



Executive Report  
Lunan Zhao, CFMS Director of Global Health  
2021 Fall AGM  
October 22-24, 2021

## **1. Description and Introduction:**

The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) is the representative voice of Canadian medical students to the national medical organizations, to the federal government, to the public, and to other external bodies. The CFMS represents over 8000 medical students at 15 Canadian medical schools from coast to coast. It is the mission of CFMS to represent, support, and connect its members. CFMS aims to communicate within its membership, as well as from its membership, to the world at large. As an ever-expanding organization, CFMS continually strives to meet the consistent and changing needs of Canadian medical students.

### **Brief Description**

The CFMS Global Health Director is responsible for representing the global health interests of the CFMS member schools and the CFMS. Global Health within the CFMS is at a transition point and currently has seven different portfolios:

- Exchanges
- Human rights and peace
- Reproductive and sexual health
- Global health education
- Public Health
- Partnerships and Communications
- Health and Environment (HEART)

#### **\*Note:**

- Indigenous Health was previously a portfolio and will become a CFMS Director role in the 2022 Spring General Meeting.
- Public Health is a new CFMS portfolio, but currently exists as an International Federation of Medical Student (IFMSA) portfolio
- Partnerships is combined with Communications as one joint portfolio

There are National Officers that oversee each portfolio; as well, there are Local Officers for each portfolio at each member school. The Director of Global Health oversees the Global Health Portfolio including the National Officers, Roundtables, and Task Forces. As well, the Director of Global Health represents the CFMS to the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) and is the National Member Organization President for Canada within the IFMSA.



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**2. Selected Meetings Attended**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>
April 18 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Directors Orientation	Virtual
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with CFMS Finance Director	Virtual
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with CFMS Director of Education	Virtual
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Western Director	Virtual
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Communications Director	Virtual
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Transition meeting with past Director of Global Health	Virtual
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Meeting with Indigenous Law Firm	Virtual
April 24 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
April 26 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous Global Health National Officer of Partnerships	Virtual
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous Global Health National Exchange Officer Incoming	Virtual
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with NOSM Global Health Liaison	Virtual
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous Global Health National Officer of Human Rights and Peace	Virtual
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Director of Government Affairs	Virtual
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with UAlberta Global Health Liaison	Virtual
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous Global Health National Officer of Reproductive and Sexual Health	Virtual
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous, previous Global Health National Officer of Partnerships	Virtual
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous Global Health Communication Lead	Virtual
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Ontario Regional Director	Virtual
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Director of Student Affairs	Virtual
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Atlantic Director	Virtual
May 8 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with UAlberta VP EDI	Virtual
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA Québec Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (EDI) survey leads	Virtual
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Check in with previous National Officer of Partnerships	Virtual
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with previous EDI Taskforce	Virtual
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students) Americas Regional Director and previous National Exchange Officer	Virtual
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with UCalgary VP EDI	Virtual



Executive Report  
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May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA Québec NMO (National Member Organization) President	Virtual
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with previous National Exchange Officer Outgoing	Virtual
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with previous National Officer Team	Virtual
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with previous Director of Global Health	Virtual
May 30 <sup>th</sup>	Global Health Roundtable with Global Health Liaisons from 15 schools	Virtual
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Student-Senior Isolation Prevention Partnership (SSIPP) leads	Virtual
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with EDI Roundtable (VPs EDI from 15 universities)	Virtual
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	AMFC Meeting	Virtual
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Indigenous Law firm and CFMS Finance Director and Western Director	Virtual
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA WHO (world health organization) Liaison	Virtual
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with <a href="#">Anti-Oppression Calls to Action Letter writers</a>	Virtual
June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with Interim President	Virtual
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Dalhousie U Global Health Liaisons	Virtual
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors meeting to draft Values Statement	Virtual
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	VP EDI Roundtable #2	Virtual
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with Western U VP EDI	Virtual
June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with Western U Global Health Local Officer to listen to recommendations	Virtual
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Queens U Global Health Local Officer to listen to recommendations	Virtual
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Interview with candidate for General Manager	Virtual
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Special Meeting on nom com recruitment	Virtual
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with IFMSA Americas Regional Director on IFMSA August Assembly	Virtual
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with UToronto Global Health Liaison	Virtual
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with UManitoba VP EDI	Virtual
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with VP EDIs	Virtual
July 10 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Planning Meeting for Special General Assembly	Virtual
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Special General Assembly	Virtual
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Global Health and Education Community Consultation	Virtual



Executive Report  
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July 11 <sup>th</sup>	HEART (Health and Environment Adaptive Response Taskforce) Meeting	Virtual
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with McGill Global Health Liaison	Virtual
July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Check in with previous, previous National Officer of Partnerships to discuss planning for IFMSA general assembly	Virtual
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	Check in with IFMSA Americas Regional Director for IFMSA General Assembly	Virtual
July 21 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with Canadian Medical Association Directors	Virtual
July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with OMSA (Ontario Medical Student Association) VP EDI	Virtual
July 27-29 <sup>th</sup>	IFMSA August General Assembly NMO (National Member Organization) Management Sessions and debriefs with delegate team	Virtual
July 30 <sup>th</sup> - August 6 <sup>th</sup>	IFMSA August General Assembly NMO President Sessions	Virtual
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	Check-in with IFMSA Québec NMO President	Virtual
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Egypt NMO President	Virtual
July 31 <sup>st</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Check-in with previous Director of Global Health	Virtual
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with 2018-2019 CFMS Director of Global Health	Virtual
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Philippines NMO President	Virtual
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Jamaica NMO President	Virtual
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with CFMS President	Virtual
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA Québec delegate team to the IFMSA August general assembly	Virtual
August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Meeting with the USherbrooke at New Brunswick Global Health Liaisons	Virtual
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) USA NMO President	Virtual
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Kazakhstan NMO President	Virtual
August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Venezuela NMO President	Virtual
August 5 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Sierra Leone NMO President	Virtual
August 5 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Ghana NMO President	Virtual
August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with NMO Presidents of Brazil, Venezuela, Singapore, Australia to discuss establishment of an IFMSA taskforce on membership fee inequities #1	Virtual
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with 2017-2018 CFMS Director of Government Affairs	Virtual
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with CFMS delegate to the IFMSA August General Assembly Portfolio sessions	Virtual



Executive Report  
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2021 Fall AGM  
October 22-24, 2021

August 13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	IFMSA August General Assembly Portfolio Sessions and debriefs with CFMS delegate team	Virtual
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA taskforce on membership fee inequities #2 (representatives from 10+ countries)	Virtual
August 14 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
August 15 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with CFMS Communications Director	Virtual
August 20 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with (IFMSA) (DENEM) Brazil NMO President	Virtual
August 21 <sup>st</sup>	Meeting with Canadian Youth Delegate to the World Health Organization to discuss restructuring of Global Health portfolio	Virtual
August 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Canadian Medical Association Annual Meeting	Virtual
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) France NMO National Exchange Officers	Virtual
August 24 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA taskforce on membership inequities #3	Virtual
August 25 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with UToronto Exchange team to discuss re-initiating exchanges	Toronto, ON
August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with (IFMSA) Australia NMO President to discuss collaborations	Virtual
August 28 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual
August 29 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with IFMSA Americas Regional Assistant for Exchanges to discuss resources for re-initiating exchanges	Virtual
September 11 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors Meeting for Fall Recruitment (Nom com)	Virtual
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with (IFMSA) Guinea NMO President	Virtual
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with Previous National Exchange Officer and several local exchange officers (McGill, Dalhousie, UToronto) to discuss exchanges	Virtual
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with CFMS President	Virtual
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with HEART (Health and Environment) Co-leads to discuss fall recruitment	Virtual
September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Meeting with AFMC Global Health Leads of Canadian Universities	Virtual
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	CFMS Board of Directors meeting	Virtual
September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with CFMS National Officer of Political Action	Toronto, ON
October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Meeting with UToronto Global Health Liaisons	Toronto, ON
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with previous CFMS National Officer of Human Rights and Peace	Virtual
October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with Director of Education	Virtual
October 13 <sup>th</sup>	Check-in with Director of Government Affairs	Virtual
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	Meeting with USaskatchewan Global Health Liaison	Virtual



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### 3. Priorities and Project Areas

In the 2020 Fall AGM Global Health Executive Report ([https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_hNWM-hkeddUDzaWA-9b1spC9DjROiPk/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_hNWM-hkeddUDzaWA-9b1spC9DjROiPk/view?usp=sharing) ) there were 5 project areas:

- a. Increased collaboration
- b. Increase general member engagement
- c. Enhance the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Portfolio
- d. Clearly Outline the Role of the CFMS Within the IFMSA
- e. Positively Impact Indigenous Health within Medical School

Below on the progress on these same five priorities during the April 2021 – October 2021 period that I have been in the role:

#### a. Increased collaboration

- i. Between national officers –
  - Check-in with all the previous national officers on advancing their prior projects
  - Held Global Health Community Meeting with national officers on July 11<sup>th</sup> to publicly share global health resources
- ii. Between global health liaisons –
  - Check-in with most university's global health liaisons to learn about local social justice initiatives. Working towards establishing central lines of easily accessible info
- iii. Within other portfolios –
  - Education: held July 11<sup>th</sup> public meeting, restructured recruitment, advanced motion to raise Indigenous Health to a director role
  - Government Affairs: advanced motion to raise Indigenous Health to a director role
- iv. With other IFMSA teams –
  - Collaboration with IFMSA Québec to advance EDI student survey

#### b. Increase General Member Engagement

- i. Held July 11<sup>th</sup> global health public meeting



## Executive Report

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2021 Fall AGM

October 22-24, 2021

- ii. Currently restructuring global health national officer recruitment (in collaboration with Global Health Liaisons and CFMS directors) to better grassroots social justice initiatives
  - iii. Collaboration with Communications director to share global health info on social media via videos and posts
- c. Enhance the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Portfolio**
- i. Holding a public global health community meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup> to receive feedback on the current Terms of Reference for all Global Health portfolio (national officer roles)
  - ii. Currently restructuring recruitment of national officers to enable new national officers to update Terms of Reference with clear responsibilities in an accountable way to better support collaborations on social justice initiatives within portfolio
- d. Clearly Outline the Role of the CFMS Within the IFMSA**
- i. Initiated close contacts with IFMSA National Member Organizations of Venezuela, Brazil, Jamaica, Ghana, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Australia, Philippines, Egypt, Iran. Aiding with three international initiatives:
    - Redrafting the IFMSA membership fees policy from an equity lens
    - Drafting a clear elections guideline document to increase accessibility of IFMSA leadership roles  
([https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Hcvdq4NIhM6bkjJjBhnuWo\\_qlugDN\\_TlhtxWc5JMIHxY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Hcvdq4NIhM6bkjJjBhnuWo_qlugDN_TlhtxWc5JMIHxY/edit?usp=sharing))
    - Redesigning the structure of task forces within the IFMSA
  - ii. Currently facilitating more opportunities for Canadian medical students to directly collaborate with international medical students:
    - Brazil decolonizing global health conference
  - iii. International Exchanges are currently on hold due to the AFMC pandemic policy.
    - Re-establishing contacts with IFMSA exchange leads and National Exchange Officers from many NMOs (France, Singapore,) to prepare for re-initiating exchanges
- e. Positively Impact Indigenous Health within Medical School**
- i. Drafted and passed motion for Indigenous Health national officer role to become two new director roles
  - ii. Integrating Indigenous health issues into all seven global health portfolios





Executive Report  
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#### 4. Reflections and Conclusions

Link to reflection with previous Director of Education:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ixAscZdqbbKkVBjHRmn\\_vFBQMMUTO0jcRdggI1fj68/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ixAscZdqbbKkVBjHRmn_vFBQMMUTO0jcRdggI1fj68/edit?usp=sharing)

Link to summer Directors' update:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iwNfWS7\\_F1VFGq6W2mTZ987u6MDNTnKu/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iwNfWS7_F1VFGq6W2mTZ987u6MDNTnKu/view?usp=sharing)

Grateful. I am incredibly grateful for each moment in this role that I have been able to connect and learn with medical learners who care deeply for social justice.

During these initial months, cognizant of the recent history of the Global Director role, outlined in links above, I have worked towards centering the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) calls to action in the restructuring of our global health portfolio. Furthermore, I have worked on implementing an anti-colonial and decolonization framework into the portfolio's next steps, through consultation with Indigenous medical students and professionals. As a settler, I recognize that there is lot more to reflect on and to do, and look forward to building on this during the months to come, led by the TRC and by Indigenous students and leaders

I am humbled to have had the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions with dozens of student leaders within the global health community, including colleagues without formal roles, local officers, previous national officers, global health liaisons, VPs of equity, diversity, and inclusion, previous CFMS directors, and leads in the Québec medical student network. International assemblies in July and August enabled me to connect with medical learners from across the world. I am particularly grateful for the reflective discussions about social inequities, such as vaccine disparities and workers' rights, with student leaders from nations in the Global South. Following these efforts, CFMS Canada has also received the welcome to participate in conversations on restructuring the International Federation of Medical Students' policies on membership fees, election guidelines, and task forces. These discussions align well with the anti-oppression restructuring that CFMS is pursuing this year. They also provide Canadian medical learners an abundance of opportunities to collaborate with international colleagues.

I am also deeply grateful for the patience and compassion of my fellow CFMS directors, who have supported my learning in restructuring our global health portfolio from a social justice lens.

I would like to sincerely thank all of my colleagues, collaborators and peers. As we move forward into the year, I welcome any recommendations, questions and concerns from learners with regards to the restructuring of our portfolio, centering anti-oppression, and next steps.





Executive Report  
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2021 Fall AGM  
October 22-24, 2021

Sincerely,

Lunan Zhao (he/him)  
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Director of Global Health | directeur de la santé mondiale  
Canadian Federation of Medical Students | Fédération des étudiants et des étudiantes en médecine du  
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*I recognise that Tkarón:to, “the place in the water where the trees are standing,” has been the traditional land of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.*