
CMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS - Summary of June & October 2022 Meetings

The CMA Board of Directors (“the Board”) met in late June 2022 and mid-October 2022 to receive progress updates on key priority strategic initiatives, approve a new profession engagement model, prepare for the 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and conduct other Board business. They also participated in two professional development sessions. Members of the CMA Impact Inc. Board of Directors also participated in the board education and strategy discussions at the October 2022 board meeting to ensure alignment between the CMA and CMA Impact Inc. Boards of Directors. Highlights include:

Board Education

- The Board was engaged in two professional development sessions at the October 2022 meeting on the topics of high-functioning boards and system-level change.

Impact 2040 Strategy

- CMA leadership provided updates on all seven of the Priority Strategic Initiatives (PSIs):
 - *Integrated Health Human Resource (IHHR) Planning*: Currently leveraging the heightened interest from key political stakeholders and the ensuing policy window to make recommendations and presentations, particularly on the long-term planning aspects. Multiple partnerships forged in this space with the Canadian Medical Forum, Canadian Nurses Association, HealthCareCAN, and the McMaster Health Forum.
 - *Pan-Canadian Licensure (PCL)*: CMA helped discredit the idea that PCL could only be achieved via constitutional amendment, garnered support for a National Registry of Physicians (NRP), commissioned a preliminary study on legislative changes to support an Atlantic regional licensure, contracted a physician-consultant to interview all medical regulators on the idea of a NRP, and participated in the Medical Council of Canada’s working group on a sustainable funding and governance model for a NRP. High levels of support and engagement from CMA members and stakeholders on this initiative.
 - *Health Workforce Framework for Psychological, Physical, and Cultural (PPC) Safety*: The passing of new federal legislation aimed at protecting physicians and other health care workers from bullying and harassment (Bill C-3) has sparked international interest and has been presented at conferences (e.g., ICPH 2022). Staff has also launched the LEARN phase for this initiative, which will include a national analysis and current state assessment on frameworks, standards, definitions, and related processes around PPC safety, as well as identification of key stakeholders and prospective partners in this area. There is also the possibility of expanding Bill C-3 into new online harms legislation.
 - *Net Zero Carbon Emissions Health Systems*: In addition to the *CMA Policy in Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems* approved in October 2022, the CMA contributed to Canada’s first National Adaptation Strategy and has established itself as a key stakeholder in the area of climate resilient and low-carbon, sustainable health systems. The CMA’s investment team continues to meet targets on its way to fully decarbonizing the investment portfolio by 2050.

- *Improving Physician Wellness by Reducing Administrative Load*: The McMaster Health Forum is currently undertaking a rapid evidence-scan to understand more about the impact and drivers of physician administrative load. The HHR crisis has helped highlight the issue of how administrative burden can impact physician burnout and governments are looking for solutions to help reduce the administrative load placed on both physicians and patients.
- *Aging with Dignity in the Community*: There is a strong interest among health and social service stakeholders to work with the CMA to improve support systems for older adults. The CMA has also been invited to co-sponsor a UN Working Group side event on the rights of older adults in April 2023.
- The Indigenous *Guiding Circle*, which has been tasked with developing an Impact 2040 Indigenous health goal for the CMA to help improve the health and well-being of Indigenous people across Canada, met for their first session in September 2022 and provided a first report to the Board at the October 2022 meeting. Two main themes emerged from the first session – the importance of valuing Indigenous knowledge and tackling systemic racism embedded in health systems. Concurrent with the work of the *Guiding Circle*, the CMA is building relationships and trust with Indigenous physicians, organizations, knowledge-keepers and leaders as it forges its path to reconciliation, working on a land acknowledgement plaque and statement for the office and website, continuing to promote the film *The Unforgotten* and embarking on the *Owning our History* initiative to review the CMA and Canadian medicine’s historical interactions with Indigenous peoples from across this country.
- The Profession Engagement Advisory Group (PEAG) final report was received by the Board and the 5C engagement model was formally approved in June 2022. The model is flexible, proactive, more responsive, and set up to encourage co-creation with members, maximizing the relevance and convenience for physicians to meaningfully connect and partner with the CMA.

Business Meeting

- CMA President Dr. Alika Lafontaine has experienced a busy first few months at the helm, building upon the traction and momentum gained during Dr. Katharine Smart’s presidency, especially in the media space. Dr. Lafontaine is presenting to key stakeholders, meeting policy makers, and regularly connecting with physicians in various settings.
- The Board, together with the members of the CMA Impact Inc. Board of Directors and CMA’s Enterprise Leadership Team, engaged in thoughtful strategic discussions about the impacts and opportunities of the shifting external environment (ongoing COVID-19 disruptions, current health care crisis, financial market volatility, etc.). The Board discussed the need to focus resources (both human and financial) on initiatives which advance Impact 2040 and drive system-level change, while also remaining responsive to emerging needs facing the medical profession. The Board also discussed the need to oversee CMA’s assets responsibly in the advancement of its not-for-profit strategic objectives.
- In June 2022, the Board re-appointed Drs. Allison Kennedy, Larry Pan, and Brian Cummings, and appointed Dr. Courtney Howard to the CMA Audit and Finance Committee, re-appointed Dr. Henry Annan to the CMA Awards Committee, re-appointed Ms. Janet Ecker to the CMA Ethics Committee, appointed Dr. Adrienne Mayes to the CMA Ethics Committee, appointed Dr. Nigel Walton to the CMA Governance Committee, and re-appointed Dr. Larry Pan and Ms. Janet Ecker to the CMA Human Resources and Compensation Committee.

- In June 2022, the Board approved the adoption of the *CMA Statement on the Governance of Health Information: A patient-partnered personal health information governance framework* and endorsed *A Brain-Based Definition of Death and Criteria for its Determination After Arrest of Circulation or Neurologic Function in Canada: A Clinical Practice Guideline* as policies.
 - In October 2022, the Board approved a new *Policy on Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems*.
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Mission: Empowering and caring for patients

Vision: A vibrant profession and a healthy population

Guiding Principles: Equity, diversity, engagement, accountability, transparency, impact