CMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020 MEETINGS

In late fall 2020, the CMA Board (“the Board”) held two strategic planning workshops and one business meeting by videoconference. Highlights include:

Strategic Planning

- At its November strategy workshop, the Board further discussed the foundational pillars of the CMA’s next strategic plan Impact 2040 related to the future of health, the health system, and the health workforce.
- At its December strategy workshop, the Board reached consensus on several interconnected strategic goals that will support the CMA Enterprise in realizing its vision of a healthy population and vibrant profession. These goals address key priority areas such as the social determinants of health, community-based and patient-partnered care, medical culture, Indigenous health, climate health, health workforce planning, physician wellness and seniors’ care.

Business Meeting

- Directors heard from the CMA Presidents on their recent activities, which have focused on the CMA’s continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including advocating for tighter public health restrictions and funding from the government to address backlogs in other areas of healthcare. Concurrently, the Presidents have been engaging with stakeholders (governments, PTMAs, learners, patients) on a number of other topics, including medical assistance in dying legislation, federal Budget consultations, virtual care, and Impact 2040.
- The CEO highlighted a recent landmark meeting between CMA and PTMA Presidents with federal Minister of Health, the Honourable Patty Hajdu.
- The CMAH 2018 Board Chair provided a stewardship report on behalf of the CMA Enterprise subsidiaries, and the Board received “for information” reports from the CMA Foundation and Joule, highlighting foundation grants and CMAJ impact respectively. The Board also received context and implementation details about the Enterprise’s risk management program and supported next steps towards implementing a responsible investing policy and framework, consistent with previously adopted policy resolutions and targeting a reduced carbon footprint.
- Directors provided direction to the CMA Governance Committee on areas of focus in the coming year, including possible models for enhanced skills and diversity considerations when filling vacancies on the Board and its Committees, and the voting process for the CMA President-Elect.
- The Board approved the 2021 budget for the CMA, and it endorsed allyship tools from the Black Physicians of Canada and the Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network.

Professional Development

- The Board, alongside the CMAH 2018 and CMA Investco Board Chairs, participated in a professional development session on effective virtual meetings and best practices in Board communications, in light of the continued need to avoid in-person meetings for the foreseeable future.