

# THE CMA NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT, 2021

## Procedures

The CMA will respect its [Bylaws and Operating Rules and Procedures](#) and will ensure a fair, transparent, effective and expeditious process.

Procedures that are not explicitly defined in the Bylaws or Operating Rules and Procedures will be governed by the rules of order.

## 2021 highlights

- Due to the pandemic, the deadline for submission of expressions of interest was extended by several weeks. There were multiple submissions for pending vacant positions.
- The call for expressions of interest was issued to a record number of organizations to encourage participation from historically under-represented groups. Candidates were asked to voluntarily self-identify across a range of skills and diversity attributes.
- The Nominations Committee approves and presents the Nominations Committee Report to General Council for ratification.
- Nominee bios are attached; any outstanding bios will be distributed electronically, as set out in these procedures.

## General Council ratification

- In accordance with section 13.4 (d) of the CMA Bylaws, the immediate past president will preside over the ratification elections at General Council.

## Term commencement

- All terms will commence immediately following the Annual General Meeting.

## Resignations from elected positions

- According to the Bylaws (11.5.3), should a position become vacant due to a resignation or other unforeseen circumstances, the Board of Directors will fill the vacancy on an interim basis until the end of the association year.

# 2021 NOMINATIONS

The names of the candidates received by the Nominations Committee for CMA positions are listed below. Bios for candidates are included in the order they appear. Terms are up to 3 years, unless otherwise indicated.

POSITION	NOMINEE	TERM
<b>President-Elect</b>	Alika Lafontaine, MD	08/2021 – 08/2022
<b>Board of Directors</b>		
<b>Ontario**</b>	Rachel Forman, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Northwest Territories**</b>	Courtney Howard, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>British Columbia***</b>	Nigel Walton, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador***</b>	Paula Cashin, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Residents+</b>	Emily Stewart, MD	08/2021 – 08/2022
<b>Students+</b>	TBD	08/2021 – 08/2022
<b>Annual General Meeting</b>		
<b>Chair***</b>	Melanie Bechard, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Vice-Chair***</b>	Kimberley Kelly, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Ethics Committee</b>		
<b>BC/Yukon***</b>	Jesse Kancir, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Quebec***</b>	Gilles Beauchamp, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Prairies/NT**</b>	Sharron Spicer, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Atlantic provinces**</b>	Robyn MacQuarrie, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Ontario**</b>	Julie Richer, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Governance Committee</b>		
<b>Member-at-large***</b>	André Bernard, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Member-at-large***</b>	Boluwaji Ogunyemi, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024
<b>Audit and Finance Committee</b>		
<b>Member-at-large**</b>	Lowell Van Zuiden, MD	08/2021 – 05/2024

\*\* 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term

\*\*\* Initial three-year term, eligible for renewal

+ Initial one-year term, eligible for renewal

++ 2<sup>nd</sup> one-year term, eligible for renewal

Note: If proposed changes to sunset the Nominations Committee are not approved at the AGM this August, the resident position will be filled for the one-year term by Dr. Emily Stewart and the student position will be filled for the one-year term by the CMA Board of Directors per the bylaw provisions, as no candidate was submitted within the timeline. The Alberta position will be filled by Dr. Conrad Schulte. All other terms on the Nominations Committee are ongoing.

## Dr. Alika Lafontaine

Dr. Alika Lafontaine is an award-winning physician and the first Indigenous doctor listed in Medical Post's 50 Most Powerful Doctors. He was born and raised in Treaty 4 Territory (Southern Saskatchewan) and has Anishnaabe, Cree, Metis and Pacific Islander ancestry.

Dr. Lafontaine has served in medical leadership positions for almost two decades. At the Alberta Medical Association, he has served on the representative forum (since 2012), the nominations committee and the Indigenous health committee, and he is a current board member. At the Canadian Medical Association, he has served as an Alberta AGM delegate, has been a member of the appointments committee and has chaired the governance council of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. At the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, he has served on the Indigenous health advisory committee and search/selection subcommittees, he has chaired the regional advisory committee (western provinces) and he is a current council member. He is a member of the board of HealthCareCAN. He has also served as vice-president and president of the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada.

From 2013 to 2017 Dr. Lafontaine co-led the Indigenous Health Alliance project, one of the most ambitious health transformation initiatives in Canadian history. Led politically by Indigenous leadership representing more than 150 First Nations across three provinces, the alliance successfully advocated for \$68 million of federal funding for Indigenous health transformation in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario. He was recognized for his work in the alliance by the Public Policy Forum, where Prime Minister Justin Trudeau presented the award.

In 2020, Dr. Lafontaine launched the Safespace Networks project with friendship centres across British Columbia. Safespace provides a safe and anonymous workflow to report and identify patterns of care; patients and providers use the platform to share their own experiences and contribute to system change without the risk of retaliation for sharing their truths.

Dr. Lafontaine continues to practise anesthesia in Grande Prairie, where he has lived with his family for the last 10 years.



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## Dr. Rachel Forman

Dr. Rachel Forman is a Toronto-based specialist in obstetrics and gynecology and subspecialist in reproductive endocrinology and infertility. A University of Toronto (U of T) graduate, she has published a number of peer-reviewed research articles, presented at national and international conferences and won several research awards. Dr. Forman is the pharmacology lead (clerkship) for U of T's MD program and is a representative on the university's Governing Council.

Dr. Forman has been an Ontario Medical Association (OMA) director since 2014 and is a member of the OMA's Governance and Nominations Committee. She has held various positions including spokesperson, secretary and member of the CEO Search Committee and Negotiations Process Review Working Group; board representative on the Outreach to Women Physicians Committee; and representative on the Hospital Advisory Committee Sub-group on Communication, Education and Knowledge Translation.



## Dr. Courtney Howard

Dr. Howard is an emergency physician in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. She completed her medical training at the University of British Columbia and McGill University. She is actively involved in climate and planetary health, motivated by work on a Médecins Sans Frontières pediatric malnutrition project and the health impacts of climate change on patients in Canada's North.

Dr. Howard was first author on the 2017 briefing for Canadian policymakers on behalf of the Lancet Countdown on Climate Change and Health and the Canadian Public Health Association. She is president of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment and sits on the board of directors of the Global Climate and Health Alliance. Dr. Howard has published various research and received several awards.



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## Dr. Nigel Walton

Dr. Nigel G. Walton practised in Northern Saskatchewan and rural British Columbia before settling as a general practitioner in West Vancouver. He trained at Liverpool University and University College London, United Kingdom. He is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family Practice at the University of British Columbia, where he teaches undergraduates. For 18 years he was a director of the British Columbia Medical Association, where he served on various committees including being a delegate at the General Council of the CMA 13 times. He has a wide variety of interests including inequality, technology and the environment.



## Dr. Paula Cashin

Dr. Paula Cashin is Canada's first Indigenous radiologist and nuclear medicine physician. She is a Mi'kmaw physician who has worked in rural Newfoundland since 2009. Dr. Cashin completed medical school and diagnostic imaging at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She is a dual FRCPC certified physician with subspecialty training in nuclear medicine at the University of British Columbia and an interventional radiology fellowship at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Cashin is an advocate for equity, diversity and inclusion in medicine.

Her work in advocacy began after a personal experience with systemic discrimination and harassment that prevented her from working as a physician for three years. She openly discusses these challenges and the systemic barriers to focus attention on changing the culture of medicine. Much of her advocacy work is done as a physician leader with Equity in Medicine, a group of Canadian physicians who are working tirelessly to advance equity, diversity and inclusion in medicine.

Dr. Cashin has recently completed a Master of Laws (LLM) at Osgoode Hall Law School. She is now focused on the creation of a national physician dispute resolution process to address the potential career loss and patient safety issues that arise from unresolved workplace conflict and harassment. This process is based on a mediation-adjudication model of dispute resolution with a focus on accountability, equity, education and restorative justice.



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## Dr. Emily Stewart

Dr. Emily Stewart is a PGY-5 resident of emergency medicine at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and a graduate student in UBC's Master of Health Administration program. She served as the president of Resident Doctors of Canada (RDoC) for the 2019–2020 term and vice-president of RDoC for the 2018–2019 term. The RDoC past-president generally serves as a strong national resident representative on the CMA Board of Directors. During her term at RDoC, Dr. Stewart also served on the board of directors and chaired the Governance & Nominating Committee (GNC), Finance Audit & Risk Committee (FARC), Awards Committee and Executive Committee.

At the provincial level, Dr. Stewart also served for several years as a board member of Resident Doctors of BC (RDBC), both as vice-president, chair of the Health & Wellness Committee, and as the director of finance during RDBC's collective agreement negotiations year.

In her ongoing work with RDoC and RDBC Dr. Stewart has advocated extensively on issues related to learner excellence in medical education, training and wellness. She is passionate about board governance as well as using evidence-based policy to improve patient care and physician wellness. Dr. Stewart believes that physician wellness is multifactorial, an issue that requires strategic systemic change in medicine and not one-off solutions. She obtained her BSc in Economics & Environmental Science at Dalhousie University and her MD at the University of Toronto.

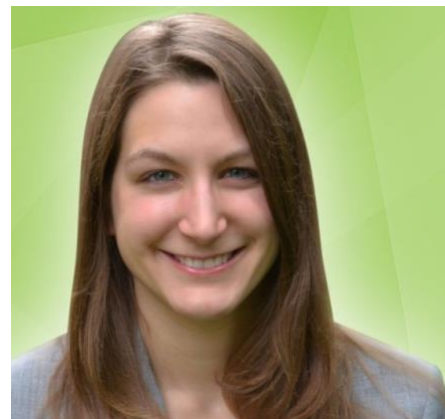
# Dr. Melanie Bechard

Dr. Melanie Bechard is a pediatric emergency physician in Ottawa and Master of Public Health candidate at Johns Hopkins University. She is the current chair of Canadian Doctors for Medicare and treasurer of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada. Driven by public policy to support a healthier and fairer society, Dr. Bechard's particular advocacy interests include pharmacare, national physician licensure, virtual care and all policies that improve the health of children and adolescents.

Dr. Bechard earned her MD in 2015 from the University of Toronto's Mississauga Academy of Medicine, where she graduated as a Cody Silver Medallist. She completed a pediatrics residency at the Hospital for Sick Children from 2015 to 2018 and a pediatric emergency medicine fellowship at CHEO from 2018 to 2020. Dr. Bechard is currently an MPH candidate, concentrating on health systems and policy, with graduation expected in May 2021.

Dr. Bechard has extensive board experience, having served as a director for the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (2013–2015), the Professional Association of Residents of Ontario (PARO; 2016–2017), Resident Doctors of Canada (2016–2019), Canadian Doctors for Medicare (2015 to present) and the Canadian Medical Association (2017–2018, 2019–2020). She served as chair of the PARO General Council, which required application of Robert's Rules of Order to effectively run meetings for 100 resident delegates from across Ontario. For the past two years, Dr. Bechard has had the pleasure of serving as the CMA deputy speaker.

In recognition of her developing role as a health systems leader, Dr. Bechard was awarded both the Bloomberg School of Public Health Sommer Scholarship and the Fulbright Scholarship to pursue graduate studies. She is an advocate for physician wellness and volunteers as a 200-hour registered yoga teacher.



# Dr. Kimberley Kelly

Dr. Kimberley Kelly is a family physician with a Certificate of Added Competence in Addiction Medicine. She is an associate clinical professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Alberta. She completed her Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry and one year in the School of Business at the University of Calgary before completing medical school and residency at the University of Alberta in 1996. Dr. Kelly has been appointed and elected to many local, provincial and national leadership positions, including director of the Alberta Medical Association board from 2015 to 2019, and she was a provincial delegate to the CMA General Council from 2015 to 2020.



Dr. Kelly's current governance and administrative positions include the Federation of Medical Women of Canada board, the Equal Voice national board, the Health Research Ethics Board of Alberta and Alberta Health Services' Medical Representative in Diversity and Wellness for the North Sector. In December 2020, she received her certificate in Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion from Centennial College.

Dr. Kelly has presented nationally and internationally, including at Harvard's conference on Career Advancement and Leadership Skills for Women in Healthcare. She has served as chair of multiple committees and founded and leads the Equity in Medicine national team and the Edmonton Women in Health Network. Her communication skills are superb, and she has been interviewed by CBC Radio, has participated in government press conferences, has been interviewed by local TV stations and print media and has hosted and co-hosted numerous national live virtual events.

Dr. Kelly received Canadian Women in Medicine's Inspiring Woman Physician award in 2019 and was a successful Canadian Medical Association grant winner in 2018. She also received the Public Education Volunteer of the Year award in 2015 for her years of community service in comprehensive school health.

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# Dr. Jesse Kancir

Dr. Jesse Kancir (he/him) is a medical officer of health for the Yukon Territory. He is a recent graduate of the public health and preventive medicine residency program at the University of British Columbia, where he also completed his training in family medicine.

Service to the medical profession through leadership involvement has been a commitment since he started medical school at the University of Toronto. This has included work at the national, provincial and local level of numerous organizations, including serving as the 2013–2014 president of the Canadian Federation of Medical Students, being a public member on the board of the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada from 2014 to 2021 and being a board director of the Vancouver Division of Family Practice.

Dr. Kancir holds graduate degrees in health economics and public policy from the London School of Economics and the University of Cambridge (where he was a Chevening Scholar), and he has worked as policy advisor to Minister of Health Dr. Jane Philpott, as well as serving on the Canadian Medical Association's Post-Pandemic Expert Advisory Group.



## Dr. Olivia Lee

Dr. Olivia Lee is a psychiatry resident at the University of Ottawa. In her life before medicine, she was a law student with research interests in health policy and ethics, including mental health law, genetic discrimination and neuroethics.

She completed her JD (Common Law) at the University of Ottawa before starting her residency and maintains a keen interest in understanding how ethical principles affect clinical practice. In 2019, she interned with Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP and in 2018, with Senator Kim Pate. During this internship, she worked on several files involving medical ethics, including Bill C-56 (segregation in prisons and mental health), Bill C-375 (requirement for mental health information in pre-sentencing reports) and Bill C-404 (issues of paid surrogacy).

She previously served as a representative on the Canadian Federation of Medical Students and has contributed to position papers on learner privacy policy. She received her medical degree from the University of Ottawa in 2018, collecting several awards including a 2017–18 award for outstanding clinical performance in pediatrics, and the 2013 Ontario Genomics Institute Summer Research Fellowship Program research grant.



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## Sandhini Lockman

Sandhini Lockman is a third-year medical student at the Max Rady College of Medicine. Prior to entering medical school, she completed a BSc with a major in microbiology and a minor in chemistry before starting postgraduate studies in the Department of Biochemistry and Medical Genetics at the University of Manitoba.

While completing her undergraduate degree, she served as a student voting member for the Faculty of Science student disciplinary committee for three years. As a voting member of the committee, she was involved with reviewing student appeals to the faculty on a case-by-case basis relating to academic dishonesty, racism or compassionate requests. Last year she was elected to the Manitoba Medical Students' Association Council as a research representative.

Her experience as a graduate student allowed her to serve the interests of medical students conducting health research and promote research by connecting students and principal investigators. In terms of research, she is concurrently a research trainee in the regenerative medicine facility at the University of Manitoba studying the genetic signalling pathways involved with Rett syndrome. She was a finalist in the three-minute thesis competition for Manitoba on this research. Her community involvement has been highlighted over the years on the basis of the awards she has received.

Based on her five years volunteering at a local hospital, she was awarded 100 Hours of Volunteer Service to the Enhancement of Patient Care in 2010. Upon entering medical school, she was awarded the Faculty of Medicine Endowment Fund Award. Additionally, she was awarded a Student Initiative Grant (SIG) for funding of a local project she created. She was also involved in trialling and improving the United Way poverty simulation in 2015, which is now conducted for students in the undergraduate medical program to educate students on the realities of living under the poverty line and reflecting on this experience.





## Dr. André M. Bernard

Dr. André Bernard, MD, MSc, FRCPC, ICD.D (he/him), has devoted his career to profession-building by making service to organizations that shape medicine central to his leadership story. As Doctors NS's first competency-based board chair, he has delivered in leading best practice in running effective board meetings and evolving board governance. Prior to this he was the CMA's first competency-based representative to the World Medical Association, where he served on Council, committees and numerous working groups. Throughout his training both as a medical student and as a resident, Dr. Bernard served the national learner organizations at the most senior levels, including as president of the Canadian Federation of Medical Students and, during this time, as director of the CMA. He served the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society International Education Foundation as both a board member and its treasurer. For all of these contributions he was recognized with the CMA Young Leaders Award in 2016.



Professionally, Dr. Bernard is an associate professor and is the associate head of the Department of Anesthesia, Pain Management & Perioperative Medicine at Dalhousie University, where he helps to lead an academic clinical department of over 100 physicians.

Dr. Bernard is passionate about governance. As a certified board director through the Institute of Corporate Directors, he pushes organizations to be leading edge in governance practices. He regularly supports board development of other provincial and territorial medical associations (PTMAs), including through the CMA-PTMA Forum.

Originally from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Dr. Bernard received his formal education from Mount Allison University (BSc), Dalhousie University (MD/postgrad), the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the London School of Economics and Political Science (MSc). He lives in Halifax with his husband, Sean, and their dog, Jacob.

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## Dr. Boluwaji Ogunyemi

Dr. Boluwaji Ogunyemi is a medical dermatologist, writer, public speaker, and diversity and dean of social accountability and clinical assistant professor of medicine.

As the assistant dean of social accountability, he provides oversight on the development, implementation and measurement of social accountability initiatives within the Faculty of Medicine in the areas of Indigenous health, health equity, global health and community engagement. His diverse medical dermatology practice is primarily based in St. John's although Dr. Ogunyemi regularly travels to Labrador to complete clinics in Labrador City and Sheshatshiu and Natuashish Innu First Nations reserves on the Labrador coast.

Dr. Ogunyemi is currently serving on the Memorial University 2021–2026 Strategic Plan facilitation team, using his leadership experience to ensure the interests of the Faculty of Medicine are reflected in the vision of the future of his alma mater. Dr. Ogunyemi has been selected for the seven-member Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) Public Health Ethics Consultative Group, which

informs PHAC on ethical issues related to COVID-19 surveillance, screening and management and other public health concerns. He serves as well on the Destination Excellence Implementation Steering Team at Memorial University.

He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Canadian Doctors for Medicare and the Skin Research Group of Canada. He serves on the Senior Management Committee of Memorial University's Faculty of Medicine and is a CMA Ambassador. He is an advisor for the Black Physicians Association of Canada and serves on the Equity in Medicine Leadership Team.



Dedicated to advocating for medical learners, Dr. Ogunyemi previously served as Memorial University Medical Students' Society president, UBC chief dermatology resident, chair of the Resident and Fellows Society of the Canadian Dermatology Association and on the Executive Committee and board of Resident Doctors of BC as director of communications.

Through working at the executive and directorial levels of both emerging and established academic, medical and community organizations, Dr. Ogunyemi has developed skills in leadership, administration, governance, strategic planning, communications and stakeholder engagement.

Dr. Ogunyemi earned an honours BSc in sociology and medical science from Western University before medical school at Memorial University, where he served as Medical Students' Society president, followed by a 5-year specialization in dermatology at UBC where he was chief resident. He completed a Certificate in Medical Teaching and a graduate diploma in clinical epidemiology at Memorial and a Professional Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion at Cornell University.

Dr. Ogunyemi speaks, researches and advocates at the intersection of health and diversity and anti-racism. He has authored over a dozen publications for the *New York Times*, *Huffington Post*, *The Globe and Mail*, the CBC, the *Vancouver Sun*, the *National Post* and many other print and electronic outlets. He has been quoted or featured in Global News, *Chatelaine*, *Flare*, CTV and the *Toronto Star*. He has delivered high-profile speeches including a TEDx Talk, spoken at the Atlantic Immigration Summit and served as a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Convocation Speaker.

Dr. Ogunyemi has received over three dozen awards for leadership, academics, research, writing, advocacy and community service including international awards from the National Institutes of Health, TEDMED and the American Academy of Dermatology. Recent honours include the Harry Jerome Award in Health Sciences, the RBC Top Canadian Immigrant Award, Western University's Young Alumni Award and Memorial University's Alumni Tribute Award.

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## Dr. Lowell Van Zuiden

Dr. Lowell Van Zuiden, MD, FRCSC, MBA, is a semi-retired orthopedic surgeon who is currently doing musculoskeletal and orthopedic assessments at the Alberta Hip and Knee Clinic and some assisting in the operating room for colleagues from the clinic.

He received a BSc in mechanical engineering from the University of Waterloo in 1975 and graduated from McMaster University's medical school in 1976. He completed an orthopedic residency at the University of Calgary in 1981 and an arthroplasty and spinal research fellowship at Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. He obtained an MBA from the Haskayne School of Business in 2002.

He was chief of Orthopedics for the Calgary District Hospital Group and chief of surgery for the Calgary District Hospital Group and Calgary Health Region. He served as a member of the Alberta Medical Association's Committee of Financial Audit for six years and chaired the committee for three years, ending in October 2020.

His other professional activities include serving as medical director at the Nakiska skiing venue at the 1988 Calgary Olympics and serving as the team orthopedic surgeon for the Calgary Flames from 1986 to 1995. He is founder and CEO of Viewpoint Medical Assessment Inc., a national medical assessment company. He is a founding member of the Alberta Hip and Knee Clinic, which provides evidence-based assessment and surgical services to the citizens of Calgary and southern Alberta. He has provided voluntary orthopedic surgical and clinical services in Bangladesh, Bhutan and Ecuador.

# Dr. Conrad Schulte

## Education

July 1986 - Masters of Science, University of Alberta

July 1988 - Doctor of Medicine, University of Alberta

July 1989 - LMCC, Chief Intern Misericordia Hospital, Edmonton

July 1990 - CCFP

## Work Experience

### September 1990 to June 1992 - Medicine Hat Regional Hospital

Active privileges in obstetrics, general medicine, emergency department, my own office and walk-in clinic

### July 1992 to August 2020 Spruce Grove, Alberta

1992 to 2010, acute care privileges at Westview Regional Hospital

1992 to 2020, care for nursing home, extended care, assisted living and palliative care patients

1992 to 2002, emergency privileges at the Misericordia Hospital

1992 to 2002, emergency privileges at Westview Regional Hospital

1992 to 2020, office-based practice

Currently on sabbatical until September of 2021

## Committee Work

Chair of quality assurance committee, chart review committee, infection monitoring and prevention committee, Medicine Hat Regional Hospital

1992 to 2002, Secretary/Treasurer Westview Regional Hospital

2002 to 2010, Director CME