

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & GENERAL COUNCIL 2019

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

AGM Chair and Vice Chair / General Council Speaker and Deputy Speaker 2019

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Chair/ Speaker | Ernst Schuster, MD |
| Vice-Chair/Deputy Speaker | Melanie Bechard, MD |

Board of Directors 2018-19

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chair | Brian Brodie, MD |
| President | Gigi Osler, MD |
| President-Elect | Stephen (Sandy) Buchman, MD |
| Past President | Laurent Marcoux, MD |
| Yukon | Rao Tadepalli, MD |
| Northwest Territories | Courtney Howard, MD |
| British Columbia | Shelley Ross, MD |
| | Robin Saunders, MD |
| | Charles Webb, MD |
| Alberta | Carl Nohr, MD |
| | Linda Slocombe, MD |
| Saskatchewan | Guruswamy Sridhar, MD |
| Manitoba | David Cram, MD |
| Ontario | Kiran Cherla, MD |
| | Rachel Forman, MD |
| | Albert Ng, MD |
| | Adam Steacie, MD |
| | Richard Tytus, MD |
| Québec | Bruno L'Heureux, MD |
| | Abdo Shabah, MD |
| New Brunswick | Ann Collins, MD |
| Nova Scotia | Celina White, MD |
| Prince Edward Island | Frank MacDonald, MD |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | Yordan Karaivanov, MD |
| Residents | Kimberly Williams, MD |
| Students | Henry Annan, MD |

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Opening

1. The 152nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Aug. 11, 2019 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Dr. Ernst Schuster chaired the meeting; Dr. Melanie Bechard was the Vice Chair.

Presentation of Annual Report

2. Dr. Brian Brodie, CMA Board Chair, presented the annual report. [CMA 2020](#) has helped drive our focus and advocacy efforts towards positive change in Canadian health care (e.g. ensuring health is high on the agenda for this fall's federal election, actively listening to the membership using multiple channels). Stemming from a request to explore pension options for physicians, Dr. Brodie noted constraints in the current Canadian pension system and that without an employer-employee relationship the CMA cannot legally set up a pension plan for physicians. A new subsidiary, CMA Investco, has been set up to invest and manage the assets from the sale of MD and the CMA will seek further input from the membership about how to use the funds to support a vibrant profession and a healthy population. The CMA will continue work in strategic areas such as physician health and wellness (including gender equity and cultural diversity), health human resources (including virtual care and national licensure), seniors' care, policy areas such as cannabis, opioids, medical aid in dying, and emerging areas such as global health, climate health and national pharmacare.

President's Listening Tour Report

3. Dr. Gigi Osler, CMA President, provided highlights from the CMA's Listening Tour leading up to the 2019 federal election. Multiple regional member forums were held in early 2019, with focused discussions on physician health and wellness and Canada's physician workforce. The CMA is working to change the culture of medicine to be more supportive and psychologically safer for trainees and practicing physicians, to support the provision of more efficient care with more virtual tools and calling on government for more health care resources. To this end, a Virtual Care Task Force was struck earlier this year in conjunction with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the College of Family Physicians of Canada. The CMA continues to advocate strongly for increased equity and diversity in the medical profession. The feedback received during the member discussion forum will feed into future strategic planning for the upcoming October 2019 Board Retreat.

Appointment of Auditor

4. Dr. Guruswamy Sridhar, Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee, provided a brief overview of the CMA's current financial position. Auditors have provided an unqualified audit opinion on the CMA's 2018 financial statements. The CMA received notification in late 2018 from Canada Revenue Agency that CMA membership dues are not subject to GST/HST. It was noted that the membership fees for students, residents and retired physicians are zero for 2020; the fee for regular members will be maintained at \$195.

(All motions were duly moved and seconded.)

The Canadian Medical Association will retain PricewaterhouseCoopers as auditors for the 2020 fiscal year.

Resolution AGM 19-01

Carried

Governance Committee Report / Approval of bylaw Amendments

5. Dr. Shelley Ross, Chair of the Governance Committee, outlined the proposed bylaw amendments to modernize the nominations and elections process. Other minor housekeeping changes were also noted. In keeping with AGM approval of bylaw changes in 2018 and best governance practices, the Board size is currently being reduced via attrition down to 19 members (by 2020), based on a model of one director per jurisdiction plus the three Presidents, Chair and a public, non-physician director (first term to commence after the close of the Health Summit).
6. Members and delegates engaged in a brief question-and-answer session regarding the governance changes. The Health Summit, member policy proposals, online surveys and an enhanced AGM were noted as some of the avenues that are being implemented to increase member engagement.

The bylaw amendments included in the Appendix A of the Canadian Medical Association 2019 Report to Members are hereby adopted as the Bylaws of the Association.

Resolution AGM 19-02

Carried

Member Discussion Forum

7. A member discussion forum was held with questions and comments received from the floor and virtually via the meeting app on a host of topics, including equity and diversity in medicine, a national physician pension plan proposal, CMA advocacy on federal income tax legislation, climate change and health, Indigenous and rural health care delivery, virtual care, gun control, scopes of practice, and CMA-PTMA relationships.

Installation of CMA President and Inaugural Address

8. Dr. Sandy Buchman was installed as CMA President for the 2019-2020 association year. Dr. Buchman thanked Dr. Osler for her mentorship over the last year as he prepared to take on this role and shared an anecdote of a colleague who instilled the mantra of 'Have the courage to live up to your potential'. Courage is needed now more than ever in Canadian medicine, to confront the many challenges being faced by both physicians and patients. Dr. Buchman addressed participants on areas of focus and plans for the year ahead: system-level changes to improve physician health, compassionate leadership, and increasing the patient voice in CMA deliberations. Dr. Buchman encouraged all members to act as change agents in improving the state of Canadian health care. In closing, Dr. Buchman thanked his CMA colleagues and staff, clinical colleagues and family for their ongoing support on this journey towards the CMA Presidency.

Celebrating the Profession: CMA Awards

9. The CMA Awards gala took place at the Westin Harbor Hotel, Toronto on Sunday, August 11, 2019. Terms of reference, a list of this year's award recipients and their biographical information are available at <https://www.cma.ca/cma-awards-and-nominations>.

Adjournment

10. The 152nd annual general meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm ET, on Aug. 11, 2019.

GENERAL COUNCIL

Opening

11. The meeting of General Council was held over two sessions at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre on Aug. 11 & Aug. 13, 2019. Dr. Ernst Schuster, Speaker, chaired the sessions.

Elections

12. The elections were held Aug. 11, 2019 with Dr. Laurent Marcoux, CMA Past President and Chair of the Nominations Committee, presiding. Dr. Marcoux explained the elections process to delegates and noted that terms would commence on Aug. 13, 2019, following the close of the Health Summit.

President-Elect

13. Dr. Ann Collins (N.B.) was elected President-Elect for the 2019-20 association year.

Board of Directors

14. The following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors for a 3-year term, starting in August 2019:

- Dr. Allison Kennedy (N.B.)
- Dr. Larry Pan (P.E.I.)
- Dr. Abdo Shabah (Que.) (2nd term)

15. The following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors for a 1-year term, starting in August 2019:

- Dr. Melanie Bechard (Residents)
- Dr. Stephanie Smith (Students)

Ethics Committee

16. The following individual was elected Chair of the Ethics Committee for a second 3-year term, starting in August 2019:

- Dr. Tim Holland

17. The following individuals were elected to the Ethics Committee for a 1-year term, starting in August 2019:

- Dr. Max Deschner (Residents)
- Ms. Gail Katznelson (Students)

Nominations Committee

18. The following individuals were elected to the Nominations Committee for a 1-year term, starting in August 2019:

- Dr. Justine [Urness] Fair (Yukon)
- Dr. Courtney Howard (N.W.T.)
- Dr. Carole Williams (B.C.)
- Dr. Michael Giuffre (Alta.)
- Dr. Siva Karunakaran (Sask.)
- Dr. Louise Fourie Smith (Man.)
- Dr. Albert Ng (Ont.)
- Dr. Laurent Marcoux (Que.)
- Dr. André M. Bernard (N.S.)
- Dr. Chris Goodyear (N.B.)
- Dr. Kris Saunders (P.E.I.)
- Dr. Wendy Graham (N.L.)
- Dr. Mithu Sen (Affiliate)

- Dr. Michael Arget (Residents)
- Dr. Stephanie Smith (Students)

Policy Discussion – Dialogue on Virtual Care in Canada

(Panelists: Drs. Evan Adams, Linda Inkpen and Robert Williams and Ms. Jaime Drayer)

19. More than 1,000 participants took part in the two-day Health Summit event, examining the potential of technology to improve communication between physicians and patients, create more integrated care systems and monitor patients' health. General Council delegates and members engaged in a two-hour dialogue with the panelists on the current state of virtual care and the challenges to widespread implementation and adoption in Canada. Discussions centered around the barriers to national licensure and locum physician portability, how virtual care can enhance and complement health care for remote and isolated Indigenous communities, the Virtual Care Task Force's mandate, the CMA Community of Interest platform on virtual care, provincial/territorial variability in physician remuneration for virtual health care services, as well as providing insights into current and future programs in Ontario and British Columbia and the patient experience lens.

Adjournment

20. The meeting of General Council adjourned at 12:00 pm ET on Aug. 13, 2019.