

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Montreal, Friday August 18th, 2017 - IFMSA-Québec, the international and community division of the *Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec*, is proud to announce its **official election as the host of the 67th General Assembly August Meeting 2018 of the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)**, also known as the "IFMSA August Meeting 2018". IFMSA is present amongst four medical faculties in Québec and is the voice of a network of 1.3 million students around the world. The election took place during the last General Assembly of IFMSA, held in **Arusha, Tanzania**, from August 1st to August 7th, 2017.

Two members of the central Organizing Committee were in Tanzania to represent the team: **Claudél Pétrin-Desrosiers** (Chair of the Organizing Committee and senior clerk at University of Montréal) and **Alexandra Chicoine** (Human Resources and Fundraising Director, second-year medical student at McGill University).

In partnership with **Quebec Medical Association (AMQ)** and **Tourisme Montréal**, this event will gather more than a thousand medical students, residents and junior doctors for a week-long international convention to be held in Montréal, from **August 2nd to August 8th 2018**. Workshops, plenary sessions and conferences on global medical issues will allow delegates to forge their future practice as part of a global society. This successful election results from a continuous work since November 2015 by a dynamic and experienced team of more than 12 medical students from Universities of Montreal, McGill, Laval and Sherbrooke. The team has committed to organize the first-ever IFMSA **carbon neutral event**.

"Our team is extremely proud to be able to say that next August, Québec will welcome the world. Delegates from more than 100 countries are expected. It represents a one-in-a-lifetime opportunity to present who we are, our story, our successes, the strength of our youth and our sense of social responsibility in healthcare. We offer a framework that will favor intercultural exchanges, boost innovation and open an international dialogue on issues that matter to us", states Claudél Pétrin-Desrosiers.

The application stands out in several ways. The team offers a health symposium for young doctors. This unique event will take place from August 2nd to 5th in Montreal, in parallel to the event, to propel an international collaboration on social responsibility and to offer workshops on well-being, professionalism and financial management to young doctors and residents. Moreover, from July 29th to August 2nd, 2018, the organizing committee is planning a pre-conference with 300 participants from all over the world in the inspiring Quebec City, to deliver trainings on advocacy, global health, communication and leadership.

"Medical students from all around the world have shown tremendous interest in our candidature, especially for this carbon-neutral aspect, its innovative program and its financial sustainability. Montréal, in all its uniqueness, will charm many. It will be an honor for us to share our beautiful city with the world in August 2018", adds Alexandra Chicoine.

To this date, AM 2018 has received the support of the Honorable Justin Trudeau (Prime Minister of Canada), the Honorable Philippe Couillard (Prime Minister of Québec), Dr. Gaétan Barrette (Minister of Health and Social Services of Québec), Mr. Denis Coderre (Mayor of Montréal), Mr. Régis Labeaume (Mayor of Québec), Ms. Sarah Lawley (Department of Health Canada), the Commission de la Capitale Nationale, Tourisme Montréal, Quebec Medical Association (AMQ), the Resident

Doctors of Canada (RDoC), the Quebec Federation of Residents Doctors (FMRQ), the *Fédération des associations étudiantes de l'Université de Montréal* (FAECUM), of Québec International Youth Offices (LOJIQ), as well as of the Quebec four medical faculties (Montreal, Laval, Sherbrooke and McGill Universities).

“In the past few years, Quebec medical students have shown a sincere interest for IFMSA at the international level. It is an honour for us at the IFMSA-Quebec to welcome the Federation here, at home”, shares Djamila Saad, IFMSA-Québec President.

“Our team sincerely believes that we can offer delegates a unique, rich and diverse experience. We are greatly inspired by the potential of medical students, and we are ready to take on that challenge. We have a lot to learn and share with colleagues across borders”, concludes Claudel Pétrin-Desrosiers.

About IFMSA-Québec

IFMSA-Quebec represents the 4.100 medical students of Quebec. The organization works on the social, cultural and global aspects of health, on the national and international scenes. IFMSA-Quebec offers multiples training opportunities, coordinate peer-education projects, advocates on health issues that matter, always in the objective of forming young doctors for whom the profession is more than a title. For more information, www.ifmsa.qc.ca.

About IFMSA

The International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA) envisions a world in which all medical students unite for global health and are equipped with the knowledge, skills and values to take on health leadership roles locally and globally. Founded in 1951, IFMSA today represents a network of 1.3 million medical students through its 136 national member organizations. For more information, www.ifmsa.org.

The official candidature is available online at:

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/e94d7df9-2a17-406d-b4ef-843b86d2f713>

Source

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