-racism in medicine. We condemn any form of harassment or discrimination and will address it both through action by calling it out publicly and by explicitly

supporting the individuals, initiatives, and organizations moving this work forward.

It is our duty to promote equity and justice in healthcare, and we cannot do this as effectively without broader support and engagement. We urge all members of the greater medical community to work together to advance anti-racism principles. Let us all commit to creating a more equitable and just healthcare system.

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