Sara Abdessamie, Quebec Regional Director 2022 Spring General Meeting Calgary, AB April 21-23rd 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 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 Québec Regional Director is responsible for representing all CFMS member schools in Quebec. The school is:

• McGill University.

The Québec Regional Director also represents individual CFMS members who are from other Quebec medical schools. The Québec Regional Director 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 Québec events. Additionally, the Québec Regional Director carries out strategic duties in maintaining their fiduciary responsibilities to the CFMS. Finally, the Québec Regional Director serves as a liaison between the CFMS and the Fédération Médicale Étudiante du Québec (FMEQ).

II. SELECTED MEETINGS ATTENDED

Date	Meeting	Location
Oct 23-24, 2021	CFMS Annual General Meeting	Teleconference
Dec 14, 2021	Intro CFMS meeting with Santanna Hernandez, President	Teleconference
Dec 15, 2021	Intro CFMS Comms with Danielle Judd, VP Comms	Teleconference
Dec 17, 2022	Intro Quebec Rep meeting with Yseult Gibert	Phone call
Jan 11, 2022	Bilingualism Committee – BC Lead interview	Teleconference
Jan 13, 2022	Bilingualism Committee – BC Lead interview	Teleconference
Jan 14, 2022	Bilingualism Committee – BC Lead interview	Teleconference
Jan 15, 2022	PTMA Meeting	Teleconference

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Jan 16, 2022	CFMS Board Meeting	Teleconference
Jan 29, 2022	FMEQ General Council Meeting	Teleconference
Jan 31, 2022	Bilingualism Committee – BC Lead Onboarding Meeting	Teleconference
Feb 4, 2022	Global Health Meeting with Lunan Zhao	Teleconference
Feb 6, 2022	CFMS Recruitment Meeting	Teleconference
Feb 10, 2022	Government Affairs Meeting with Montana Hackett	Teleconference
Feb 17, 2022	Match Day Prep Meeting with Victoria Turnbull	Teleconference
Feb 24, 2022	Meeting with Danielle Judd and CFMS Staff	Teleconference
March 9, 2022	Meeting with BC Lead	Teleconference
March 10, 2022	Government Affairs Meeting with Montana Hackett	Teleconference
March 15, 2022	Match Day Prep Meeting with Victoria Turnbull	Teleconference
March 22, 2022	Bilingualism Committee Meeting	Teleconference
March 25-28, 2022	CFMS Board Meeting	Ottawa, ON
March 29, 2022	FMEQ Meeting with VP Affaires Pédagogique – Match Day Prep	Phone Call
March 30, 2022	Student Affairs Meeting with Alex Lee	Phone Call
April 1, 2022	Meeting with VP Comms, Danielle Judd	Teleconference
April 4-5, 2022	FMEQ – Journée D'action Politique	Quebec City, QC

II. PRIORITIES AND PROJECT AREAS

a. Bilingualism Committee

- i. Candidates interested in becoming a Bilingualism Committee Lead were interviewed during the start of January. The lead was then selected, and they were set to start their mandate at the beginning of February. Led an onboarding meeting with the new lead to allow for a smooth transition into the role.
- ii. Together with the Bilingualism Committee Lead, we divided the members into teams and asked each one to select a leader to receive translation requests.
- iii. The committee lead oversees the distribution any translation requests for the CFMS to the other team leads for the bilingualism committee.

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Some members that were previously on the committee also expressed that they wanted to renew their contract for 2021-2022. By the end of February, the bilingualism committee was fully completed and up and running.

iv. Currently in the process of translating a few pages within the new CFMS website.

b. Communications

- i. Worked closely with the VP Communications to establish a plan to improve the process of translating documents, social media posts, resources, newsletters, and statements.
- **ii.** Currently in the process of hiring a new bilingual IT to keep both the French and English version of the CFMS website updated as new content gets posted.

c. Education Portfolio

- I supported the interim Director of Education during the preparation of services of support for unmatched students during the first iteration of the CaRMS process.
- Collaborated with the FMEQ to offer mentorship support to unmatched francophone students in not only Quebec, but across the country.

V. FUTURE PLANS AND ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Continue collaborating with the FMEQ executive council to increase student opportunities, offer additional resources available in French to students, and find new ways to collaborate with the general council of the FMEQ. Meetings with the FMEQ will now have meetings in person and the next general meeting will be held in May, in Trois-Rivières.
- b. I would like to improve the collaboration between the CFMS and the CMA-Qc student committee and the IFMSA-Qc. We have many initiatives that may overlap and there is potential to connect to support each other.
- c. I plan to work closely with the Bilingualism Committee and the IT team to ensure that our new website is well translated and that all of our resources are available in both official languages.
- d. I will support the incoming Quebec Regional Director during their transition into this new role.

VI. REFLECTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

I officially started this role at the beginning of January and so far, it's been an incredible experience being part of the CFMS board of directors. It's been a privilege to represent and to advocate for the medical students in Quebec at the national level. I hope to keep integrating EDI principles into all my work as QRD and to keep working with the Bilingualism Committee to ensure that francophone students receive the same support and

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resources in the language of their choice. Through this experience, I have had the pleasure of meeting and learning from incredible medical students from across the country. I look forward to continuing the work within the CFMS and to keep advocating for students.

Sincerely,

Sara Abdessamie (she/her/elle)

M.D.,C.M.. Class of 2025, McGill University, settled on the unceded territory of the Kanien'keha:ka

Quebec Regional Director || Directrice Régionale du Québec Canadian Federation of Medical Students || Fédération des étudiant.e.s en médecine du Canada quebec@cfms.org || www.cfms.org