

February 2009

**Letter from Dr. Graham Sher to the Canadian Federation of Medical Students**

Dear students and future colleagues:

I would like to congratulate the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) on your amazing first-year success as one of Canadian Blood Services' national Partners for Life members. Your passion and commitment to Canada's blood system resulted in the collection of 882 units of blood, plasma and platelets in 2008.

Thank you to the CFMS members who have exhibited unwavering dedication on their mission to inspire others to take up the selfless, life-saving act of blood donation. As future doctors, your efforts to help save lives today are greatly appreciated.

Each blood donation given on behalf of the CFMS helps save three lives, but medical students know full well that a unit of blood also extends beyond recipients to bring hope and comfort to a patient's friends and family. One unit of blood impacts so many lives.

As you enter your second year of the Partners for Life program, I am confident you will continue to encourage your peers, faculty members, family and friends, to become regular blood donors.

This year Canadian Blood Services must recruit 90,000 *new* donors to continue to meet patient needs. With that in mind, I can tell you that the CFMS partnership with Canadian Blood Services is truly invaluable. It is also an essential link to ensuring patients continue to get the blood products they need when they need it, now and into the future.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of Canada's blood system and your involvement with Partners for Life.

Sincerely,



Dr. Graham D. Sher  
Chief Executive Officer