

Bio:

Hey everyone! My name's Mark and I'm thrilled to be re-running for Quebec Regional Director of the CFMS! I am currently a third-year medical student at McGill and had the privilege to serve as Quebec Regional Director for the last year! Through my role, I've connected with various stakeholders from national organizations across Canada, as well as provincial organizations to gather opinions of medical students. During my term, I developed a francophone learner's taskforce, which is composed of francophone learners from CFMS member schools, in the hopes of making our events and outreach more accessible to francophone students. This helped implement changes, like a functional French version of the CFMS website, all social media posts published in both English and French and the development of a survey to gather the insights about the French language proficiency, interest in French programming and how to increase accessibility. Ultimately, I believe that these changes will help bridge the gap between the member schools and the non-member schools, with the hopes of uniting all medical schools across the country.

Over the last year, we have laid down a solid foundation for larger-scale, longitudinal projects within the QRD portfolio. Based on the advocacy experience gained and the relationships I have formed in my current role, I feel equipped to continue to advocate for Quebec medical students with confidence, and work with stakeholders to positively impact the organization. I invite you to review at my platform and contact me at 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 will continue to commit 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 continue 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.

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: Continue to 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.