



## Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College

### Backgrounder

#### About CMCC

The Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) is an accredited private postsecondary academic institution which has been educating doctors of chiropractic since 1945. CMCC is recognised as a world leader in chiropractic education and research and one of the most innovative chiropractic institutions in North America. CMCC offers a second entry undergraduate professional degree and postgraduate and continuing education programs.

Located in Toronto, Ontario, CMCC offers a vibrant educational community to its 750 students and 200 staff and faculty, who are recognised as leaders in their field. The Toronto campus features modern teaching and laboratory space, including new simulation and biomechanics laboratories, and is extended across Toronto through its network of community based interprofessional clinics that serve diverse patient populations. Students complete their final year of studies in one of CMCC's community based clinics as interns, providing supervised patient care to a wide variety of patient populations in these communities.

#### Articulation agreements: UOIT and University of Manitoba

In 2012, CMCC signed an articulation agreement with the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT). The agreement allows qualifying students to complete their BSc and DC degrees in seven years instead of eight and results in students receiving both their undergraduate degrees in the specified kinesiology program stream at UOIT, and their Doctor of Chiropractic Degree from CMCC.

In 2014, an articulation agreement with the University of Winnipeg (UWinnipeg) was signed creating a new academic pathway for qualified students to concurrently complete a Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology degree (Honours) and a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in seven years, instead of eight, following the same model as that of the agreement with UOIT. It is the first agreement of its kind in Western Canada.

#### CMCC Students

From across Canada and around the world, CMCC students bring educational backgrounds in health sciences, physical education, nursing, teaching, engineering, physiotherapy and performing arts. Students must have completed at least three years of university undergraduate education before enrolling. On average, 750 students are enrolled in Years I-IV in equal numbers of men and women. The average entry GPA is 3.1 on a 4.0 scale.

#### Undergraduate Curriculum

The Undergraduate Education Program at the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) offers students a comprehensive, integrated and competency based curriculum that emphasizes differential diagnosis, clinical excellence, patient centred care and research and encourages a lifetime of learning.

Through the rigorous program, graduates achieve the entry to practice qualifications of a primary contact health care professional with expert knowledge in spinal and musculoskeletal health.

Applicants to the undergraduate program require at least three years of undergraduate university study with a cumulative GPA of 2.50 on a 4.00 scale. Based on academic assessment and a personal interview, applicants are rank ordered and close to 200 are offered admission each year.

CMCC students participate in over 4,200 hours of academic and clinical education, including studies in biological sciences, anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, psychology, neurology as well as clinical and chiropractic sciences. As an institution, CMCC is committed to excellence and the enhancement of curriculum delivery.

The creation of CMCC's Simulation Laboratory in 2010, with its simulated patients and Force Sensing Table Technology is the latest large scale educational enhancement to the undergraduate curriculum. The laboratory gives students the opportunity to practice their history taking, examinations and diagnostic skills in addition to fine tuning their technique skills in a way not previously possible. Additional programs with simulated patients offer students the opportunity to learn lifesaving responses.

### **The Internship Year**

With comprehensive academic and clinical preparation, students in Year IV are well prepared to apply their knowledge as a chiropractic intern supervised by a CMCC clinician in one of a network of external chiropractic clinics throughout the GTA which together care for over 8,000 patients per year. CMCC offers students two separate six month internship experiences within this program. A variety of experiences are possible, from internship in a multidisciplinary hospital setting to specialized clinics serving select populations and community based chiropractic clinics open to the public.

These community based clinics give students a broad clinical experience with more focused patient populations, including Toronto's urban aboriginal community, adults and children who are behaviourally, mentally and physically challenged, and patients with HIV/AIDS. CMCC's participation in St. Michael's Hospital's Academic Family Health Team has seen chiropractic included as a model of care identified by the Provincial Premier's Council of the Federation as one of four primary care models for provincial ministers to review while implementing reform to health care and delivery.

Throughout this final year of study, interns complete rotations in the clinical laboratory, diagnostic imaging and rehabilitation and participate in community outreach programs. Qualifying students may also have an opportunity to participate in a preceptorship and to work alongside a chiropractor approved for CMCC's Community Based Clinical Education Program in one of many provinces across Canada.

### **Outreach Abroad**

Since 2012, CMCC has offered graduating interns the opportunity to participate in Chiropractic Outreach Abroad, a program facilitated by CMCC in association with the Associate Minister of Health for the Dominican Republic. The 10 day outreach provides interns with a rare experience to work in a developing country, while providing invaluable health care to individuals living in rural areas, who in some cases, have had no previous access to professional health care.

CMCC is also a supporter of World Spine Care (WSC), an organization striving to fill the gap in the treatment of MSK related conditions found in the developing world. A number of new graduates have participated in WSC's program in Botswana.

### **Research at CMCC**

CMCC's research addresses four main areas including mechanobiology, health resources, disability preventions and clinical trials both through virtual and physical academic centres. With these areas as a primary focus, chiropractic research at CMCC continues to elevate the quality of education and help improve patient care.

The Centre for the Study of Mechanobiology, Injury and Health focuses on the role of connective tissue - bone, joint, ligament, muscle or nerve - in health and disease. The Centre for Interprofessional Health Dynamics investigates practice dynamics, public health policy and interprofessional care, continuing the momentum created by CMCC graduates and faculty.

The UOIT-CMCC Centre for the Study of Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation is a multidisciplinary research program operated jointly by the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) and CMCC and is located on the CMCC campus. The Centre is dedicated to reducing the impact of disability on individuals and society.

CMCC students are encouraged to develop critical thinking skills and are trained to evaluate research, in order to translate evidence into their own practices after graduation. All students are required to complete an appraisal of scientific literature. Those with a greater interest in scholarly work may elect to conduct a research project under faculty supervision. CMCC faculty are recognized internationally for the quality of their research. As of April 2013, of the 12 Chiropractic Research Chair positions held in universities across Canada, eight are held by CMCC alumni.

### **CMCC Research Chair**

CMCC is a global leader in advancing and fostering culture of chiropractic research. In 2011, the institution welcomed Dr. Sam Howarth as the McMorland Family Research Chair in Mechanobiology. Howarth's work has already contributed to the understanding of low-back injury potential in the workplace. His appointment at CMCC marks the first Research Chair position to be created within a chiropractic educational institution.

### **Simulation Laboratory**

In 2009, CMCC invested in a simulation laboratory, complete with sophisticated manikins and Force Sensing Table Technology. Since then, thoracic analog models have been added in addition to a delayed video feedback system. Early research demonstrates the value of these tools in providing enduring learning experiences and increased confidence. CMCC is the first chiropractic program in North America to implement simulated patients into the learning environment. The simulation laboratory is one of six teaching laboratories on campus. Among other laboratories is a customized anatomy laboratory, making CMCC one of only 10 educational institutions designated as a school of anatomy in Ontario.

### **Graduate programs**

CMCC offers resident-based fellowship programs in three specialty areas: Clinical Sciences, Sports Sciences and Diagnostic Imaging. The programs combine practical and theoretical aspects of clinical practice by offering placements and exposure to an advanced mix of clinical experiences. Several graduates of the program have gone on to fill senior administrative roles in chiropractic institutions and other academic centres across the globe.

A Return to Work Advanced Certificate Program is also offered. Completion of this program will enable health or social professionals to hold positions as Return to Work Experts working closely with employers, public and private insurers or in independent practice.

Chiropractors may also apply to enter the Anglo-European College of Chiropractic / Bournemouth University Master of Science in Advanced Professional Practice (Clinical Sciences) through CMCC, securing access to a CMCC research supervisor and some of the institution's own graduate level programs.

### **Accreditation**

In 2005, CMCC became the first private institution to offer a professional health care degree under the Government of Ontario's [Post-secondary Education Choice and Excellence Act, 2000](#).

CMCC's undergraduate program leads to a Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) degree. This program is offered under the [written consent](#) of the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities for the period from 24 March 2011 to 24 March 2021. The Doctor of Chiropractic degree program of CMCC is [accredited](#) by the Council on Chiropractic Education Canada (CCEC) of the Federation of Canadian Chiropractic (Federation), formerly the Canadian Federation of Chiropractic Regulatory and Educational Accrediting Boards (CFCREAB). The Federation is a member of the Councils on Chiropractic Education International (CCEI, [www.cceintl.org](http://www.cceintl.org)), whose other members are the Council on Chiropractic Education-US, the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia Inc. and the European Council on Chiropractic Education.

CMCC meets both the [Standards for Accreditation of Doctor of Chiropractic Programmes](#) established by CCEC, and the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board in its Organization Review and Degree Program Quality Review Standards.

CMCC's undergraduate program meets the education requirements established for the practice of chiropractic and is recognized by all provincial regulatory bodies in Canada, all state regulatory boards in the United States and many other jurisdictions around the world.

### **Funding**

Since opening its doors in 1945, CMCC has been a self-supporting institution funded by the chiropractic profession in Canada. CMCC receives no direct government funding and relies on membership, tuition and donations for support.