

UBC Family Medicine Interest Group: Rural Shadowing Initiative



The Rural Shadowing Initiative is a subcommittee of the Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) with the primary goal of increasing exposure to and interest in rural medicine for first and second year UBC MD Undergraduate Program students. We hope to achieve this goal by providing opportunities for pre-clinical students to shadow rural physicians and participate in local events at smaller communities across BC.

Our project involves sponsoring students to visit rural community for a weekend in order to shadow clinical practice, connect with rural practitioners, explore the town and take part in local activities. We will cover accommodation for two nights, travel mileage and a meal for their volunteer preceptors. By providing a greater degree of financial support, our intention is to make this opportunity accessible to all students.

March 2023 we plan to send **4 Vancouver UBC UGME students** to **Gibsons BC** for the pilot run of this program with financial support from REAP and FMIG. With continuing support, our goal is to host rural shadowing opportunities in both the Fall and Spring for each new class of medical students. It is our hope that this exposure will engage more students in the care of the diverse communities across our province and promote rural medicine early in their medical school journey.

Our goal is to expand this project to more rural communities and we are actively recruiting preceptors on the Island, Interior and Sunshine Coast. This program has the support of Dr. James Card (NMP) who successfully organizes a similar program in the north, RCCbc and REAP who share a goal of promoting rural medicine.

If you are interested in hosting 2-4 UBC students for a weekend, we would love to hear from you.

Students travel on a Friday, shadow their clinic/ER for the weekend, participate in local activities, share a meal with the volunteer preceptor and return to their home site Sunday afternoon.

Proposed weekends include **March 3-5, 2023** and **May 26-28, 2023**
Please contact Melissa Mantifel at mantifel@student.ubc.ca or Judy Song at judy97@student.ubc.ca if interested.

Call or Text: 613-639-5084

