



Dear Friends,

Big congratulations to my fellow final year medical students for making it through our residency interview tour! Speaking personally, it was certainly a whirlwind but I also had many memorable experiences and got to meet so many more of you through the interviews as well as through the school visits I got to do. Rank order lists for us are due on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>! Take time to reflect on your experiences over the coming days before your submission. Everyone has earned well-deserved rest and while I know many of you return to clinical rotations I hope that you do get some time to settle with family and friends in the coming days and weeks leading up to Match day.

First iteration Match day this year is Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have continued to advocate that all schools should ensure that final year students have Match day off from clinical duties. It is our understanding that a number of schools continue to resist this notion and require students to attend clinical duties prior to the release of match results. We have reached out to student leadership at each school for an update on what is happening this year but we would encourage students whose school do not allow for students to be off clinical duties on Match day to inform the CFMS and advocate locally that this be the case. We will be 100% supportive of you. To ensure students are able to be with their support networks and because there cannot be productive clinical learning in the hours before you will be informed of life-altering news we will continue to advocate on your behalf with respect to this issue.

I also had the pleasure over the last two weeks to do a number of school visits as part of my tour travels. I visited Western, University of Manitoba and the University of Calgary MedSocs. We had positive engaging discussions at all of them. Common themes that continued to come up for discussion included how to further engage our members in our work, student wellness and efforts around the residency matching process. I have now had the opportunity to visit 11 of our member medical schools with plans to ensure I complete the President Tour by the end of my term. I want to reiterate how inspiring and informative the visits are for me. My school visits remind me of just how lucky I am to serve as your President and the opportunity and privilege we have as an organization to advocate on your behalf, to support, connect and represent you.

Lastly we have a number of funding opportunities currently open. Check out our [SIG program](#) due Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> as well as the new [Strategic Innovation Fund](#) due on March 15<sup>th</sup>! We look forward to seeing all the excellent applications and we are super excited to hand out LOTS of money to support your amazing initiatives.

Don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns at [president@cfms.org](mailto:president@cfms.org)

Sincerely,

Victor Do  
CFMS President, 2019-2020