

Western Canada  
Thursday, November 20, 2025

## THE DR. CALVIN R. STILLER KEYNOTE LECTURE

**Patrick Laflèche** BA MD CCFP-ESS  
GP-Surgeon at Inuvik Regional Hospital  
MCpl 1-CRPG Inuvik Ranger Patrol

### “Screwing Up with Dignity”



Dr. Patrick Laflèche is originally from Northern Ontario, born and raised among the black flies and mosquitos in the small francophone community of Hearst. He left his hometown to explore the wide world at the tender age of 17. He did not know what he was doing. Over the course of a meandering personal and academic journey, he spent time studying arts and language in a castle in England, taught sex education to embarrassed youth in Nunavut, and toiled over murky water samples as a hydrology field technician on an uninhabited island. At some point he decided medical school sounded like a reasonable career choice. He completed his undergraduate medical degree at the University of Ottawa in 2013, and followed this up with two years of family medicine in Prince George, BC in a rural focused program. He fell in love with the Western Arctic and moved into a trailer in Inuvik with his dog Mabel. After a few years of juggling work as a rural doctor and volunteering abroad with Médecins Sans Frontières, he went on to complete surgery training in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. He now lives and works in Inuvik as a GP Surgeon, alongside his brilliant partner Theresa, their spunky daughter Soleil and a very neglected dog named Juno.