Why change CMA’s governance model?

**CMA 2020** outlines our commitment to a vibrant profession and a healthy population:
- engage in courageous and influential dialogue to advance health in Canada
- effective communication and engagement with members on the issues and causes that matter
- building collaborative relationships with those who share our vision
- highly engaged membership

Modernizing our governance and consultation model is integral to achieving our shared commitment to the medical profession.

Why change the Board’s structure?

The Board has a responsibility to ensure CMA’s good functioning and manage its affairs. Based on governance best practices, a smaller Board with the right skills/expertise and diversity coupled with stakeholder representation (including a non-physician) is preferable to the current structure.

How is this new model better?
- A strengthened CMA leadership to advance CMA’s vision and serve the needs and interests of its members, stakeholders and Canadians
- A Board small enough to have rich discussions and meet more frequently, yet large enough to get the work done
- Adapting leading statutory frameworks designed to promote accountability, transparency and good corporate governance for the not-for-profit sector
- An active and uniform search process

What is the proposed Board structure?

19 seats:
- one seat for each province/territory
- one seat each for students, residents, President, President-Elect and Immediate Past President, Chair and a non-physician

Why sunset General Council?

General Council only involves a few hundred members once per year; most motions adopted annually require little or no debate.

How is this new model better?
- Direct member engagement on policy development and advocacy prioritization year-round to identify emerging issues and priorities
- Engagement with PTMAs, affiliates and other key stakeholders to promote synergies, exchange information and work on matters of mutual interest, including policy development
- Election of key leaders by the membership

New engagement opportunities

**Health Summit**: Supports CMA 2020 by enabling participants to engage innovatively and inclusively in courageous and influential dialogue to advance health in Canada.

**Communities of Interest**: Platform to address issues affecting the health care system, the profession and patients. These communities are a key platform for advocacy by physicians and represent an important addition to our consultation model that will allow us to engage with our members directly and at scale on the issues and causes that are relevant to them.

**Member Proposals**: Members, PTMAs and affiliates can propose, review and prioritize eligible policy proposals for further development using e-platforms, e-panel, communities of interest and/or e-polling. Proposals that pertain to business and corporate matters would be submitted to the AGM.

Visit [cma.ca](http://cma.ca) for more details.

Voting would take place online in spring:
- President-Elect: Candidates continue to be identified on a geographic rotation – all Canadian members would be eligible to vote
- Directors: Candidates would come from each province/territory for available seats – Canadian members (full, retired, at-large, associate and honorary) are eligible to vote for the director from the member’s province or territory of residence (members from Nunavut, for the Ontario director).
- Student and resident directors: Candidates at national level – all Canadian student and resident members would be eligible to vote respectively for the student and resident directors
- Board Chair and non-physician director: Candidates at national level appointed by Board, on recommendation of a new Nominations and Appointments Committee

Other changes proposed
- Election of at-large members to committees would be moved to the Board – with non-physician experts appointed as appropriate
- A new Nominations and Appointments Committee would promote opportunities for CMA elected/appointed positions to constituents including PTMAs, affiliates and the membership