**CFMS President Nomination Forms**

**Applicant Bio:**

Hello everyone,

My name is Jacky and I am a second year medical student at the University of Ottawa. I like to run, bike, travel, ski, and am always open to trying new activities. Before I started medical school, I was the Science Councillor for the University Students Council at Western University, where I represented 5000+ students in my faculty. I have been involved in political campaigns and policy work at the grassroots level for different politicians. As the VP External for the University of Ottawa, I exchanged ideas with my counterparts at OMSA meetings and CFMS roundtables and engaged stakeholders during advocacy initiatives, such as Municipal Day of Action. Furthermore, I leveraged my political expertise on the CFMS as the rapid response team, where I consulted with relevant CFMS portfolios to address political and healthcare issues in a timely manner. I am also part of our Aesculapian Society’s EDI anti-racism task force where we find innovative ways to support our diversity and learn from the lived experiences of others.

My ardent pursuit is bringing people together and making medical school more fun. From being an orientation leader, producing our medical school musical, MedShow, and joining different student activities such as a run or bike race for charity. I love getting to know others and sharing my passions, even if it is just a touch. From my collaboration and time with the CFMS, I know what a valuable opportunity it is to get to learn from other skilled student leaders.

**President Platform:**

Over the last two years, I have been involved in leadership positions within or in collaboration with CFMS. As CFMS president, I want to put YOU in the driver’s seat and ensure your voice is heard. Spending almost a year as VP External for the University of Ottawa, I want to implement reforms to inspire more buy-in from student representatives, prioritize local engagement, and to increase efficiency in CFMS’ operations. My vision is to promote the CFMS as an institution that produces tangible benefits to students while ensuring students feel heard and empowered. Some of my cool ideas are highlighted:

**Streamlining Communication –** The CFMS board cannot be said to represent all member medical schools even from a mathematical perspective: there are 15 medical schools and 12 board positions. Thus, we have resorted to representative politics backed by roundtables, particularly the representative roundtable (RRT). The current RRT structure is slightly flawed in that attendance is often underwhelming and there is a lack of currency. I propose an active group chat where the barrier between VP Externals can be reduced and they

can have discussions on pertinent issues. This also allows regional directors to identify issues earlier and work with VP Externals to find solutions, rather than wait for up to 6 weeks. For equity, I also propose the roundtable times and dates shift (for example, morning vs evening) because some people have regular commitments at certain times and thus, would never be able to attend a meeting. I would also promote more engagement with medical society’s (MedSocs) at each school, such as by having CFMS members sit in on them so they can provide their perspective and see if there are issues within the scope of the CFMS

**Collaboration with Regional Associations –** Many regional student medical associations, such as the Ontario Medical Students Association or Canadian Atlantic Medical Students’ Association, among others, do great advocacy work and might have more expertise on local asks. I want to strengthen those relationships by creating a group with the president, board members, and representatives from these associations to exchange ideas, work on united initiatives, and create a national strategy. It will also help expand our impact to schools such as the University of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Maritimes schools where the CFMS tends to have a smaller outreach

**Clarifying the role of Associate President –**A new initiative of the CFMS is the addition of the associate president. I think this is an excellent idea but the role in its current form leaves a few ambiguities. First, I want the associate president to take on a more public role, such as through social media and website engagement or even introductions to VP Externals. This would let students know about their responsibilities and how they tie into the CFMS’ operational structure. I want to provide the associate president with clear mandates, such as running working groups or specific initiatives, reporting on their work at general meetings and roundtables.

**Optimizing the CFMS –** Some students have remarked that CFMS operations could be improved. I want to promote a culture of efficient simplicity based on what works for stakeholders. For instance, VP Externals generally want to have timely minutes after a meeting and would appreciate expediting it so they have more time to review and approve it next meeting. Furthermore, the website needs to be updated, it is slightly embarrassing that some information has not been relevant for years but remains in what could be a student’s first point of contact with the CFMS. I would also encourage team leads to review aspects of their portfolios, including fixing typos, or identifying redundancy in their work.

**Reviewing Advocacy Priorities –** Perhaps one of the greatest levers of the CFMS is in their government affairs portfolio, I want to emphasize advocacy positions in the CFMS that align with government priorities. I intend to work with stakeholders on streamlining these asks and find common ground with politicians and other key decision makers.

**Creating a Tangible Strategic Plan –** The CFMS is working on a strategic plan. I want to hold consultations with all medical schools to identify key priorities, and include tangible markers and check boxes to indicate the progress made and to improve accountability.