

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Montreal, Monday May 1st, 2017** - IFMSA-Québec, the international and community division of the *Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec*, is announcing its official application as a host for the August Meeting 2018 of the *International Federation of Medical Students' Associations* (IFMSA). IFMSA is present amongst four medical faculties in Québec and is the voice of a network of 1.3 million students around the world.

For several months now, a team of 12 medical students from Universities of Montreal, McGill, Laval and Sherbrooke have been working very hard to propose the first carbon neutral event to the International Federation. Our application testifies our will to innovate and allow a rich cultural exchange, as well as highlighting great successes in medical sciences, politics and social affairs in Quebec. The AM 2018 team committed to a significative financial challenge by maintaining the subscription fees to a minimum, in order to ensure an optimal and fair attendance level.

In partnership with *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.

**“Our team strongly believes we can offer an enriching, dynamic and diversified experience to the delegates. We are greatly inspired by the students’ potential and their motivation to change the world, in a sustainable fashion”**, explains Mrs. Claudel Pétrin-Desrosiers, Organizing Committee Chair and clerk at University of Montreal.

The application stands out in several ways. In particular, the team offers a health symposium for young doctors. This unique event will take place from August 2 to 5 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 city of Quebec in order to deliver trainings on advocacy, global health, communication and leadership.

**“IFMSA-Québec would be very proud to welcome over 1,000 students and young physicians in Montréal in August 2018 for a week of innovation and action. The AM2018 is without a doubt an opportunity to unite several influential actors around common issues and to open a national and international dialogue on the health issues that matter to us”**, added Ms. Djamila Saad, President of IFMSA-Québec and McGill medical student.

To 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), *Tourisme Montréal* and the Commission of la Capitale Nationale.

The AM 2018 team will fly to Tanzania next August to present their candidature to the 132 national IFMSA member associations. If the Montreal application is accepted, it will be the first IFMSA event held in North America in over five years.

**“This is a one-of-a-kind event that reflects the great drive and desire to interact with colleagues across borders. We have a lot to share, and we want to create that platform”**, concludes Claudel P-Desrosiers.

**Our official candidature is available online at:**

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

Additionally, we are sharing our promotional video, with subtitles available in various languages:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rf2JEn1dGVE>

*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](http://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 129 national member organizations. For more information, [www.ifmsa.org](http://www.ifmsa.org).

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**Source**

Claudel P-Desrosiers  
Chair of Organizing Committee  
IFMSA August Meeting 2018  
[am2018@ifmsa.qc.ca](mailto:am2018@ifmsa.qc.ca)  
1-438-831-0594

<http://am2018.ifmsa.qc.ca>