



Dear Friends,

February 24th is our Annual Day of Action on Parliament Hill in Ottawa! This year our topic is Universal Access to Contraception. We have over 70 students from across Canada coming to meet with MPs and Senators to advocate for 3 major asks:

1. Provide federally sponsored universal coverage of contraception, including the copper IUD, for all Canadians and include all contraceptive methods within the national Pharmacare plan;
2. Sponsor public education campaigns to endorse and circulate the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada information about contraceptive methods and use, and;
3. Implement a federally supported task-shifting model to include allied healthcare providers in contraceptive prescribing in all Canadian provinces and territories for improved access.

Students come to Ottawa for a pre-weekend of training where they learn about “how to advocate”, become “content experts” on the issue and meet many new friends and fellow advocates. Our Day of Action is one of our feature, hallmark events every year, not only because CFMS Advocacy has raised awareness and advanced many issues for Canadians including Pharmacare, Indigenous Mental Health and Seniors Care and Aging but because it prepares the “next generation” to ensure we are fierce advocates. This event highlights how we are truly *Tomorrow’s Physicians, Leading for Health Today*. Thank you to the entire Government Affairs Team for their efforts in making this day possible. We look forward to positive interactions and hope for action-based outcomes.

Match Day for all final year students who participated in the R1 Match is fast approaching! On March 3rd our final year colleagues will find out where the next part of our training journey in medicine takes us! Match day is inevitably stressful for all students. Please be supportive and send positive thoughts to the 2020s. The CFMS has developed a number of supports in consultation with the faculties in anticipation of Match Day which I have linked [here](#). Your faculties have also developed comprehensive supports for students in anticipation of all outcomes. This is the second year that a formal process to opt-in for early notification of unmatched status is available. We know many students have chosen to opt-in and it is your local schools that determine the process in regards to if and how you are informed. If you have questions or concerns around this please do not hesitate to contact me at president@cfms.org. You will hear from me on Match day and I’m sending best wishes to all my final year colleagues!

Sincerely,

Victor Do
CFMS President, 2019-2020