



Executive Report
 Achieng Tago, CFMS Director of Global Health
 2020 Annual General Meeting
 September 18-20, 2020

1. Description and Introduction:

The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) is the representative voice of Canadian medical students to the national medical organizations, to the federal government, to the public, and to other external bodies. The CFMS represents over 8000 medical students at 15 Canadian medical schools from coast to coast. It is the mission of CFMS to represent, support, and connect its members. CFMS aims to communicate within its membership, as well as from its membership, to the world at large. As an ever-expanding organization, CFMS continually strives to meet the consistent and changing needs of Canadian medical students.

Brief Description

The CFMS Global Health Director is responsible for representing the global health interests of the CFMS member schools and the CFMS. Global Health within the CFMS is made up of six different portfolios:

- Indigenous health
- Exchanges
- Human rights and peace
- Reproductive and sexual health
- Global health education
- Partnerships
- The Health and Environmental Adaptive Response Task Force (HEART)

There is a National Officer that oversees the top six portfolios, with two National Officers overseeing exchanges (incoming and outgoing); as well, there are Local Officers for each portfolio at each member school. HEART is overseen by a Task Force Chair. The Director of Global Health oversees the Global Health Portfolio including the National Officers, Roundtables, and Task Forces. As well, the Director of Global Health represents the CFMS to the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) and is the National Member Organization President for Canada within the IFMSA.

2. Selected Meetings Attended

Date	Meeting	Location
Sept 19 th -22 nd , 2019	AGM	St John's NFL
Sept 28 th , 2019	Intro to CFMS Board and Dyad pairing	Teleconference
October 2 nd , 2019	Check in with past Director of Global Health	Teleconference
October 6 th , 2019	Intro meeting with Dyad	Teleconference



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October 10 th , 2019	National Officer meeting #1	Teleconference
October 17 th , 2019	Pulse check in with Victor	Teleconference
October 20 th , 2019	CFMS Board Teleconference #1	Teleconference
October 20 th , 2019	Check in with Dyad	Teleconference
October 25 th , 2019	Global Health Communications interview	Teleconference
October 25-27, 2019	CFMS Fall Board Meeting	Ottawa
October 27 th , 2019	Global Health Communications interview	Teleconference
November 2 nd , 2019	Meeting with IFMSA Quebec #1	Teleconference
November 3 rd , 2019	Global Health Communications meeting	Teleconference
November 9 th , 2019	Global Health Communications meeting	Teleconference
November 12 th , 2019	National Officer meeting #2	Teleconference
November 24 th , 2019	CFMS Board Teleconference #2	Teleconference
November 26 th , 2019	GHL Roundtable #2	Teleconference
December 3 rd , 2019	Check in with past Director GH	Teleconference
December 3 rd , 2019	Selection committee: World Health Organization Youth Council	Teleconference
December 4 th , 2019	Indigenous Representation Exploratory Working Group meeting #1	Teleconference
December 5 th , 2019	Global Health/Government Affairs collaboration meeting	Teleconference
December 8 th , 2019	HEART meeting	Teleconference
December 13 th , 2019	IFMSA Regional Meeting delegation interviews	Teleconference
December 15 th , 2019	Pulse check in with Victor	Teleconference
December 15 th , 2019	Meeting with IFMSA Quebec #2	Teleconference
December 15 th , 2019	Check in with Dyad	Teleconference
December 15 th , 2019	CFMS Board Teleconference #3	Teleconference
December 22 nd , 2019	Global Health Communications meeting	Teleconference
January 4-5	CFMS Winter Board Meeting	Toronto
February 10 th , 2020	GHL Roundtable # 4	Teleconference



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February 10 th , 2020	IFMSA March AGM Delegation Meeting #1	Teleconference
February 12 th , 2020	National Officer Meeting #3	Teleconference
February 15 th , 2020	Check in with National Exchange Officers	Teleconference
February 15 th , 2020	Check in with National Officer of Global Health Education	Teleconference
February 16 th , 2020	Check in with National Officer of Partnerships	Teleconference
February 16 th , 2020	CFMS Board Teleconference #4	Teleconference
February 18 th , 2020	Check in with National Officer of Human Rights and Peace	Teleconference
February 19 th , 2020	Check in with National Officer of Indigenous Health	Teleconference
February 19 th , 2020	Meeting with IFMSA Quebec #3	Teleconference
February 22 and 23 rd	National Day of Action meetings	Ottawa, ON
February 24 th	National Day of Action	Ottawa, ON
February 25 th , 2020	Meeting with Dr. Marcia Anderson re: Indigenous Week of Advocacy (IoWA)	Winnipeg, MB
February 26 th , 2020	IFMSA March AGM Delegation Meeting #2	Teleconference
February 29 th , 2020	Indigenous Representation Exploratory Working Group – Chair meeting	Teleconference
February 29 th , 2020	Presidents Round Table – re: Indigenous Week of Advocacy	Teleconference
March 3 rd , 2020	Meeting with the Royal College re: Indigenous representation	Teleconference
March 6 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Sask	Teleconference
March 8 th , 2020	GHL Roundtable #5	Teleconference
March 10 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – MB	Winnipeg, MB
March 10 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Calgary	Teleconference
March 11 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Toronto	Teleconference
March 11 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Alberta	Teleconference
March 11 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting - McMaster	Teleconference
March 12 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – BC	Teleconference
March 13 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Western	Teleconference



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March 13 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Mun	Teleconference
March 13 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – Queens	Teleconference
March 13 th , 2020	IoWA Meeting – McGill	Teleconference
March 15 th , 2020	CFMS Board Teleconference #5	Teleconference
March 21 st , 2020	National Officers Meeting #4	Teleconference
March 28 th , 2020	GH/IFMSA restructuring meeting	Teleconference
April 5 th , 2020	Check in with Victor	Teleconference
April 5 th , 2020	GH portfolio meeting with Victor and Felipe	Teleconference
April 5 th , 2020	CFMS Board Teleconference #6	Zoom
April 10 th , 2020	EDI Task Force Meeting	Teleconference
April 11 th , 2020	IFMSA Meeting	Teleconference
April 12 th 2020	Indigenous Representation Exploratory Working Group (IREWG) Meeting	Zoom
April 16 th , 2020	Meeting with the Board	Zoom
April 18 th -19 th , 2020	CFMS Spring General Meeting	Zoom
April 20 th , 2020	Price of a Dream – EDI	Google Meets
April 26 th , 2020	HEART Meeting	Zoom
April 28 th , 2020	AFMC Global Health Network Meeting	Teleconference
May 1 st , 2020	IREWG Meeting	Teleconference
May 1 st , 2020	EDI Planning Meeting with Victor, Helen, Felipe	Zoom
May 3 rd , 2020	Board Teleconference	Zoom
May 14 th , 2020	Price of a Dream – EDI	Google Meets
May 14 th , 2020	EDI Position Paper Sub-committee	Teleconference
May 20 th , 2020	National Officers Meeting #5	Google Meets
May 21 st , 2020	EDI Task Force Meeting	Zoom
May 22 nd , 2020	GHL Meeting	Google Meets
May 25 th , 2020	National LGBTQ Meeting	Zoom
May 25 th , 2020	EDI Meeting with Dalhousie Representatives	Google Meets
May 26 th , 2020	CFMS IT Meeting	Zoom
May 29 th , 2020	IREWG Meeting	Teleconference
June 4 th , 2020	EDI Strategy Meeting	Teleconference



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June 8 th – 12 th , 2020	National Officer Interviews	Zoom
June 14 th , 2020	CFMS Board Meeting	Zoom
June 30 th , 2020	EDI Task Force Meeting	Zoom
July 8 th , 2020	EDI Position Paper Sub-committee Meeting	Zoom
July 19 th , 2020	CFMS Board Meeting	Zoom
July 26 th , 2020	EDI Roundtable committee meeting	Zoom
August 13 th , 2020	National Officer Meeting	Google Meets
August 29 th , 2020	EDI Task Force Meeting	Google Meets
August 30 th , 2020	CFMS Board Meeting	Zoom
September 3 rd , 2020	EDI Position Paper Sub-committee Meeting	Google Meets
September 18 th -20 th , 2020	CFMS AGM	Zoom

3. Priorities and Project Areas Throughout 2019-2020

a. Increased Collaboration

This year the Global Health National Officers will be collaborated on a national global health initiative. The goal of this project was to strengthen the portfolio by properly utilizing the human resources within the portfolio to increase effectiveness. As well, the portfolio will also be working with other portfolios within the CFMS and has begun collaboration with the IFMSA Quebec.

b. Increase General Member Engagement

The Global Health Local Officers do many grassroots initiatives that resonate with the General members. As well, many General Members are involved with the CFMS through global health. We therefore hoped to increase engagement by highlighting global health initiatives via the CFMS website. We will also ensure that General Members were aware of global health opportunities by collapsing the Global Health Newsletter into the CFMS Communiqué.

c. Enhance the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Portfolio

We did this by updating the Terms of Reference for the Global Health Liaison Roundtable within the Global Health portfolio in a way that outlines clear responsibilities for the Roundtable members. By doing so we will be able to streamline the work done within the portfolio.

d. Improve IFMSA Exchanges

i. We undertook an overview of the International Exchanges done by the CFMS through the IFMSA. We hope to improve feedback and engagement with these exchanges by having a deeper understanding of the circumstances that take place when students go on an exchange. We also plan on having discussions on this issue with other National Member Organizations within the IFMSA. As well, with COVID-19 leading to cancelled exchanges, we had meetings to discuss plans to



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provide Global Health experiences outside of exchanges to Canadian medical students.

- ii. We will update the Exchange Cancellation Policy with the goal of clearly outlining situations in which refunds are able to be given to students and situations in which exchanges need to be cancelled (eg, such as with COVID-19).
- e. **Clearly Outline the Role of the CFMS within the IFMSA**
 - i. We sought out to increase engagement of CFMS General Members with the IFMSA by ensuring that various IFMSA opportunities are communicated via the Global Health portion of the CFMS Communique.
 - ii. We increased collaboration and communications with IFMSA Quebec and the wider IFMSA.
- f. **Positively Impact Indigenous Health within Medical School**

We undertook initiatives that are based on the AFMC Joint Commitment to Action on Indigenous Health including the ‘CFMS Indigenous Week of Advocacy’. As well, we initiated an Indigenous Representation Exploratory Working Group, the task of which will be to enhance Indigenous representation within the CFMS and within the CFMS member schools.

4. Future Plans and Action Items

COVID-19 Implications to CFMS Global Health:

Due to the spread of COVID-19 and the travel advisories that have been put into place, IFMSA International exchanges (both incoming and outgoing) will not be taking place this year. We have given refunds to all students who were scheduled to take part in an exchange. As a consequence, the Global Health portfolio and the CFMS have had a small financial impact; however, the health and safety of Canadian medical students during this time is a higher priority than any financial implications that have occurred due to the loss of exchanges. We will continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 policies and ensure that students are made aware as soon as exchanges are deemed safe. We appreciate the patience and understanding of the many students who have had to cancel their summer plans.

Increased diversity within medicine:

The CFMS Indigenous Week of Advocacy (IoWA) has been postponed due to COVID-19. However, we are grateful for the large amount of engagement that medical students across Canada had with this initiative. We are continuously monitoring the COVID-19 situation for the best time to launch IoWA, and we are hopeful that we will get even more engagement with the initiative. As well, we will continue to work on finding ways to increase Indigenous representation within the CFMS and within Canadian medical schools.

5. Reflections and Conclusions

The Global Health Portfolio within the CFMS is a vast portfolio that spans many areas. The aspect that I appreciate the most about the portfolio is not only the reach it has to students across



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Canada, but also its potential for collaboration with other CFMS portfolios and external organizations. I have appreciated working with the Global Health National Officers, other portfolios within the CFMS, and with external organizations such as IFMSA Quebec. I hope that the work done by the Global Health Portfolio this year will resonate with medical students across Canada, increase CFMS member engagement, and will help enhance diversity within the CFMS and Canadian medical schools.

This year the Global Health Portfolio expanded to include work on Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity in medicine. We initiated projects regarding anti-racism, and plans are ongoing to continue in this work. As I step away from the portfolio and my time with the CFMS comes to end, I leave excited to see the amazing work that the incoming National Officers and CFMS Board will accomplish this year.

Sincerely,

Achieng Tago
PGY1 Medicine, McMaster University
CFMS Director of Global Health
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International Federation of Medical Students' Associations
globalhealth@cfms.org | www.cfms.org | www.ifmsa.org