# **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

Emily Hodgson, Quebec Regional Representative 2015-16 Annual General Meeting September 23-25, 2016, Edmonton, Alberta



## I. DESCRIPTION OF POSITION

The regional representatives serve as a voice for their region on the CFMS executive committee. The Quebec Regional Representative is in a unique position given that only one of the four medical schools in Quebec, namely McGill University, is an institutional member of the CFMS; all four schools are members of the *Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec (FMEQ)*. As such, the role of the Quebec representative is both to represent McGill students at the CFMS, and to act as chief liaison between the CFMS and the FMEQ. In addition to these functions, all regional representatives are called upon to manage national portfolios, for instance the Bilingualism Task Force, the Travel Awards program, and the chairing of general meetings.

Date	Meeting	Location
September 17 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	CFMS Annual General Meeting	Windsor, ON
October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	FMEQ Meeting	Sherbrooke, QC
October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Meeting with CFMS President	Teleconference
October 16 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	CFMS Fall Executive Meeting	Ottawa, ON
November 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015	FMEQ Meeting	Quebec City, QC
November 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015	CFMS Executive Meeting	Teleconference
November 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Meeting with Moncton campus president	Teleconference
December 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Meeting with CFMS VP Finance	Teleconference
December 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Meeting with CFMS VP Education	Montreal, QC
January 8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	CFMS Winter Executive Meeting	Toronto, ON
January 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	FMEQ Meeting	Montreal, QC
January 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Meeting with McGill Medical Student Society	Montreal, QC
February 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	SGM planning meeting with VP Communications and President	Teleconference
February 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Presidents' Roundtable	Teleconference

### **II. ACTIVITIES**

March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	CFMS Executive Meeting	Teleconference
March 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Meeting with VP	Montreal, QC
	Communications	
March 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	FMEQ Meeting	Montreal, QC
April 11 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	Quebec Provincial Lobby Day	Quebec City, QC
April 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	CFMS Spring General Meeting	Montreal, QC
April 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	FRESQue Roundtable	Teleconference
April 30 <sup>th</sup> – May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	Congrès FMEQ	Rawdon, QC
May 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	SRPC Council Meeting	Charlevoix, QC
June 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	CFMS Summer Executive	Calgary, AB
	Meeting	
June 6 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	National Health Leadership	Ottawa, ON
	Conference	
August 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	CFMS Executive Meeting	Teleconference
September 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2016	CFMS Presentation to	Montreal, QC
	incoming McGill students	
September 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> ,	CFMS Annual General	Edmonton, AB
2016	Meeting	

#### **III. PRIORITIES AND PROJECT AREAS**

#### **FMEQ Relations**

Beginning my mandate, I had set as priorities the continued cooperation between the CFMS and the FMEQ, along with the establishment of new partnerships between the organizations.

As in years prior, I attended the FMEQ General Council meetings to link the CFMS with the FMEQ and its four member Medical Societies. Delegates from the FMEQ executive attended the CFMS National Lobby Day and, reciprocally, CFMS executive members attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Provincial Lobby Day (*la Journée d'action politique*), hosted by the FMEQ. The CFMS continued to work closely with the *Fédération* on the National Health and Wellness Survey, which saw considerable participation from Quebec schools.

At the 2016 Spring General Meeting in Montreal, the CFMS and FMEQ executive members held a joint meeting, which has allowed for collaboration in many new ways, including the sharing of member benefits, coordination of joint national advocacy projects and the strengthening of personal ties between the organizations.

It is worth highlighting that the FMEQ has had some great successes in their advocacy efforts this year, including securing changes to government student

financial aid policies and the establishment of an annual interprofessional student roundtable event to plan the future of healthcare in the province (*la FRESQue*).

#### Individual Membership & Moncton Campus

Given that only one of the four Quebec medical schools is an institutional member of the CFMS, an important aspect of my role has been to welcome new CFMS individual members. The main focus of my recruitment efforts this year has built on the excellent work of my predecessor by attracting and securing the membership of the Moncton campus of the Université de Sherbrooke. With a commitment from the Moncton campus Medical Society and the full support of their general assembly, the Moncton campus was formally adopted as a "Campus Member" by the CFMS general assembly of SGM 2016. Thus, we have seen the addition of a campus of 100 students to our Federation for the 2016-2017 academic year. Continued efforts must now be made to ensure Moncton students become engaged with the CFMS and have full access to our member services, in addition to connecting them with the other CFMS member schools of the Atlantic region.

A number of new individual members have also joined the CFMS this year. When asked, most have cited our CaRMS-related resources as their top incentive to join. I have compiled an official up-to-date list of our individual membership for easier tracking and communications in the years to come. Finally, thanks to the efforts of Franco Rizzuti (VP Finance) and Kevan Lu (VP Information Technology Sr), the process of joining the CFMS has been streamlined by our new online payment system, thus avoiding the hassle of sending registration payments by mail.

#### Promoting Bilingualism

One of the most important areas of the Quebec portfolio is the promotion of bilingualism within the Federation. This year, this has meant recruiting and training a new cohort of the Bilingualism Task Force (BTF). Last fall, I created an organizational system to optimize the Task Force's assignments for the year. This team-based model has been improved upon throughout my mandate and this will hopefully continue to be of great benefit to the group. In addition to translating the vast majority of scheduled social media posts put out by the CFMS, the BTF has been involved in the translation of the Matchbook, National Lobby Day documents, various sections of the new website, the CFMS Voting Guide and many other projects. One of the next challenges for this portfolio is the formal recognition of the team's hardworking volunteers and the continued push for a stronger presence of the French language in all CFMS areas of activity.

#### Travel Awards

This past year, a total of 15 students from across Canada were selected as recipients of Travel Awards to attend SGM 2016 and AGM 2016. These recipients were selected from among 110 exceptional applicants from 13 member schools. Applicant and recipient trends were compiled for both the SGM and AGM selection seasons, with the aim of informing our selections model and to better promote more widespread participation of our membership.

This year, in collaboration with the Nominations Committee, the Travel Awards applications system was changed to a Google Form format as opposed to individual email submissions. Though this was done to streamline the selections process, the change did result in some new, unexpected delays. Continued optimization of the applications process is therefore recommended.

In addition to the Travel Award recipients, this year the MD Financial Management Leadership Award winners were also funded to attend SGM 2016. This is the first time a travel component has been included in the Leadership Award and a very successful cocktail event was held at the meeting to celebrate their achievements. My hope is that similar formal events may be held for Travel Award winners in future.

#### General Meeting Chair

I had the great honour of chairing the 2016 Spring General Meeting in Montreal. Realizing the burden that comes with organizing such an event and the lack of continuity from chair to chair, I set about creating a preparation package for future meeting chairs, including a checklist and timeline of items to be addressed. This will help ensure continuity between years, avoid duplication of effort and allow for centralization of resources for the planning of future meetings.

# IV. FOLLOW UP, VISION, GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS POSITION

#### **FMEQ** relations

My primary recommendation for FMEQ relations is to continue annual joint executive meetings, so as to continually bring the organizations together. Further collaboration with the FMEQ on advocacy, medical education and translation projects would also be of great benefit to our membership.

#### Individual Membership & Moncton Campus

Efforts should be focused on improving the engagement of individual members and completing the integration of the Moncton campus as part of the CFMS membership, including ensuring representation on appropriate committees, advertising of CFMS services locally and participation in general meetings.

#### **Bilingualism**

The challenges of this portfolio are numerous and include establishing the permanence of the translation team and the formal recognition of the volunteer translators with appropriate incentives. I highly recommend continuing the practice of funding a member of the translation team to attend general meetings as the official social media translator, but greater promotion of this opportunity should be undertaken. Specific projects that should be considered for translation include the completion of the new website, CFMS bylaws and all new student resources, in addition to our current social media translation efforts.

#### General Meeting Chair

I recommend the use and continued refinement of the newly-crafted chair's guide. Ideally, new resources and helpful hints would be added with every meeting, therefore establishing greater institutional memory.

#### Travel Awards

Continued efforts should be put into optimizing the Travel Awards applications process, in collaboration with the Nominations Committee. A vital step would be to maintain the trending of award applicant and recipient demographic data with every call in order to monitor for long-term applicant trends and to verify that the selections process remains unbiased. This would inform any changes in the selections process that may be made to mitigate geographic concentration of winners. Finally, promoting greater engagement of Travel Award winners at the general meetings is recommended, with the possibility of recipient-specific events.

For comments or inquiries, please feel free to contact me at the address below.

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