Guiding Principles for Change
– Engaging innovatively and inclusively in courageous and influential dialogue to advance health in Canada and increasing direct communication and engagement with members.
– Choosing a governance model that reflects the needs of the corporation and supports its strategic plan – CMA 2020 – which underpins CMA’s aspirations to serve its members (the profession) while empowering and caring for patients.
– Modernizing CMA’s governance structure – to date this includes adapting components of the Canada Non-for-Profit Corporations Act (CNCA) – a modern framework designed to promote accountability, transparency and good corporate governance for the not-for-profit sector.

Key Messages
– In October 2017, the CMA Board approved a new consultation model for a CMA Summit proposed by the General Council Task Force (GCTF) as a successor to GC.
– GC is expected to culminate in 2018; recognition of the CMA Code of Ethics’ 150th anniversary and a discussion on the revisions needed to modernize it will be featured.
– The purpose of the summit is to support CMA 2020 by creating an experience which enables participants to engage innovatively and inclusively in courageous and influential dialogue to advance health in Canada. For more information about the Summit, please click here.
– These changes are proposed in an effort to focus on CMA’s new engagement model and be more inclusive (see below). Business elements have transitioned or will transition to the membership at large (e.g., elections), Annual General Meeting (AGM) (e.g., bylaws approval) or Board of Directors (e.g., committees), as appropriate.

Frequently Asked Questions
1. Why is CMA changing its consultation model?
CMA is moving to engage 1000s instead of 100s using various methods (e.g., leveraging technology to promote communities of interest, member engagement, etc.) to provide more opportunities for direct grassroots input into CMA policy development and other initiatives.

2. What are the limitations of the current model?
– Minimal member representation – only .5% of CMA’s members (270 delegates) are represented in setting policy through a GC motion
– Cost efficiency – majority of motions presented are supported (98%+); as such it is a costly event to facilitate policy support and adoption
– Reputational/political risk associated in setting policy with limited input and analysis
– Advocacy effectiveness may be less due to nominal member engagement/input to policy development

3. How is CMA addressing these limitations?
Although by convention motions have been associated with GC, CMA’s bylaws do not specify that motions are the means for providing policy guidance and direction. It is proposed that alternate and more inclusive means can be showcased. As such, there will be no particular call for motions this year. As part of CMA’s vision of a networked organization, CMA Communities of Interest and “member proposals” are new initiatives providing year-round engagement – thereby expanding member
engagement and facilitating contributions to our advocacy and policy work. Member proposals on business and corporate matters would come to the AGM.

4. **Where will CMA business items be discussed if not at General Council and where will elections take place?**

   Over several years, CMA business items such as bylaw approval and the appointment of auditors have migrated from GC to the AGM. The one outstanding business item within GC’s purview is the elections. It is therefore proposed that if bylaw changes are approved in 2018, elections for such positions as the Board of Directors and President-Elect would move to the general membership in each province/territory where a seat/position is available (via electronic or e-voting) and be reported to the membership starting in 2019. This e-voting model, open to the membership, is currently used for electing the CMA President-Elect nominee at a provincial/territorial level. Transition clauses will be included in the 2018 proposed bylaw amendments to facilitate elections and the culmination of GC. Stay tuned for further details on proposed changes to the election process.

   Also starting in 2019, it is anticipated that the AGM will contain a virtual component to enable broader member participation and input to CMA particularly in corporate/business areas related to the association, members and the profession. Regional hubs for the AGM will also support virtual participation, networking at a local level and polling on business matters. Details on how to connect will be provided at a later date.

5. **What will be discussed at the AGM and GC in 2018 in Winnipeg?**

   **AGM Business Meeting**
   - Presentation of Annual Report (incl. 2019 membership fees)
   - Appointment of Auditors
   - Approval of Bylaw Amendments
   - Installation of President and inaugural address

   **General Council**
   - Code of Ethics 150th anniversary celebration and revisions
   - Elections

6. **Who is eligible to vote at the AGM?**

   All members are entitled to attend and vote at the business session of the Annual Meeting as full participants.

7. **Who will chair the AGM?**

   In 2018 owing to the transition, it is anticipated that the Chair would be the President. The Speaker would help facilitate the session. Going forward, it is anticipated that the Board would appoint a physician member with both chairing and facilitation skills to chair the AGM.

8. **When will the President be installed and the presidency take effect?**

   The President will be installed during the AGM. In 2018, the presidency will take effect following the close of GC. In future, the presidency will take effect immediately following the AGM.

9. **When will awards be presented?**

   In 2018, awards will be presented to recipients during the Awards Gala on Tuesday evening, Aug. 21 in Winnipeg. Timing for future presentations is under review as we endeavour to ensure appropriate recognition of all award recipients.
10. When and where will AGMs be held in future?
Starting in 2019, AGMs will be held in the spring (June) and continue to follow the current annual meeting rotation with virtual attendance available in major centres/hubs. Further details to follow.

11. Why is the AGM moving to the spring?
Scheduling the AGM in the spring allows CMA to align itself with the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act requirement of holding AGMs in the first 6 months of the calendar year. (Currently CMA is able to hold its AGM in August due to a particular exemption.)

12. What will this year’s annual meeting look like?
While the full program for the Health Summit, GC and AGM are still being developed, we’re happy to share the following details.
− Registration fees for the Health Summit, GC and AGM will be waived for all attendees in 2018
− Registration will open on the CMA website in March
− All meetings are being held at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg

Schedule for Sunday, Aug. 19
− On-site registration and Networking event at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights that evening
Schedule for Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 20-21
− Health Summit with the Awards Gala taking place on Tuesday evening
Schedule for Wednesday, Aug. 22
− AGM and GC

CMA Communities of Interest
We welcome your thoughts and hope that the initiatives outlined in this document provide you with additional opportunities to stay connected with us and your colleagues. Please provide your feedback or questions to Marie Claire Bédard, Associate Director, Governance, at marie-claire.bedard@cma.ca.