



20
25

Annual Report



Innovation, Connection, Impact:
SRPC's Year of Progress

srpc.ca

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With Gratitude to the Land

Acknowledging Our Roots in Shawville, Quebec

The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) acknowledges that Shawville, Quebec, is situated on the traditional territory of the Anishinabewaki and the Omàmiwininiwag (Algonquin) Nations.

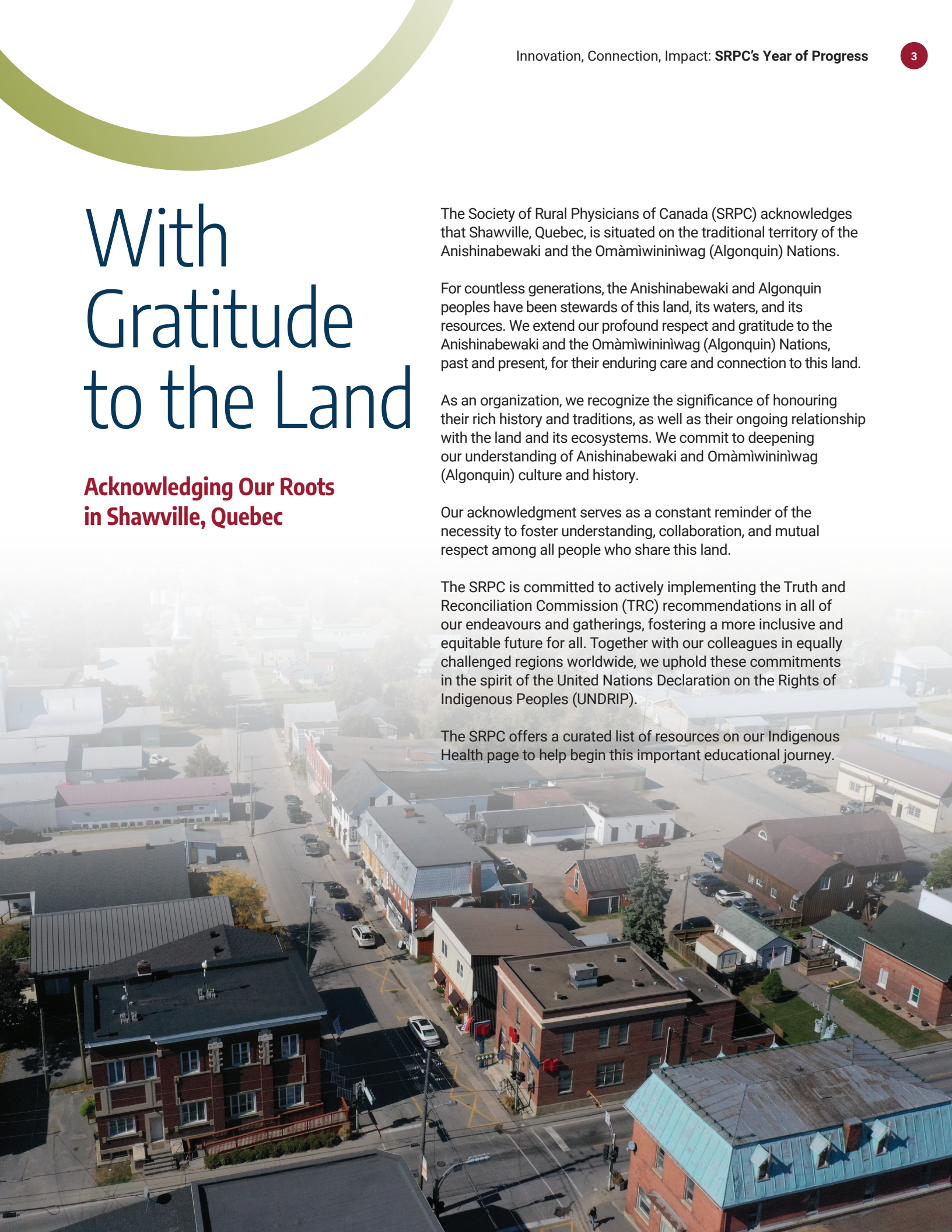
For countless generations, the Anishinabewaki and Algonquin peoples have been stewards of this land, its waters, and its resources. We extend our profound respect and gratitude to the Anishinabewaki and the Omàmiwininiwag (Algonquin) Nations, past and present, for their enduring care and connection to this land.

As an organization, we recognize the significance of honouring their rich history and traditions, as well as their ongoing relationship with the land and its ecosystems. We commit to deepening our understanding of Anishinabewaki and Omàmiwininiwag (Algonquin) culture and history.

Our acknowledgment serves as a constant reminder of the necessity to foster understanding, collaboration, and mutual respect among all people who share this land.

The SRPC is committed to actively implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) recommendations in all of our endeavours and gatherings, fostering a more inclusive and equitable future for all. Together with our colleagues in equally challenged regions worldwide, we uphold these commitments in the spirit of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

The SRPC offers a curated list of resources on our Indigenous Health page to help begin this important educational journey.



Letter from the SRPC COO

Dear Members, Colleagues, and Friends,

This past year has been one of growth, connection, and momentum for the SRPC. We launched our new bilingual website, making it easier for members to access resources, programs, and opportunities through our dedicated member portal. We also proudly introduced the National Rural Locum Database - a much-needed tool to help connect rural communities with the physicians they need. Alongside these initiatives, we strengthened our presence at conferences across the country, ensuring rural voices are heard and our mission widely shared.

At the same time, we have been turning our attention to one of the most pressing challenges facing rural Canada: the ongoing rural health human resources shortage. The scale of this issue is daunting, and addressing it will require sustained effort, collaboration, and creative solutions. Our Rural Health Workforce Committee has been at the forefront of this work, leading initiatives such as the Championing Change for Rural Health campaign and advocating for practical, sustainable approaches. At our AGM, members passed a motion to seek funding to develop a national rural health workforce strategy, a critical step toward ensuring rural communities have the care they need. I look forward to seeing how this work advances in the year ahead.

While these milestones are important, what truly makes the SRPC strong is the people.

To the incredible staff - you are the heart of this organization. We may be a small team, but together we accomplish big things. Your dedication, hard work, and willingness to go above and beyond for our members is inspiring.

To SRPC Executive and Council - thank you for your guidance, vision, and unwavering commitment to rural health. You provide the direction we need, identify the advocacy work that matters most, and keep us focused on our mission. Your ideas and advice ensure the SRPC continues to make a meaningful impact.

And to the SRPC members - everything we do is because of, and for you. Your passion for providing excellent health care close to home is the driving force behind our work. Whether you've joined us at a conference, contributed to an initiative, or simply renewed your membership, your support fuels our ability to advocate, educate, and connect.

I'm excited for what lies ahead and deeply grateful for the people who make it all possible. Together, we continue to strengthen rural health care in Canada.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Barr
Chief Operating Officer

Society of Rural Physicians of Canada



JENNIFER BARR
Chief Operating Officer
Society of Rural
Physicians of Canada

Letter from the SRPC President (2024-2026)

Dear Members,

Serving as President of the SRPC continues to be a meaningful and rewarding experience. Over the past year, I've had the privilege of witnessing the incredible dedication, creativity, and resilience that define our rural physicians, learners, and advocates.

This year brought exciting progress. We officially launched the National Rural Locum Database — a tool that will help connect rural communities with physicians and make a real difference in patient care. Our brand-new website is now live, offering a cleaner, bilingual, and more user-friendly way to access the resources and programs you need. We also expanded our presence at conferences across Canada, raising awareness of the SRPC and building new relationships that will serve our members for years to come.

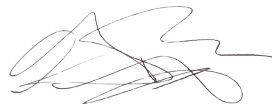
Strengthening partnerships has been a key focus for me this year. I've had the honour of meeting with federal, provincial, and territorial leaders, as well as organizations such as the CFPC, AFMC, RDoC, and RCPSC. These conversations ensure that rural voices are included where decisions are made, and they help position the SRPC as a trusted, solutions-focused partner.

Our Rural Health Workforce Committee, led by Dr. Sarah Lespérance and Dr. Sarah Newbery, continues to be a driving force for national dialogue and action on rural workforce planning. And Rural Health Week has now become a fixture on the calendar — a time to celebrate rural practice, advocate for equitable access to care, and shine a light on the incredible work happening in our communities.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without our remarkable staff, whose skill, dedication, and heart keep this organization moving forward. I'm equally grateful to our Executive and Council, whose guidance and vision keep us focused on what matters most. And to you — our members — thank you for trusting us to represent your voice, for sharing your insights, and for the work you do every day to provide excellent care close to home.

The SRPC is more than an organization — it's a community. And together, we are making rural health stronger.

With respect and gratitude,



Dr. Gavin Parker
President
Society of Rural Physicians of Canada



DR. GAVIN PARKER
President
Society of Rural
Physicians of Canada



Advancing Rural Health

The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) is the national voice of Canadian rural physicians. Founded in 1992, the SRPC's mission is to champion rural generalist medical care through education, collaboration, advocacy, and research.

On behalf of its members and the Canadian public, the SRPC undertakes a wide variety of functions, including:

- Developing and advocating for effective health delivery mechanisms.
- Supporting rural doctors and communities in crisis.
- Promoting and delivering continuing rural medical education.
- Encouraging and facilitating research into rural health issues.
- Fostering communication among rural physicians and other stakeholders with an interest in rural health care.

The SRPC is a voluntary professional organization with over



3050
MEMBERS

representing rural physicians from across the country.



Our Vision

Excellent health care close to home for all rural Canadians.



Our Mission

Championing rural generalist medical care through education, collaboration, advocacy and research.



Goals

Membership Growth and Engagement
Enhancing Rural Generalist Education
Supporting our Communities

Excellent
health care
close to home
for all rural
Canadians.



Executive Team



Dr. Gavin Parker
President
BSc, MSc (Med. Ed.), M.D.,
CCFP (FPA), FRRMS
Pincher Creek, AB



Dr. Sarah Giles
President Elect
MD, CCFP (EM), FCFP, FRRMS
Kenora, ON



Dr. Merrilee Brown
Treasurer
MD, CCFP, FCFP, FFRMS
Tobermory, ON



Dr. Stacy Desilets
Secretary
MD, FCFP
New Liskeard, ON



Dr. Leigh Beamish
Member-at-Large
MD, CCFP
Hinton, AB



Dr. John O'Connor
Member-at-Large
MD, FRRMS
Edmonton, AB



Dr. Emmanuel Abara
Member-at-Large
MD, FRCSC, FACS, FICS,
FWACS, MSc.CH. Associate
Professor-NOSM University
Richmond Hill, ON

Leadership Team



Jennifer Barr
Chief Operating Officer



Jenna Keindel
Administrative Officer



Diana Chavez
Marketing Officer



Kristen Kluge
Program Coordinator



Stacey Thomson
Finance Officer



Colinda Siroski
Events and Program
Support Assistant

SRPC Committees

Anesthesia

Jane Bishop
Sechelt, BC

Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine

Peter Hutten-Czapski
Haileybury, ON

Communications

Kerry-Lynn Williams
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL

Education Reform Taskforce

Kristy Penner
Coleman, AB

Emergency Medicine

Sean Moore
Keewatin, ON

Environmental

Regan Taylor
Calgary, AB
Steve Ferracuti
Haliburton, ON

First Five Years in Practice

Kimberley Chang
Nanaimo, BC

Rural and Remote Health Workforce

Dr. Sarah Newbery
Marathon, ON
Dr. Sarah Lespérance
Amherst, NS

Indigenous Health

Currently vacant

Maternal and Newborn Care

Sarah Gower
Elora, ON

Nominations and Awards

Gabe Woollam
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL

Research

Margo Wilson
St. John's, NL

Resident

Anchaleena Mandal
Kingston, ON
Nkechi Ikeaba
Toronto, ON

Rural Surgery

Mark Prins
Edmonton, AB

Rural and Remote

Sarah Giles
Kenora, ON
Selena Papetti
Seven Sisters Falls, MB

Rural Critical Care (RCC)

Gordon Brock
La Prairie, QC

Rural Physician Partners

Laura Soles
Kimberley, BC

Specialists

Sivaruban (Ruban) Kanagaratnam
Swift Current, SK

Student

Sean Bristowe
Calgary, A
Kasia Babyn
Edmonton, AB





Provincial and Territorial Representatives



Alberta
Rithesh Ram
Drumheller, AB



Northwest Territories
Dr. Kyle Sue-Milne
NT



Quebec
Vacant



British Columbia
Paul Mackey
Kamloops, BC



Nova Scotia
Vacant



Saskatchewan
Brian Geller
Regina, SK



Manitoba
Mindy Eklove
Winnipeg, MB



Nunavut
Meridith Penner
Iqaluit, NU



Yukon
Dr. Lindsey Campbell
Watson Lake, YT



New Brunswick
Fraser Mackay
Saint John, NB



Ontario
Paul Cano
Grimsby, ON



Newfoundland and Labrador
Andrew Hunt
Twillingate, NL



Prince Edward Island
Declan Fox
Tignish, PE

Rural Surgical Skills Conference

January 22-24, 2025

The Rural Surgical Skills Conference, held in January 2025 in Banff, AB, is a leading networking and hands-on skills event held every two years. Co-Chaired by Dr. Erin Beresh and Mrs. Randi Galenzoski, it brings together healthcare professionals from across Canada to enhance surgical skills, stay up-to-date on the latest advancements, and foster connections within the rural medical community.

Registration Breakdown

128

Attendees

9

Exhibitors

Testimonials

"Overall, the event was very well-run. I had lots of opportunities to network with future colleagues."

"Excellent conference. I always love attending ESS/OSS in Banff!"

"I really appreciated learning from current practitioners of OSS and ESS skills across Canada. The practical application of topics during programming was invaluable, and the 'Stump the Doc' session was excellent—I would suggest including it in future years."

"The speakers were engaged and highly knowledgeable. This event was incredibly well-planned and organized. Thanks to everyone who made this possible."

Highlights of this year

By the Numbers

45% OR nurses

43% Physicians

12% Students and Residents





Rural and Remote Medicine Conference

Winnipeg, Manitoba. April 24-26, 2025.

The 32nd Annual Rural and Remote Medicine Conference brought together physicians, residents, and medical students from across Canada in a vibrant celebration of rural practice and community. Co-Chaired by Dr. Sarah Giles and Dr. Selena Papetti, this year's event was marked by its inclusive, family-friendly spirit, offering opportunities to reconnect with colleagues, share stories from diverse rural communities, and create lasting memories with loved ones. More than just a conference, it was a true gathering of the rural medical community, a place that felt like coming home. Participants left feeling energized, supported, and proud to be part of a national network of rural physicians.

R&R 2025: By the Numbers

Registration Breakdown

596

Attendees

268

Exhibitors

184

Speakers

60

Family

9

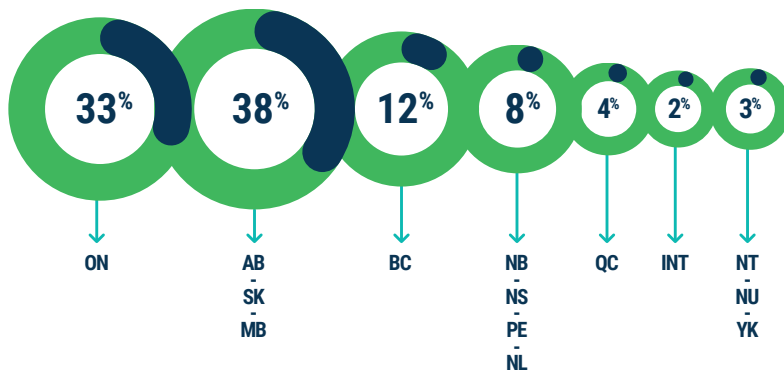
Organizers

1117

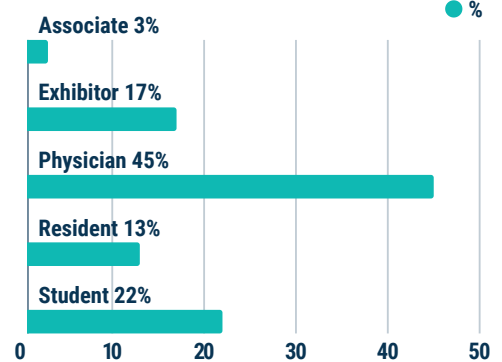
Total Attendees



% of 2025 CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS BY PROVINCE TERRITORY



DELEGATE DEMOGRAPHICS



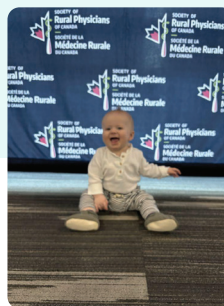
POPULAR PHOTOS - MOST LIKES



Paul Cano



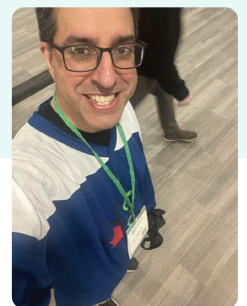
Christa Ng



Mark Pipher



Amanda Laprise



Yogi Sehgal



Investing in the Future: Supporting Rural Learners

This year, \$20,000 was available to support 25 medical students and 25 residents, each receiving \$400 to significantly reduce registration fees. Special thanks to the participants who opted to support unfunded learners—their generous sponsorship gifts ranged from \$100 to \$1,000 and helped make this support possible.

What did you like most about this year's Rural and Remote Medicine Conference?

family peers presentation speakers friends
attending social excellent people many Childcare
year rural
time topics **networking** Meeting
colleagues sessions connect
opportunity conference great love
many great Hands sessions plenary support
app learning

“

I loved the hands-on workshops and opportunities for learners to interact in facilitated spaces. The booths were great too. Having the app to preview presentations in advance was amazing.

”

“

I love networking and seeing folks I often only see annually at this conference. Always a supportive and friendly environment.

”

“

Excellent plenary session by Dr. Karagianis. His words were meaningful to everyone attending—family members, students, residents, and physicians.

”



Delta Hotel, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island | Nov. 29 – Dec. 1, 2024

In November 2024, the SRPC hosted the inaugural Mini Rural and Remote Medicine Conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, co-chaired by Dr. Sarah Lespérance and Dr. Fraser Mackay. This condensed version of our main event is designed to bring rural medical education, collaboration, and connection directly to smaller communities, ensuring that more regions of the country can participate in a meaningful way.

The first Mini R&R successfully attracted local physicians, residents, and medical students, creating a vibrant space for learning, networking, and community impact. By focusing on a smaller scale, the conference allowed for deeper engagement, hands-on experiences, and tangible benefits for the host community.

Our plan moving forward is to host a Mini R&R each fall, strategically located on the opposite side of the country from the spring R&R conference, continuing to foster education, collaboration, and support for rural physicians and their communities.



MINI R&R 2024: By the Numbers



% of 2024 Conference Participants

9%

Students

57%

Physicians

18%

Residents/
Retired SRPC
Members

13%

First Three
Years in
Practice

3%

SRPC Staff/
Volunteers

16

Exhibitor
Registrations

97

Attendee
Registrations



% of 2024 Conference Participants by Province/Territory

1%	BC
1%	International
13%	New Brunswick
5%	Newfoundland and Labrador
43%	Nova Scotia
2%	Ontario
27%	Prince Edward Island
7%	Quebec
1%	Saskatchewan



Testimonials

"Always organized well, always a great selection of food and well supported. Thank You!"

"This was really fun with great learning"

"The organization of the Rural & Remote conference is always top notch, and it was no different just because it was mini. Venue, setup, sessions, food, SRPC staff engagement - all very well done."

"The concept is great - going to a smaller location and getting more local people."

Expanding Access & Resources

New website launched: **SRPC.CA**

This year, we launched a new WordPress website at srpc.ca, giving us more tools to grow content, promote programs, and organize information for the rural medical community. Our member portal remains active at srpcportal.ca, continuing to provide a dedicated space for members while keeping resources more streamlined and accessible. From January to June 2025, our website saw a 261% increase in new users compared to the same period last year.

 **2024 (Jul 2023 – Jun 2024)**
31,000 new users

 **2025 (Jul 2024 – Jun 2025)**
112,000 new users

New web app launched:

LOCUMFINDER.SRPC.CA

Connecting Rural Physicians Through Locum Opportunities

This year, SRPC continued to support rural healthcare by expanding our Locum Finder platform, a national tool designed to connect physicians with qualified locums across Canada. By making it easier to secure coverage and explore new opportunities, the Locum Finder helps strengthen rural communities, support physician mobility, and ensure patients have access to care where it's needed most. The database currently includes:



165 Physicians
Looking for Work



71 Organizations
Seeking to Hire



Shaping Futures: Mentor Program Impact

The Mentor Program continues to grow, fostering meaningful connections and supporting the development of emerging rural healthcare professionals. Through guidance, collaboration, and shared expertise, the program helps shape the next generation of leaders in rural medicine.



28

New Mentees
Added from
2024 to 2025

13

Active Mentors
from 2024 to 2025

88

Total Mentors
and Mentees in 2025

202

Total Mentees
Since Program
Launch in 2021



Rural Reach Webinars: Learning in Action



Participation Overview

PARTICIPANTS



222

Unusual Papers That Might Change Your Practice



173

Performance Under Pressure



187

International Medical Graduate (IMG) CV Building Workshop



312

Management of Cold Injuries & Emergencies in the Rural ED



394

Indigenous Health Educational Series: Working With Patients Who Are Using Traditional Medicine



242

International Medical Graduate (IMG) Personal Statement/Letter Workshop for CaRMs



219

SRPC's Virtual Orientation: Exploring Rural Residency



282

I'm Feeling Gassed: A Common Sense Approach to Shortness of Breath



331

I'm Shocked, I Tell You: A Common Sense Approach to Shock



229

SRPC's Virtual Rural Residency Tour (Networking Opportunity – Not Recorded)

PARTICIPANTS



287

Lab Tests We Regret: When Less is More



257

Tick Talk You Don't Stop



422

Wound Care Management: Common Myths & Mistakes



137

Shaping a Public Agenda: A Starter Kit for Rural Docs



214

Cases from the Great White North



141

I'm Staff, Now What?



This year, we hosted **16 webinars** and information sessions with an average of **253 registrants** per session.

An average of **101 participants** attended the live events.

Canadian Journal of Rural Medicine: Engagement Overview

CJRM Issues (Summer 2024 - Spring 2025)



8,842
Average Recipients
Receive the Journal



67% Average Open Rate
Average Opens: **5,924.5**



11% Average Click Rate
Average Clicks: **5,988.25**

Journal Activity in 2024

In 2024, the journal continued to attract strong engagement from authors, with **91 submissions received**. Of these, **39 manuscripts were accepted**, and **31 articles were published throughout the year**.

Our published work included a diverse mix of content:

12 Scholarly contributions (10 original research papers and 2 review papers)

4 Occasional articles

2 Case reports

13 Other contributions (editorials, learner-focused content, and more)



We are encouraged to see continued interest and growth in submissions, which remain in the range of **70–100 annually**, reflecting the journal's ongoing relevance and impact.





Celebrating Excellence in Rural Medicine: SRPC's Awards



Awards Presented

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11 Rural Service Award | 5 Rural Long Service Award | 6 Lifetime Member Award |
| 7 Fellowship of Rural and Remote Medicine of the SRPC (FRRMS) | | |



Essay Submissions

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9 Student Essays Submitted | 6 Resident Essays Submitted |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|



Nominations Submitted per Award

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| 3 | Rural Student Leadership Awards |
| 4 | Rural Resident Leadership Awards |
| 3 | Rural Leadership Award |
| 2 | Rural Specialist Merit Award |
| 0 | Rural Heart Award |
| 5 | Rural Mentorship Award |
| 3 | Rural Health Champion Award |

Advocacy: Championing Rural Generalist Medical Care

Championing Change for Rural Health Campaign

From May to June 2025, the SRPC launched Championing Change for Rural Health, a national advocacy campaign tackling Canada's rural physician shortage. The campaign aimed to raise awareness, equip healthcare providers, patients, and the public with advocacy tools, and mobilize action toward a sustainable national rural health strategy. With a focus on rural, remote, and Indigenous communities, we are committed to continuing this campaign over the next three years. Join us in advocating for equitable healthcare—your voice matters, and the time to act is now.

Visit: championingchange.srpc.ca

Campaign Impact (May–June 2025)



Website visitors:
1,100 users



Social media ad clicks:
186 users



Google ads clicks:
50 users



Toolkit downloads:
109 healthcare providers



Letters sent:
20 individuals

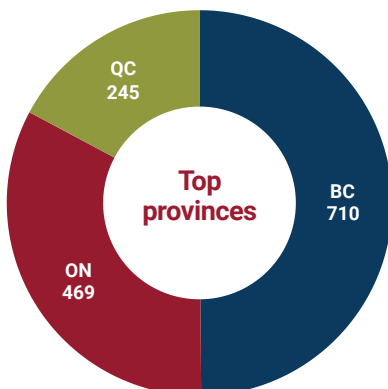
National Rural Health Week

October 21–25, 2024

In October 2024, SRPC proudly launched Canada's first National Rural Health Week, a campaign to celebrate the dedication of rural healthcare providers and advocate for equitable access to care. From showcasing personal stories through #ILoveRural, to building the Canadian Rural Health Partnership, to highlighting career pathways and community celebrations, the week mobilized voices across the country. The campaign strengthened advocacy for an official federal designation of National Rural Health Week and inspired the next generation to consider rural careers. This growing movement will continue to spotlight the importance of rural healthcare and the communities it serves.



Campaign Reach



Website visitors
1,942

83% From Canada

321 U.S. Visits



Social media engagement:
1,685

FB & IG
250

LinkedIn
201

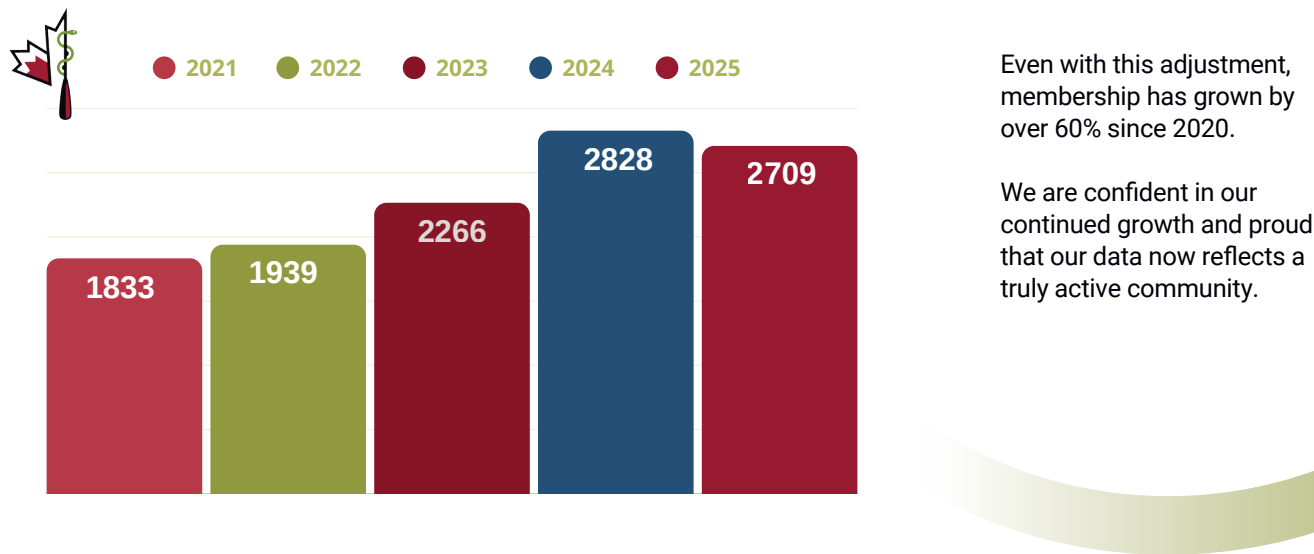
Google search
143



Membership Report

During our 2025 fiscal year, our numbers dropped slightly, mainly because:

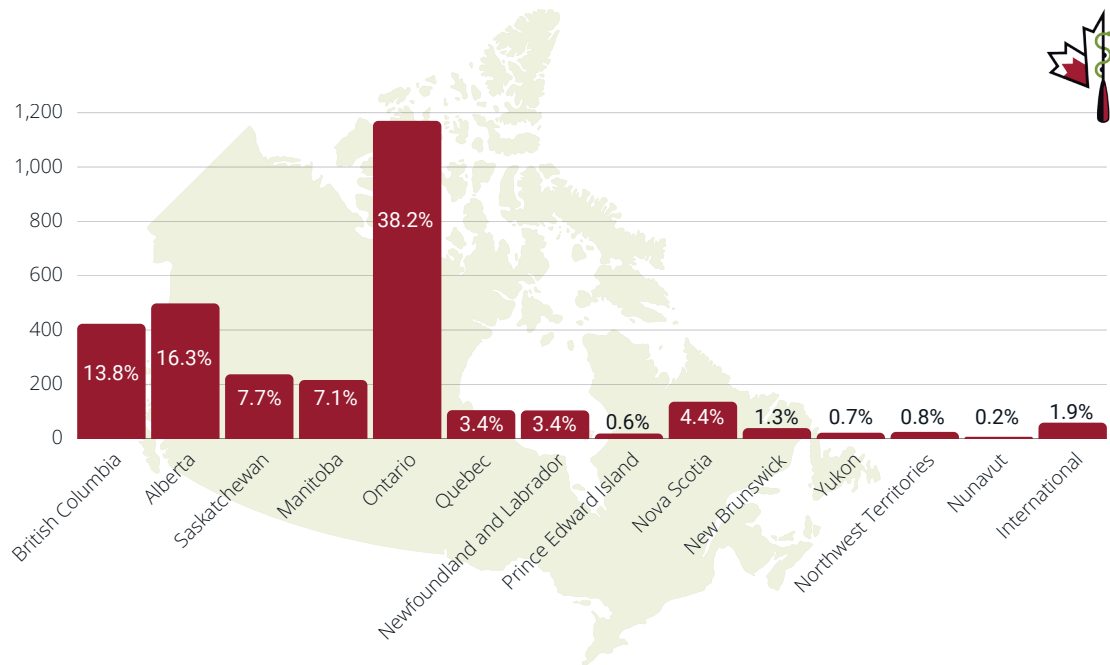
- We cleaned up our records and removed members with lapsed memberships
- Many physicians who joined during the 2023–2024 training program chose not to continue after it ended.



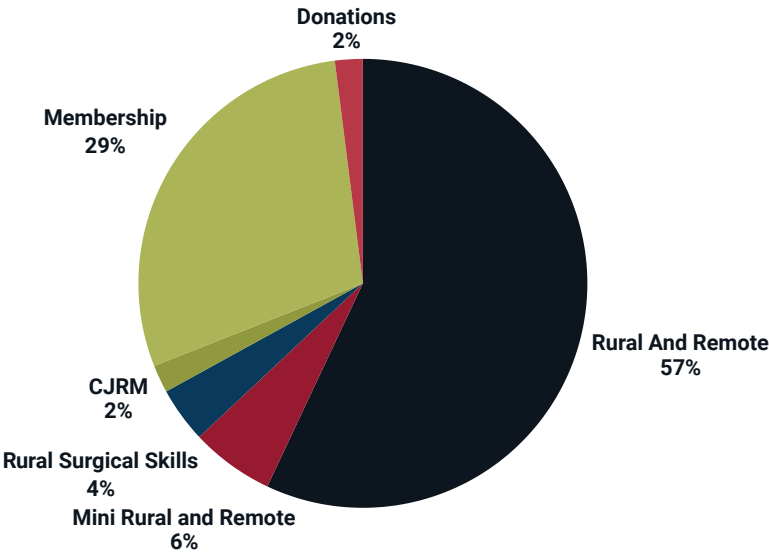
Regional Membership Distribution

Membership is highest in Ontario (38%), Alberta (16%), and British Columbia (14%), with international members representing 2%.

This distribution highlights the SRPC’s strong national presence and points to opportunities for growth in underrepresented regions.

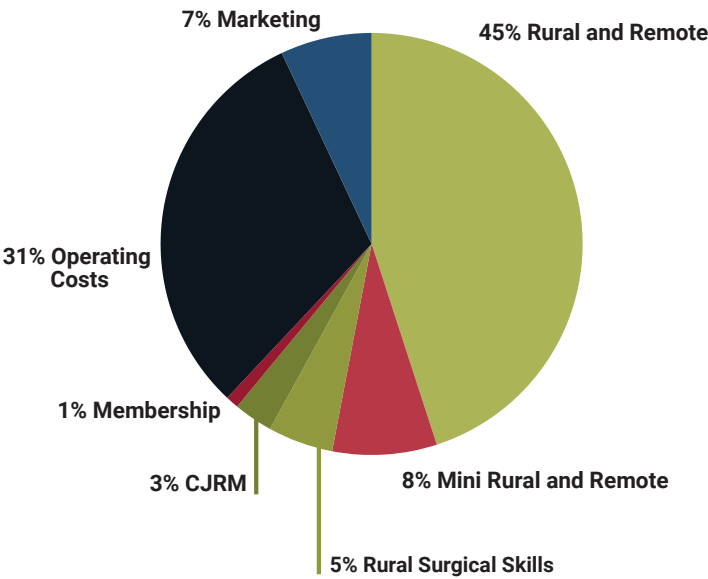


Financial Statement



Total Revenue
\$2,044,615.03

Total Expenses
\$2,160,513.46





srpc.ca