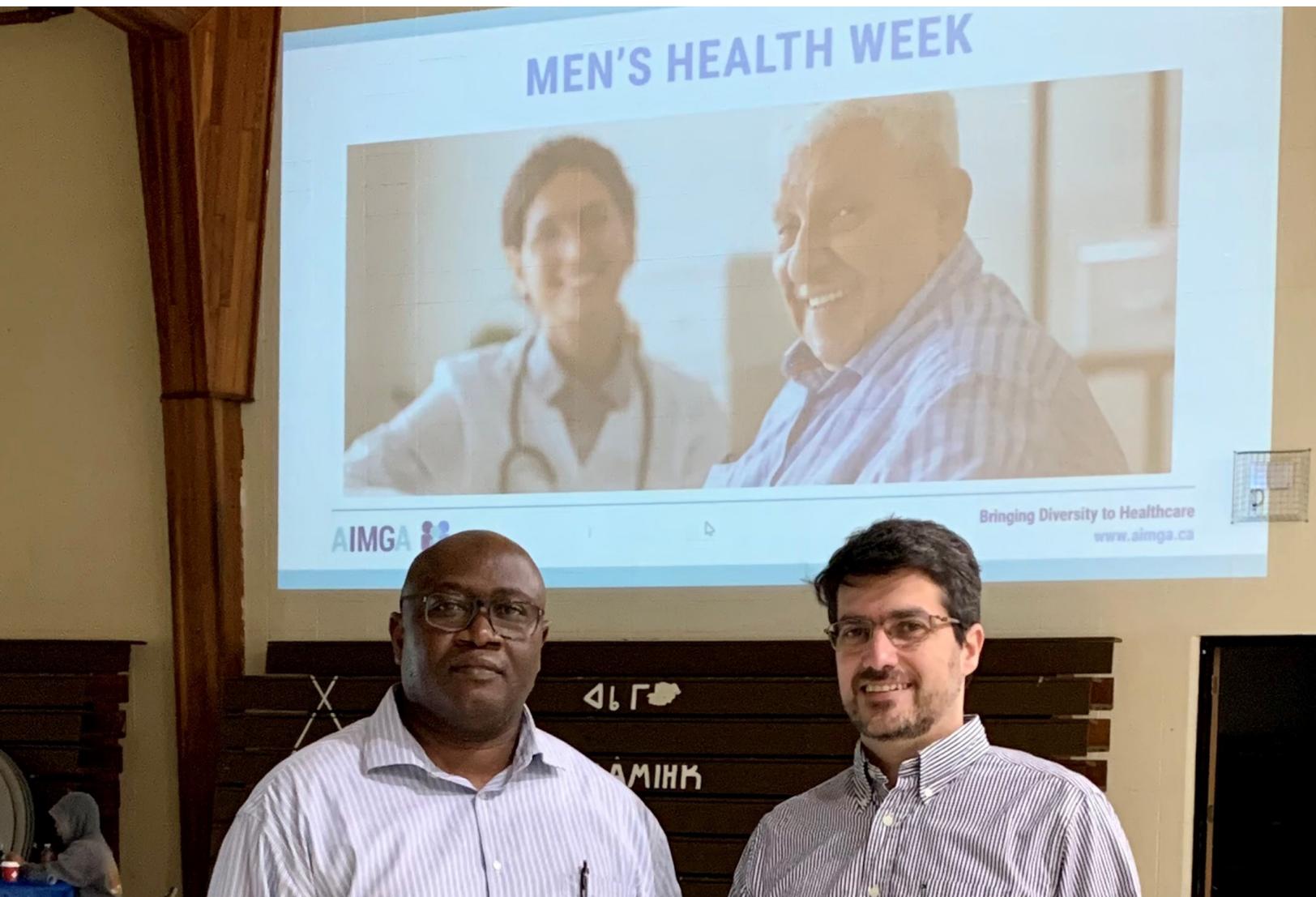


# AIMGA NEWSLETTER

**Edition 6**  
July 2022



Andre Pereira and Victor Erhurun, AIMGA Members

## Newsletter Features

- Programs and Services
- Residency Matches
- Announcements and Updates

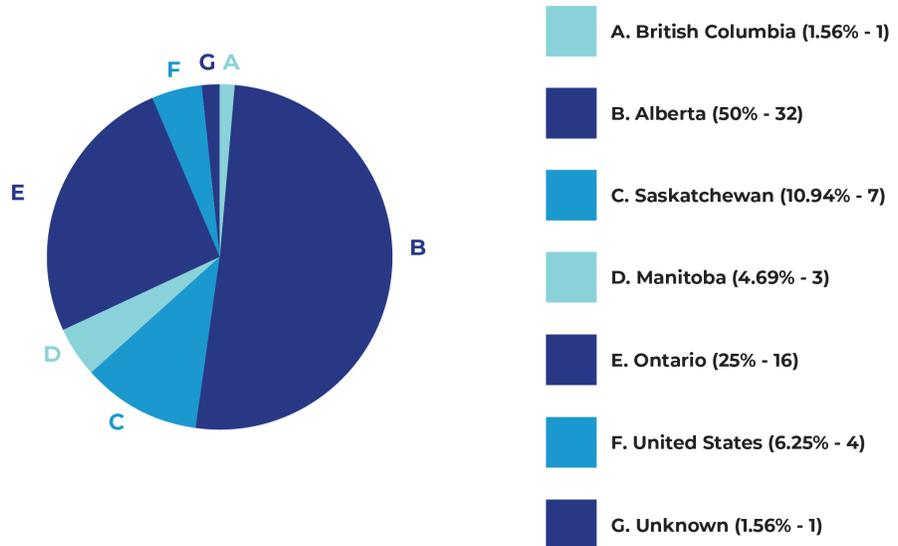
# AIMGA RESIDENCY MATCHES

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the 64 AIMGA members who matched to residency this year!

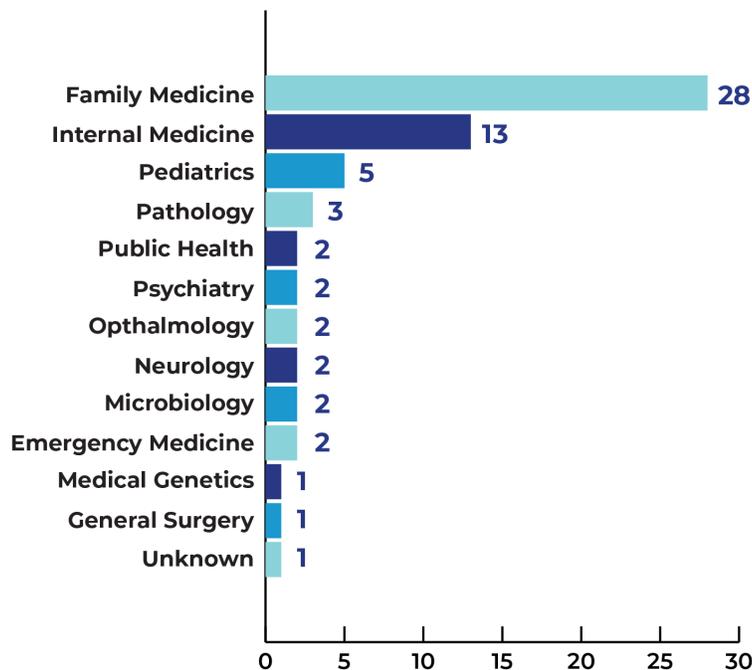
## Interesting Facts:

- 57 of the 65 were Immigrant IMGs
- 8 of the 65 included Canadians who studied abroad (CSAs)
- Of the 37 seats allotted to IMGs in Alberta, 32 were AIMGA Members - 86.5%
- AIMGA conducted 176 mock residency interviews

## AIMGA CaRMS Matches by Location (N=64)



## AIMGA CaRMS Match by Specialty Areas (N=64)



**To what areas of specialty did our members match?**

## MCAP

The aim of the Medical Communication Assessment Program (MCAP) is to advance the professional integration of immigrant IMGs into the Canadian Healthcare system through an online instructional component. The program provides participants with a foundation in patient-centred care and the communication and intercultural skills needed for successful integration.

### MCAP Online consists of the following modules:

- An Introduction to Patient-Centred Care
- Giving Advice & Including the Patient in the Management Plan
- Dealing with Teenagers
- Dealing with Difficult Patients
- Breaking Bad News
- Medical Ethics

### Evaluations from Cohorts 1&2

- 100% of the respondents felt MCAP met or exceeded their expectations
- 100% of the respondents would recommend MCAP to other IMGs

### Testimonials:

*"My communication skills have improved dramatically. I feel much more confident interacting with patients."*

*"It was really intensive and practical. I felt prepared going into my practice after the program"*

*"I thought I was doing fairly okay in my interactions with patients but the course exposed all my deficiencies and provided the needed resources and support for me to grow and improve my confidence level"*

*"It greatly improved my practice of patient-centered care"*

**If interested in MCAP, make an appointment with Rossalia!**

## PATIENT NAVIGATOR

This program is designed to bridge highly skilled IMGs into a non-physician occupation in the area of patient navigation, health promotion, health community facilitation.

### The program goals are to:

- Apply strategies for health promotion and navigation
- Identify relevant and appropriate sources of information
- Display the socio-cultural competencies required to interact effectively with diverse individuals, groups, and communities
- Address numerous dimensions of communication including internal and external exchanges; written, verbal, non-verbal and listening skills; and
- Demonstrate leadership competencies that build capacity, improve performance, and enhance the quality of the working environment
- Demonstrate facilitate health education sessions in group settings both online and in-person

### Components:

1. Community Interpreter Training Certificate
2. Patient Navigator Certification
3. Overview of the Canadian Health Care System
4. Instructional Skills Workshop/Ready to Teach
5. Overview of Community Based Research
6. Work Placement/Mentorship
7. Workplace & Career Readiness

### Testimonials:

*"The Patient Navigator program has increased my knowledge of the complex Canadian Healthcare system and provided the opportunity for me to help patients and community members to overcome barriers to equitable access to programs and services."*

**If interested in our Patient Navigator Program, make an appointment with Pam!**

## CAREER TRANSITION PROGRAM

The Career Transition Program (CTP) assists IMGs who are considering an alternative pathway into the Canadian Healthcare system as a short or long-term goal.

### The goals of CTP are to:

- increase IMG's overall knowledge and awareness of alternative careers through a series of employment related workshops.
- provide participants an opportunity to meet with fellow IMGs in alternative careers and to obtain feedback from employment coaches and mentors
- Equip IMGs with the tools necessary to manage their own career and find employment.

### Total number of participants Cohorts 1-10: 174

- 135 became employed, 26 enrolled in further training
- **Overall Success Rate: 86.2%**

### Testimonials:

*"The CTP program was invaluable at helping me carve out a career path for myself. Firstly it made me feel less alone in this journey. The various mentors and the paths they had taken offered great insight and hope and gave the confidence I needed to make a transition in my career. I shared my interests and the program advisors were very helpful in connecting me to people in the industry. This gave me real insights into the industry, its' requirements and my place in it. I feel without all the support at AIMGA I would have still been unsure and possibly still trying to get into residency with the odds stacked against me. As opposed to this, I am now part of a Masters program and have the path set towards a career of my interest. I am grateful for all the support CTP and AIMGA provide."* - H.Y

**If interested in CTP, make an appointment with Teresa or Tisha!**

## EMPLOYMENT SERIES

AIMGA has been offering an Employment Series. Sessions include:

### Job Search Strategies

How do you find a job? Effective job search strategies are crucial if you want to be effective at finding opportunities that suit your skill set and career goals. In this session, we'll look at ways to enhance your job search.

### Using LinkedIn Effectively

LinkedIn has become an important tool in searching for jobs and networking. Creating an effective profile is a great way to promote yourself and connect with peers and potential employers. In this session, we'll look at ways to ramp up your LinkedIn profile.

### Writing a Professional Biography

A bio introduces you to potential employers, contacts, and peers. They are common across LinkedIn, job search platforms, and company websites. A captivating bio helps you to make a good impression. In this session, we'll provide tips, a step-by-step process, and samples.

### Preparing for your Resume: Transferable Skills

What are transferable skills? Every job requires specific skills and many of these are transferable from your past work. Identifying and developing these skills will help you write a resume for a variety of positions. This session will cover what transferable skills are and why they're important.

### Resume Writing: Styles

Knowing how to format a resume is important. Your resume should be professional and appropriate for the positions you are applying for. This session will present resume types and tips for writing resumes for those seeking non-physician positions in healthcare.

### Writing a Cover Letter

A cover letter introduces you to an employer. Writing a cover letter that effectively conveys your skills, knowledge, and experience in an effective way is important - it's a way to connect. This session will present how to write an effective cover letter and provide tips and samples.

## MONTANA FIRST NATION



Figure 1. Montana's First Nation Reserve

AIMGA is pleased to announce the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Montana First Nation of Maskwacis, Alberta. We will be providing cultural orientation and indigenous sensitivity training for AIMGA's members in the Montana First Nation community through programming, events and working in Akamihk Health Services clinics and healthcare facilities. Deidre Lake would like to thank the Chief of the Montana First Nation for his vision for his community and looks forward to furthering this partnership.

Deidre met with the Chief, Health Minister, Jason Copping, and others. A fruitful discussion was had on the needs of the Montana First Nation and how IMGs could play an integral role in rural Albertan communities.

Two of AIMGA's members from our Patient Navigator Program conducted a presentation and discussion on men's health to the community in a day to honour the men of the community following Father's Day.



Figure 2. Andre Pereira and Victor Erhurun give a presentation on Men's Health on June 29, 2022

## ONLINE NETWORKING EVENT

On July 13th, AIMGA held a networking event designed to provide tips, insight, personal insights and reflections from IMGs to IMGs. Sessions covered:

- Tips and Strategies for OET Success
- Tips and Strategies for QE1 Success
- Tips and Strategies for NAC OSCE Success
- Personal Success Stories and Insights into Getting Matched to Residency
- Personal Success Stories and Insights into the Practice-Readiness Assessment Routes
- Personal Success Stories and Insights into Pursuing Fulfilling Alternative Careers
- The benefits of AIMGA's Career Transition Program in Your Next Career Steps
- AIMGA's Medical Communication Assessment Program's Role in Improving your Clinical Communication Skills in the Canadian Healthcare System

There were 12 IMG mentors who presented and 75 participants. Lots of great information was shared and members got to meet each other.

This was the first in what will become a regular event.

## AIMGA RECOGNIZES WORLD REFUGEE DAY



# WHY OUR MEMBERS JOINED AIMGA

Are you an Internationally Trained Physician in Canada?

Why join AIMGA?

To develop a career plan

Because it's an awesome organization

**Bhargav Pandya, AIMGA Member and Orthopedic Surgeon,**  
*joined AIMGA because it's an awesome organization and to develop a career plan.*



Alberta International Medical  
Graduates Association

Helping IMGs Across Canada Succeed  
[www.aimga.ca](http://www.aimga.ca)

**Found a job in healthcare within a month  
of arrival through the help of AIMGA**

Are you an Internationally Trained Physician in Canada?

Why join AIMGA?

Because it's an awesome organization

**Faiza Saeed, AIMGA Member and Gynaecologist & Obstetrician,**  
*joined AIMGA because it's an awesome organization.*



Alberta International Medical  
Graduates Association

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[www.aimga.ca](http://www.aimga.ca)

**Matched to Family Medicine**

Are you an Internationally Trained Physician in Canada?

Why join AIMGA?

To learn about the Canadian Healthcare System

To increase my chances to match to residency

**Ijeoma Azodoh, AIMGA Member and Family Physician,**  
*joined AIMGA to learn about the Canadian Healthcare System and to increase her chances to match to residency.*



Alberta International Medical  
Graduates Association

Helping IMGs Across Canada Succeed  
[www.aimga.ca](http://www.aimga.ca)

**Matched to Family Medicine**

Are you an Internationally Trained Physician in Canada?

Why join AIMGA?

Because it's an awesome organization

**Nuruddin Lakhani, AIMGA Member and Pediatrician,**  
*joined AIMGA because it's an awesome organization.*



Alberta International Medical  
Graduates Association

Helping IMGs Across Canada Succeed  
[www.aimga.ca](http://www.aimga.ca)

**Obtained a position with AHS  
as a Clinical Assistant in Pediatrics**

**AIMGA is open to all IMGs across Canada. Join today!**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### “Husband and wife team are Barrhead’s newest doctors”

#### Town and Country Today News Article

Read the article by clicking the link below:

<https://www.townandcountrytoday.com/local-news/husband-and-wife-team-are-barrheads-newest-doctors-5292419>

### Refugees Welcome Here

**CLIP led a public awareness campaign to celebrate the contributions that refugees make to our communities in collaboration with a number of community partners.**

To donate and support refugees, click on the link below:

<https://www.calgarylip.ca/refugeeswelcomehere>

### Study About Food Needs During COVID

**Want to talk about your food needs during COVID? UofC Study, \$30 participation fee**

Find out more about this study by emailing [yunyun.leel@ucalgary.ca](mailto:yunyun.leel@ucalgary.ca).

### AIMGA is looking for a Study Group Coordinator!

**We are looking for a part-time study group coordinator!**

Email your resume and cover letter to Alannah Turner, AIMGA’s HR Consultant, at [alannahturnercphr@gmail.com](mailto:alannahturnercphr@gmail.com) if you are interested.

If you have applied and have not heard from Alannah, please resend resume to the new email address above.

### Is the pandemic over?

**AIMGA hosted a session with Dr. Eliana Castillo from the University of Calgary.**

To see latest stats on COVID-19, click here: <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/#a9>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AIMGA Study: The Wellbeing of IMGs and the Impacts of the Journey to Licensure

AIMGA wants you to fill out the following survey by **Sunday, July 24:** <https://aimga.ca/img-mh/>

Those involved in this initiative include: Rhoda Dein Komolafe (member), Chinyereadaeze Chukwu (member), Nashit Chowdhury (staff), Teresa Lau (staff)

AIMGA is offering a Mindfulness for Life Program. This program is an eight-week program that helps you connect mindfulness and overall wellness by applying mindfulness.

If you are interested, please contact Teresa at [teresa@aimga.ca](mailto:teresa@aimga.ca)

### St. Paul’s Emergency Medicine Update in Whistler Village, BC

Topics including pediatric respiratory distress, ED billing, hands-on ultrasound workshops, suturing workshops, the dark arts of emergency medicine, and more!

For more information and to register: <https://ubccpd.ca/learn/learning-activities/course?eventtemplate=306-20th-annual-st-pauls-emergency-medicine-update>

Use the promotional code, AIMGA, for a \$100 discount. Available to the first 15 registrants.

### Calgary International Conference on Medical and Health Science

This conference is for the scientists, scholars, medical and healthcare professionals, students, and the industry to present ongoing research activities, and to foster research relations between the Universities and the industry.

More information: <https://10times.com/cicmhs-calgary>

### Follow AIMGA:

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aimga/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AIMGAI/>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/aimga/>

# STAMPEDE BREAKFAST 2022





The right **person** in the right **seat** at the right **time**. We are here to assist at every step in the licensure process from application to integration.

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## OFFICE LOCATIONS:

### AIMGA CALGARY

Crescent Centre  
Suite 202, 1409 Edmonton Trail NE  
Calgary, AB T2E 3K8

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### AIMGA EDMONTON

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[www.aimga.ca](http://www.aimga.ca)

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