Clara Long, Atlantic Regional Director 2020 Annual General Meeting Virtual Sept 18-20th 2020



I. 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 Atlantic Regional Director is responsible for representing all CFMS member schools in the Atlantic provinces to the CFMS Board. The schools are:

- Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Dalhousie University
- Centre de Formation Médicale du Nouveau-Brunswick

The Atlantic Regional Director will chair or attend external meetings, committees, task forces and working groups as required by their regional duties and by their attaché dyad position. They will collaborate with medical societies in the planning of Atlantic events. Finally, the Atlantic Regional Director carries out strategic duties in maintaining their fiduciary responsibilities to the CFMS.

II. Selected Meetings Attended

Date	Meeting	Location
Sept 19-22, 2019	AGM	St John's
Sept 28, 2019	Intro to CFMS board and dyad pairing	Phone call
Sept 30, 2019	Dyad on board meeting	Phone call
Oct 1, 2019	Communications dyad handover	Phone call
Oct 12, 2019	RRT	Teleconference
Oct 16, 2019	Atlantic TC #1	Teleconference
Oct 18, 2019	RAC5 meeting and town hall	St John's
Oct 18, 2019	MUN visit	St John's
Oct 20, 2019	Pulse check in with Victor	Phone call
Oct 20, 2019	October board teleconference	Teleconference
Oct 25-27, 2019	FBM	Ottawa

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Nov 9, 2019	RRT	Teleconference
Nov 11, 2019	CFMS app group meeting	Teleconference
Nov 21, 2019	Atlantic GAAC meeting	Teleconference
Nov 23, 2019	SIF TF meeting	Teleconference
Nov 24, 2019	November board teleconference	Teleconference
Dec 1, 2019	Sherbrooke Moncton visit	Moncton
Dec 14, 2019	RRT	Teleconference
Dec 15, 2019	Pulse check in with Victor	Phone call
Dec 15, 2019	December board teleconference	Teleconference
Dec 20, 2019	CMA call on advocacy training	Teleconference
Jan 4-5, 2020	WBM	Toronto
Jan 7, 2020	SIF TF meeting	Teleconference
Jan 10, 2020	FMWC meeting	Teleconference
Jan 13, 2020	Atlantic TC #2	Teleconference
Jan 24, 2020	DMNS visit: CFMS leadership panel	Halifax
Jan 25, 2020	RRT	Teleconference
Jan 26, 2020	CFMS app group meeting	Teleconference
Feb 13, 2020	NSHA talk on physician retention	Halifax
Feb 16, 2020	February board teleconference	Teleconference
Feb 17, 2020	Atlantic TF meeting	Teleconference
Feb 20, 2020	DMNB visit: CFMS leadership panel	Teleconference
Feb 28, 2020	Dyad meeting	Phone call
Feb 29, 2020	Communications portfolio strategic planning	Phone call
Mar 8, 2020	RRT	Teleconference
Mar 10, 2020	CoAMS planning meeting	Halifax
Mar 15, 2020	March board teleconference	Teleconference

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Mar 15, 2020	Board mid-term review	Phone call
Mar 19, 2020	Atlantic GAAC meeting	Teleconference
Mar 28, 2020	RRT check in	Teleconference
Mar 30, 2020	Atlantic TF meeting	Teleconference
Apr 2, 2020	SIF TF meeting	Teleconference
Apr 4, 2020	Check in/dyad check in	Teleconference
Apr 4, 2020	COVID initiative grant meeting	Teleconference
Apr 5, 2020	April board teleconference	Teleconference
Apr 16, 2020	Pre-SGM board teleconference	Teleconference
Apr 16, 2020	SIF TF meeting	Teleconference
Apr 18-19, 2020	SGM	Teleconference
May 1, 2020	RAC5 meeting	Teleconference
May 3, 2020	May board teleconference	Teleconference
May 9, 2020	SBM	Teleconference
May 16, 2020	SBM	Teleconference
May 23, 2020	Atlantic TC #3	Teleconference
May 23, 2020	Atlantic TF meeting	Teleconference
Jun 6, 2020	RRT	Teleconference
Jun 14, 2020	June board teleconference	Teleconference
Jul 11, 2020	RRT	Teleconference
Jul 19, 2020	July board teleconference	Teleconference
Aug 11, 2020	Royal College med student videos consultation	Teleconference
Aug 15, 2020	RRT	Teleconference
Aug 19, 2020	Communications volunteer resources meeting	Teleconference
Aug 30, 2020	August board teleconference	Teleconference
Aug 31, 2020	Welcome to CFMS talk (Dalhousie)	Teleconference

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Sept 8, 2020	Atlantic TF meeting	Teleconference
Sept 15, 2020	Pre-AGM board teleconference	Teleconference
Sept 18-20, 2020	AGM	Teleconference

III. PRIORITIES AND PROJECT AREAS

- a. Atlantic Task Force: This year, based on discussions with the CFMS reps and MedSoc presidents at the Atlantic schools, a new Atlantic Task Force project was started to continue the spirit of collaboration between the schools on a topic that is important to all students of the region. We are producing a toolkit on physician retention from a medical student perspective that can be used by students for advocacy and by health authorities. We are also exploring how our work can be used to inform a CFMS position paper on physician retention and recruitment.
- b. **Regional Advocacy**: I had worked with the Atlantic GAACs to see how we can establish a regional perspective in our advocacy efforts. Our conversation has centred around coordinated advocacy training, communication campaigns, and sharing resources. Our conversations this past year will serve as the backbone for future regional advocacy efforts.

c. Regional Engagement:

- a. Strategies for encouraging student engagement and CFMS visibility: I had planned to visit all 4 campuses in the Atlantic region. In 2019, I had visited Moncton and St. John's. I gave a CFMS presentation and sat on a leadership panel in both Saint John and in Halifax along with MarDocs and the DMSS. I have also made a Google Drive for resource sharing, such as the use of Google Sheets for a database for IGs at the Atlantic schools.
- b. Atlantic Teleconferences: 3 teleconferences were held this year to strengthen the relationship between the CFMS and the Atlantic region. These conversations involved the MedSoc presidents and CFMS reps of the Atlantic region.
- c. CoAMS: I worked with the CoAMS team and the Royal College to establish a relationship between the Royal College and students in the Atlantic region. I had planned a small group session for CoAMS.
- d. **Royal College Regional Advisory Committee 5:** I represented Atlantic Medical students on the Royal College Regional Advisory Committee 5. I also advised on the creation of Royal College endorsed speciality exploration resources for medical students.

e. Communications:

a. Reps roundtable chair: The Reps roundtable meets monthly to discuss national and local issues. Current projects include the creation of local VP EDI positions, coordinating welcome to CFMS presentations, and creating a welcoming virtual environment for incoming students. Previous projects included administering travel awards, Showcase Thursdays, and coordinating local/national COVID-19 initiatives.

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- b. Travel awards: A new travel awards process was implemented, and awards were successfully administered for the National Day of Action and for SGM.
- c. Nominations committee chair: 3 calls for nominations are completed yearly. Right now, we are in the process of the Fall Call for Nominations, to be completed in October.
- d. Relationship with MD Financial Management: I facilitated the sponsored MD Financial social media posts.

IV. FUTURE PLANS AND ACTION ITEMS

Many projects in the Spring had been cancelled, including provincial Days of Action and CoAMS. While it is unfortunate that we were not able to see through the results of our planning, we have created a solid foundation for future regional endeavours. Next year, the Atlantic Regional Director will continue facilitating collaboration with regional stakeholders through the Royal College, CoAMS, and with the local MedSocs. The new virtual learning environment offers unique opportunities to expand our reach and impact. The Atlantic TF project is ongoing, despite facing delays due to the pandemic. We look forward to working with the next Atlantic Regional Director to create a meaningful resource for students and our other stakeholders. Lastly, I anticipate that the RRT will continue to work with local schools to continue the conversation around student outreach and creating meaningful relationships with external organizations, including the BMSAC.

V. REFLECTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

While 2020 has certainly brought its challenges, I am inspired by the resilience and determination of Canadian medical students and all those involved with the CFMS, including our staff and advisors. Being part of the Communications Dyad has been an amazing learning opportunity, and I love being involved at both regional and national levels as a regional director. I cannot emphasize enough how thankful I am for everyone I've worked with this past year, and it has truly been a pleasure and a privilege to be a part of the CFMS.

Sincerely,

Clara Long

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