

## Bio:

Hey everyone! My name's Mark and I'm thrilled to be running for Quebec Regional Director of the CFMS! I am currently a second-year medical student at McGill and did my undergraduate and master's degrees at Western from 2017 to 2022! Throughout my academic career, I've served in various advocacy positions, starting as student trustee of my school board in high school, then being as the undergraduate senator for the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at Western for 2 years and into my current position as the Executive Vice-President of the McGill Medical Students' Society. Along the way, I've learned valuable skills that I hope to carry with me into the role of Quebec Regional Director. As for my experience within the CFMS, I was a delegate for the Medical Education Day of Action in the Spring of 2023 and attend the inaugural Canadian Medical Students' Conference in April 2024 as a delegate for McGill. Through these CFMS advocacy roles, I learned about the different portfolios within the CFMS and how the board contributes to, not only medical students, but vulnerable populations, residents, and overall healthcare. Based on the advocacy experience gained in my current and previous roles, I feel equipped to take on the role of Quebec Regional Director with confidence, and advocate for the voice of Quebec medical students at the national level. I invite you to take a look at my platform and don't hesitate to contact me at [mark.garabedian@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:mark.garabedian@mail.mcgill.ca) if you have any questions!

## Platform:

As the Québec Regional Director of the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS), I would be committed to representing the diverse voices and needs of medical students across our province. With a focus on advocacy, engagement, and support, my platform aims to foster collaboration, amplify student voices, and ensure the well-being of all medical students in Québec.

## **Advocacy:**

**Policy Influence:** By actively engaging with CFMS committees, task forces, and working groups, I will work to shape policies that address the unique challenges faced by medical students in Québec, including those relating to language, issues faced by satellite campuses and the shortage of residency training spots in the province.

**Collaborative Partnerships:** I hope to strengthen partnerships with the Fédération Médicale Étudiante du Québec (FMEQ) to advance shared priorities and ensure effective communication between our organizations.

## **Engagement:**

Regional Roundtable: Organizing teleconferences and in-person meetings, I will facilitate discussions among Québec CFMS Representatives and class leaders to address regional and national issues affecting medical students.

Connection Building: Through regular attendance at medical society meetings and institutional visits, I will work to foster strong relationships and open channels of communication with medical students and societies across Québec.

Bilingualism Task-Force: Employ efforts to promote bilingualism within the CFMS and ensure inclusivity for Francophone medical students.

**Support:**

Operational Execution: I will execute operational tasks directed by CFMS leadership, ensuring efficient functioning of regional initiatives.

Student Consultation: Through focus groups and feedback mechanisms, I will actively seek input from Québec medical students, including those of non-member schools, to address their needs and concerns.

Transition Facilitation: I will ensure a smooth transition for the incoming Québec Regional Director, providing support and guidance following elections. This includes understanding ongoing projects and ensuring the continuation of the long-term strategic direction of the portfolio.