short-term medical missions
with a long-term perspective
EMAS: Education, Medical Aid and Service

In 1948, Toronto’s Hospital for Sick Children decided to construct a new building with new equipment. When a group of local doctors heard this news, they banded together and requested that medical equipment from the old hospital be sent to under-resourced hospitals around the world. The administration approved the request, and the doctors formed EMAS to oversee the distribution of warehouses full of donated medical equipment.

More than 65 years later, hundreds of Canadian healthcare professionals continue to band together every year on behalf of those in need. EMAS’ mandate has grown from equipment distribution to short-term medical missions trips and healthcare training, but the responsiveness to opportunities, a willingness to serve, and the underlying motivation to share God’s love with others remains constant.

VISION: Christ-centred healthcare teams proclaiming God’s love to all the world through healing and teaching

- EMAS provides holistic medical and spiritual care, for those in need, in a culturally sensitive manner
- EMAS teams are Christ-centered, highly competent and cost-conscious
- EMAS teaches, mentors and works alongside healthcare workers and others in the field
- EMAS partners with other Christian ministries in capacity-building projects

MISSION: To heal, teach and serve those in need in a Christ-like manner
Where We Serve

**ANGOLA**  •  Ophthalmology project

**CANADA**  •  Hundreds of healthcare personnel volunteer overseas each year

**CHINA**  •  Medical and dental teaching teams operate in four different regions

**CUBA**  •  Team-based teaching on palliative care; sending medical supplies

**ECUADOR**  •  Orthopaedic surgery and dental team

**HAITI**  •  Primary healthcare and teaching, local capacity-building

**INDONESIA**  •  Medical and dental training teams

**MYANMAR + THAILAND**  •  Medical and dental team from EMAS Hong Kong

**UGANDA**  •  Community development and medical clinic support

**VIETNAM**  •  Primary healthcare and teaching team

New Projects are added regularly. See emascanada.org for the most current list.

**HEALTHCARE STUDENTS**  •  Alongside our focus on healthcare education in the developing world, EMAS Canada is committed to offering educational experiences for the next generation of healthcare professionals in Canada. Over the past 45 years, EMAS has sponsored hundreds of Canadian Christian healthcare students to complete placements overseas.
What makes EMAS Canada unique?

1. **CHRIST-CENTRED HEALTHCARE**
EMAS Canada is focused on giving God glory in all we do. We are grateful for the remarkable gift of medicine to alleviate human suffering. So in all our teaching and healing work, we seek to express God’s love for those in need.

2. **INTERDENOMINATIONAL**
EMAS teams serve all people regardless of their background or beliefs. Our teams include Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox Christians. We also welcome people of good will to join us even if they do not share our faith.

3. **LONG-TERM COMMITMENT**
While our trips typically last a week or two, we commit to partner with specific underserved communities for the long-term. Many of our teams have traveled to the same location for 20 years or more, building enduring relationships in the neighbourhood and with each other.

4. **TEAMWORK**
EMAS Canada primarily sends medical teams. Our teams are holistic, including members with a broad range of skills that help fulfill the specific goal of each mission trip. The size and composition of each team varies.

5. **GOING TO UNDERSERVED AREAS**
EMAS Canada serves in regions where healthcare is unavailable or unaffordable. We offer free health care to the community and charge no fees for the lectures or conferences we hold for local health personnel.

6. **EMPOWERING LOCAL LEADERS**
EMAS Canada teams focus on equipping local healthcare professionals who serve the community year-round. For example, members of our China and Cuba teams lecture at local medical schools and conferences.

7. **INTERDISCIPLINARY**
EMAS Canada focuses on forming high-functioning interdisciplinary teams. We bring together teams made up of physicians, nurses, physiotherapists, pharmacists and other professionals. Our flexible approach allows people with a wide range of experience to participate.

8. **ALL HANDS ON DECK**
EMAS Canada welcomes non-medical volunteers. Skills such as education, chaplaincy and administration can be huge assets for a healthcare team working in an underserved community.

www.emascanada.org

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