



Dr. Michael Dickinson

As a physician leader with over 20 years experience, I am delighted to offer myself as a New Brunswick candidate for CMA President-Elect Nominee.

My local colleagues can attest to my contributions as a consultant pediatrician, Chief of Pediatrics, President of the Medical Staff and Chief of Staff in Miramichi. At the provincial level, I spent a decade deeply involved with the NBMS as Chair of the NBMS Economics Committee. More recently I honed my leadership and advocacy skills at the national level as President of the Canadian Paediatric Society and continue to serve as the Chair of the CPS Advocacy Committee. The CMA President must be a strong communicator, and as CPS President I conducted frequent media interviews in both official languages. My experience as a weekly columnist for the Globe and Mail on child health issues was invaluable in advancing my written communication skills.

Through leadership and advocacy, I believe the CMA plays a critical role in uniting the profession and representing physician interests at the national level. Specifically, I believe the CMA has challenges and opportunities in the following areas:

- 1. National Advocacy.** The CMA is uniquely poised to advocate on behalf of physicians and patients at the national level. Increasingly, some of the most important issues of our time are the responsibility of the federal government including Medical Assistance in Dying, legalization of cannabis, and First Nations, Inuit, and Métis health. Currently, there appears to be both political and public support for the creation of a national Pharmacare program. We must ensure the physician perspective on Pharmacare be heard not only during the consultation period but also throughout the development and implementation phases. For years, the antiquated Disability Tax Credit form has been a thorn in the side of Canadian physicians. As CMA President, I would work to revise this program to be both patient-centered and physician-friendly.
- 2. Membership and Communications.** The recent sale of MD Management has put the CMA at a critical crossroads. While I support the deal, I know that many members have legitimate concerns. MD Management has traditionally been one of the most popular CMA member benefits and as such CMA must work rapidly to develop new, innovative and valuable programs that will continue to meet the needs of practising physicians. The CMA must ensure that the significant proceeds from the sale of MDM are invested and deployed in a fair and transparent fashion to meet the long-term objectives of the CMA, provincial medical associations, and physician members. Our ongoing success as an organization is strongly tied to our ability to engage and attract physicians. CMA must strive to listen to and understand the views and needs of Canadian physicians. Dialogue between physicians and the CMA can and must be improved. I will work to develop effective two-way communication strategies that support and connect physicians, increase membership, enhance physician engagement and improve patient care.
- 3. Global Health.** More than ever before, we are living in a global village where communication and collaboration between health professionals living in different parts of the world are not only possible, but essential. I believe that Canada and the CMA have a vital role to play internationally, exchanging ideas, sharing knowledge, and providing education and support to developing nations. Recently the CMA resigned from the World Medical Association because of a serious ethical breach. While we can be proud of our organization for standing behind its principles, the move has left us isolated and calls into question our role internationally. I believe that the CMA must make establishing and re-establishing global partnerships a key priority over the next three years to maintain our reputation as a respected player on the world stage.

Thank you for considering me for the position of CMA President-Elect Nominee. It is a role and responsibility that I take seriously and assure you that I am ready to hit the ground running next August as CMA President-Elect. Reach out to me anytime at drmikedickinson@gmail.com, find me online at drmikedickinson.com or follow me on Twitter [@drmikedickinson](https://twitter.com/drmikedickinson). Thank you again for your consideration.

Mike

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Current Appointments

- **Horizon Health Network (Miramichi)**
Head of Pediatrics
Consultant Pediatrician
- **Dalhousie University**
Lecturer, Department of Pediatrics
- **Memorial University**
Clinical Assistant Professor

Leadership

- **Canadian Paediatric Society**
President 2017-18
Chair, Advocacy Committee 2012-2018
- **New Brunswick Medical Society**
Chair, Economic Committee 2005-2014
- **Horizon Health Network**
Chief of Staff Miramichi 2011-2015
- **Miramichi Medical Staff**
President 1998-1999

Education

- MD, **University of Toronto** 1991
- Pediatric Residency, **University of Calgary**
Chief Resident 1994/95
- Pediatric Registrar, **Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Brisbane, Australia** 1993/94

Publications

- Hameed, Shariff, Perry, Dickinson. **A comparison of consults seen at an urban and a rural consulting general paediatric clinic in Canada.** Paediatrics & Child Health, Volume 18, Issue 5, 1 May 2013, Pages 237–240

Awards

- **Preceptor of the Year 2017 (clerkship)**
Dalhousie Medicine NB– Miramichi
- **Preceptor of the Year 2013**
IWK Pediatric Residents (2013)

Communication and Advocacy

- **Globe and Mail** - Weekly columnist on parenting and child health (2012-2014)
- Experienced **Board and Committee chair** with a focus on team building, collaboration, and building consensus
- Regularly conduct **media interviews** (radio, TV, Skype video) in both official languages on issues of child and youth health
- Maintain a strong presence on **social media** advocating and educating on issues of health and wellness

Interests

Professional interests include leadership, advocacy, medical education and child and youth mental health. In my spare time I am an avid recreational runner with one marathon and several half marathons completed. I enjoy travelling and exploring with my wife and family.

Contact Information

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