**Resolution: Renewal of the HEART Mandate through the Creation of a Permanent CFMS Task force on the Environment and Health**

WHEREAS the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) is the national voice of Canadian Medical students playing roles to connect, support and represent their membership as they learn to serve patients and society;

WHEREAS the third strategic direction of the CFMS Strategic Plan (2014-2017) states the following objectives:

1. Advance student values in medical education decision-making

2. Empower Canadian medical students to lead local change in medical education, supported by best practices

3. Promote measured reform of admissions to medical school and transition to residency

4. Advocate for a Canadian medical education system which best supports the health needs of Canadians

5. Enhance global health education;

WHEREAS the current CFMS Health & Environment Adaptive Response Task force has been successful in developing environmental initiatives at the medical student level, including climate change and its resulting effects on health;

WHEREAS implementing health and environment initiatives may take years of collaboration and work;

WHEREAS environmental health is relevant to the portfolios of Global Health, Government Affairs and Education;

BIRT the general assembly adopt the attached revised Terms of Reference for a Health and Environment Adaptive Response Taskforce;

BIRT the CFMS executive place a call and fill this special task force, including the chair position, over Fall 2017;

BIFRT the revised Terms of Reference of the Health and Environment Adaptive Response Task force be adopted.

Financial Cost: $ 0

Level of Effort: Minimal

Proposed by: Ashley Cerqueira and Itai Malkin

Seconded by: Jessica Bryce, VP Global Health

**Health and Environment Adaptive Response Task Force**

**Terms of Reference**

*Connecting*

The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) is the national body of Canadian Medical Students. One facet of the CFMS mission involves connecting medical students with their societies and other health organizations advancing healthy public policy. The organization is in a unique position to facilitate discussion on issues of environment and health, including climate change, both internally and externally.

*Supporting and Representing*

Being the national voice of Canadian medical students to national organizations responsible for medical education and public policy, CFMS can support its members by communicating and representing the views of its membership. This can serve to promote excellence in medical education regarding climate change and health as well as mobilizing the medical student voice on these issues.

*Proposal*

1. The Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) formally establishes the ‘Health and Environment Adaptive Response Task Force (HEART).’

*Composition*

2. The CFMS Chair of HEART will serve as both a member and chair of HEART and will henceforth be referred to as the ‘HEART Chair’

a. The HEART Chair will manage all committee documentation including but not limited to meeting agendas, minutes, and shared document folders.

b. The HEART Chair will be a non-voting member of the HEART.

c. In the case of a tied-vote, it is the Chair’s duty to cast one (1) vote to determine the result of the vote.

d. The HEART Chair will report, in writing or in person, twice yearly at the general meetings, and more frequently as needed, to the CFMS General Assembly.

e. The HEART Chair will serve as a CFMS representative to external organizations on Environment and Health related issues, at the discretion of the CFMS Executive

f. Each Fall, the HEART Chair will be selected from a pool of CFMS member applicants by the CFMS Nominations Committee following its established selection practices. The Nominations Committee will take into account past experience on the committee, education in the environmental health field and coordination/leadership experience.

3. The CFMS Vice-President Global Health or a representative will serve as a member of the HEART

a. The CFMS Vice-President Global Health is elected as part of the CFMS Executive elections at each Annual General Meeting.

b. The CFMS VP GH may appoint any member serving on any of the committees under the GH portfolio to act as their representative

4. The CFMS Vice-President Education or a representative may serve as a member of the HEART

a. The CFMS Vice-President Education is elected as part of the CFMS Executive elections at each Annual General Meeting.

b. The CFMS VP Education may appoint any member serving on any of the committees under the education portfolio to act as their representative.

5. The CFMS Vice-President Government Affairs or a representative may serve as a member of the HEART

a. The CFMS Vice-President Government Affairs is elected as part of the CFMS Executive elections at each Annual General Meeting.

b. The CFMS VP Government Affairs may appoint any member serving on any of the committees under the government affairs portfolio to act as their representative.

6. The HEART will be composed of between four (4) and eleven (11) members-at-large.

a. Members-at-large will be selected in the fall call for applications from the pool of CFMS member applicants by the CFMS Nominations Committee following its established selection practices, emphasizing representation from all regions.

*Responsibilities*

7. The HEART chair is responsible for the HEART portfolio.

8. The HEART will advise the CFMS Executive on matters related to the environment and health, including climate change and health.

9. The HEART is specifically tasked with, but not limited to, the following responsibilities:

a. Informing medical students and their educational institutions of the role of health systems in climate change, both as a positive mitigator and a contributor

b. In partnership with CFMS general members, the HEART should advocate for public policy, which mitigates environmental health risks in an equitable and evidence-based strategy

c. Advises CFMS on organizational best practices to minimize environmental impact

10. The HEART will not act as a decision making body on behalf of the General Assembly of the CFMS. They may offer evidence-based recommendations to the CFMS Executive and/or General Assembly.

*Oversight*

11. The HEART, through the HEART Chair, will report to the Vice President Global Health at regular scheduled meetings of the CFMS Executive.

12. The Vice President Global Health will be responsible for administrative support as needed (specifically teleconference line access, facilitation of HEART communication with CFMS members, and financial support within budgetary constraints).

*Meetings between CFMS SGM and AGM*

12. The HEART will meet via tele-conference once monthly between the CFMS Annual General Meeting and the CFMS Spring General Meeting.

a. Meetings may be cancelled at the discretion of the HEART Chair in consultation with committee members.

b. Extra meetings may be added at the discretion of the HEART Chair in consultation with committee members.

13. The HEART will meet on an as-needed basis between the CFMS Spring General Meeting and the CFMS Annual General Meeting.