

Jesse Lafontaine is an incoming third-year medical student at the University of Alberta and a proud Métis man from the Métis Nation of British Columbia. He completed a Master of Science (MSc) in Applied Digital Health and a Master of Public Policy (MPP) at the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. He also holds a Bachelor of Science Honours from the University of British Columbia, majoring in chemistry. Jesse has held several leadership roles, including serving as founding co-chair of the Indigenous Medical Students' Association of Canada and President of the University of Alberta Medical Students' Association. He served on the National Consortium for Indigenous Medical Education and has been a strong advocate for Indigenous representation in medical training. Additionally, Jesse has also been involved with the CFMS, including as a member of the Governance Committee and as a member of the CFMS Education Report Card Task Force.

Jesse is increasingly interested in the political determinants of health and the influence of policy and politics on health outcomes for individuals and populations across Canada. He is currently undertaking a yearlong "side quest" to explore his interests by participating in the Parliamentary Internship Program in Ottawa, where he is working in Members of Parliament's offices. He has previously worked in policy roles with the Canadian Medical Association and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the Rhodes Trust. Jesse is a podcast lover, ice cream enthusiast, avid nature and hiking explorer, and is trying to learn French.