

# EXECUTIVE REPORT

*Sheharzad (Sherry) Mahmood & Alvin Qiu*  
*CFMS Western Regional Directors*  
*2022 Annual General Meeting*  
*September 16-17, 2022*



## I. 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 the CFMS to represent, support, and connect its members. The CFMS aims to communicate within its membership, as well as from its membership, to the world at large. As an ever-expanding organization, the CFMS continually strives to meet the consistent and changing needs of Canadian medical students.

### Brief Description

There are two Western Regional Directors elected for each term. The CFMS Western Regional Directors are responsible for representing all CFMS member schools in the Western provinces. The schools are:

- University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- University of Alberta
- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Manitoba

The Western Regional Directors will chair or attend external meetings, committees, task forces and working groups as required by their regional duties and by their attaché dyad position. They will collaborate with medical societies in the planning of Western Regional events. Finally, the Western Regional Directors carry out strategic duties in maintaining their fiduciary responsibilities to the CFMS.

Due to this term's unique circumstances of the CFMS Board and unfilled positions, the Regional Directors have not been formally attached to one specific portfolio this year in the traditional attaché/dyad role.

## II. SELECTED MEETINGS ATTENDED FOLLOWING SGM 2022

Date	Meeting	Location	Who?
April 14, 2022	ICAM Planning Meeting	Virtual	Alvin
April 23-26, 2022	Canadian Conference on Medical Education (CCME)	Calgary, AB	Alvin
April 28, 2022	RAC 2 Meeting	Virtual	Both
May 1, 2022	COVID Relief Fund meeting	Virtual	Both
May 3, 2022	CFMS national transition week seminar series with DoBC	Virtual	Alvin
May 5, 2022	RAC 1 Meeting	Virtual	Alvin
June 10-11, 2022	Summer board meeting	Montreal, QB	Sherry
July 8, 2022	AGM Planning meeting	Virtual	Alvin

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August 7, 2022	Special General Meeting	Virtual	Both
August 17 2022	Western Deans' planning meeting with Dr. Holmes	Virtual	Alvin
August 22, 2022	CFMS presentation at UBC	Vancouver, BC	Alvin
August 27, 2022	EDI Roundtable planning meeting	Virtual	Sherry
August 28, 2022	CFMS budget meeting	Virtual	Both
August 31, 2022	Western Deans' planning meeting with Dr. Holmes	Virtual	Alvin
September 15-17, 2022	Annual General Meeting	Vancouver, BC	Both
September 16, 2022	Presidents' Roundtable	Vancouver, BC	Alvin
September 17, 2022	EDI Roundtable	Vancouver, BC	Sherry

### III. ACTIVITIES OF THE WESTERN REGIONAL DIRECTORS

#### 1. Western Region-Specific Facebook Group

- Previous Western Regional Directors established a Facebook group to increase transparency and communication with MedSoc presidents and CFMS representatives at each school in the Western region
- The Facebook group administrative privileges were transitioned to the current Western Regional Directors, Sherry Mahmood and Alvin Qiu
- This group serves as a platform for discussion regarding region-specific issues, progress, and planning
- Drop-in sessions for virtual face-to-face meetings were planned, but the interest for such sessions remains relatively low, especially given the cancellation of the Western Deans' meeting last year again. Member engagement remains one of the largest challenges

#### 2. Royal College Regional Advisory Committee for Western Region (RAC 1 and 2)

- Sherry Mahmood and Alvin Qiu represent Alberta and British Columbia medical students at the Royal College's Regional Advisory Committee 1
- Sherry Mahmood and Alvin Qiu represent the Manitoba and Saskatchewan medical students at the Royal College's Regional Advisory Committee 2
- At these meetings, the Western Regional Directors first gathered specific student concerns (through ART members) and presented them to the Royal College
- In addition, the Western Regional Directors provided feedback on Royal College initiatives (such as the specialty podcasts, which are targeted to provide students with more information, and EDI initiatives)

#### 3. Western Medical School Progress Updates

- Western Deans conference will be held October 27-29, 2022 in Kelowna, BC
- The Western Regional Directors will follow-up with asks and needs from the Western region MedSocs prior to this meeting

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- Discussions regarding using the remaining Western Regional Director budget to subsidize funding for additional students to attend are ongoing
  - New for 2022, in addition to Med Soc Presidents and VP Academics in attendance, the VP EDIs were all invited
  - The 2022 theme was highly relevant to the work of VP EDIs: “Supporting diversity in our programs from admissions through the match process”

## IV. ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE ROLE OF ATTACHE OR OTHER BOARD ROLES

### 1. Education Portfolio

- a. Chaired and organized the Class Advisory Group meetings for C2022 and C2023

### 2. CMA Meetings

- a. Participated in discussions with the CMA Board alongside other CFMS Board members.
- b. Western Regional Directors also met separately to provide both CFMS initiatives and specific updates/concerns from the region.

### 3. International Congress on Academic Medicine (ICAM)

- a. New committee planning the inaugural ICAM meeting
- b. AFMC is confirmed to be hosting The International Congress on Academic Medicine (ICAM) in Quebec City, Canada, in April 12-18, 2023
- c. ICAM group involves other learner organizations (including CITAC, RDoC)
- d. New ICAM will involve an aggregation of existing conferences (CCME, CITAC, CSHRF)
- e. More details on the ICAM meeting can be found: <https://www.afmc.ca/en/faculties/icam>

### 4. Annual General Meeting 2022

- a. Hosted in the Western Region (at the University of British Columbia)
  - i. Organization of the social event was coordinated by the UBC MUS VP External Sr and Jr
- b. Travel awards were coordinated and organized the Western Regional Directors
  - ii. The funding was generously provided by MD Financial Management
- c. Inaugural standalone in-person EDI Roundtable organized and co-chaired by SM

### 5. Calls to Action

- a. Demonstrated commitment to achieving Calls to Action and restructuring organization
  - ii. SM Assisted VP Finance in navigating the ongoing investigative process as handed over by previous Board to ensure transparency and accountability
  - iii. SM Assisted VP Global Health in developing National EDI Network/Roundtable and advocating for increased funding and support for VP EDIs
  - iv. Worked with Portfolio Directors to achieve equity focused initiatives

## V. REFLECTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Overall, this term has been a challenging transition time for the CFMS Board of Directors. Since being elected, there has been high Board turnover and high levels of burnout. However, as of the Special General Meeting and attaining a complete Board for the first time, the workload has been distributed and we continue to realize embedding foundational principles of equity in the organization in the same spirit as the Calls to Action. We appreciate your continued patience as we work to address the concerns of the general membership. The CFMS plays a crucial role in supporting student initiatives, advocating for medical learners on a national level, and providing key resources and tools to help learners succeed in their training. Thus, we also appreciate your understanding as we continue to

