



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto and as host Faculty for CCME 2011, I bid you a warm welcome to our beautiful city and the amazing province of Ontario. I know you will find Toronto's cultural vibrancy to be matched by a dynamic biomedical research and academic medical community which ranks among the most productive, innovative and impactful in Canada.

With 10 fully-affiliated hospitals and 19 community-affiliated sites, our Faculty of Medicine provides unparalleled depth and breadth of knowledge and experience for students, educators, researchers and patients.

Toronto, on the north shore of Lake Ontario, is the largest of Canada's lively urban centres. It is a leading hub of our country's commercial, financial, industrial, and cultural life, and is the capital of the Province of Ontario. The city's beginning dates to 1793 when British colonial officials founded the 'Town of York' on what then was the Upper Canadian frontier. That backwoods village grew to become the City of Toronto in 1834, and through its subsequent evolution and expansion Toronto has emerged as one of the most livable and multicultural places in the world today.

In 2010 we were intensely engaged with our colleague Canadian medical schools in the development and presentation of the report on *The Future of Medical Education in Canada: A Collective Vision for MD Education*. With CCME 2011's theme of **Scholarship in Medical Education**, the stage is set to take our reassessment and reinvigoration of medical education to the next level. We are ready to create the kind of academic medical experience and environment for our students and faculty members that will have a long lasting and positive impact on the lives of the people of Canada and on populations around the world.

The planning team has worked many months to prepare an experience for you this week that balances opportunities to gain fresh insights into academic medicine with events that highlight the wonderful cultural variety and excitement provided by working (and playing) in this beautiful metropolitan environment. Please take the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and sample the many opportunities our city provides.

With warm regards

**Catharine Whiteside**  
*Dean, Faculty of Medicine*  
*University of Toronto*