Present:
Joseph Boyle, Interim-President and Ontario Regional Director, Northern Ontario School of Medicine
Edgar Akuffo-Addo, Vice-President Finance, University of Toronto
Neha Malhotra, Director of Education, University of Toronto
Lunan Zhao, Director of Global Health, University of Toronto
Montana Hackett, Director of Government Affairs, Western University
Alex Lee, Director of Student Affairs, University of Ottawa
Sherry Mahmood, Western Regional Director, University of Alberta
Alvin Qiu, Western Regional Director, University of British Columbia
Stephanie Roberts, Atlantic Regional Director, Memorial University of Newfoundland
Stephanie Houwer-van Nelfen, Administrative Assistant, CFMS

Regrets
Dave de Launay, Ontario Regional Director, University of Ottawa

Vacant
President
Past-president & Board Chair
Quebec Regional Director
Vice-President Communications

Welcome
- Motion to start, approve agenda
  - Moved, seconded
  - Motion carried unanimously
- Rotate Indigenous land acknowledgement
  - Hear/ learn about different parts of the country

C2021 Concerns
- Advisory Group and several Board members approached by students
  - MCCQE (Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination) get cancelled and need to be rebooked
  - Cancellation and refund takes too long
  - Need to book sooner rather than later
  - End up paying fee for 2nd time ($75)
  - Ask for refund
Where do we stand on cancelling this exam?
  ○ Nothing can be done right now
  ○ Similar conversation happened after challenges with the MCCQE exam last year
    ■ There is definitely support for moving away from the exam
  Focus on students that are having difficulties right now, pick up advocacy later
  ○ ART (Academic Round Table) yet to come together for discussion
  WRD (Western Regional Director) and Dir Ed (Director Education) will work on this, Dir GA (Director Government Affairs) to join after June 3rd
    ○ Let Dir GA know contacts if know any with e.g. RDoC (Resident Doctors of Canada)

VP Communications Update
  ● WRD has taken over some of the issues from VP Comms for time being
  ● Email to VP Comms from Justin Schellenberg (Firenet Designs) about signing of contract
    ○ Contract to encapsulate working on the following projects:
      ■ HHRTF (Health Human Resources Task Force)
      ■ ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliance
      ■ CFMS Forum
    ○ Old Board finished negotiations, but didn’t get to the signing
    ○ Been in contact with Adel Arezki (VP Comms 2019-2020)
  ● Making changes to the website too difficult, need something different
    ○ Could be part of rebranding
    ○ Outsourcing because website is too difficult is too expensive
      ■ Usually have NO ITs (National Officers Information Technology) who make changes to website that portfolios can’t make themselves

Individual write up
  ● Fill out document by tomorrow night (23rd May)
  ● Dir Ed and Dir GH to help edit/frame into a cohesive narrative

Current Advocacy Topics in Canada
  ● Humanitarian crises in Gaza
    ○ Advocacy efforts being done across Canada
    ○ Many medical students involved in those efforts and many affected by what is going on
    ○ Dr. Ritika Goel, Faculty Lead for Social Accountability, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto
      ■ Very supportive of Palestine and calling Israel on war crimes and violating human rights
      ■ Letter was written calling her anti-semitic and asking for her removal from Faculty
      ■ As a result letter written by students that those in the medical profession should have the freedom to be able to advocate on health justice issues
        ● Over 1000 signatures across Canada (2nd letter)
        ● 300 signatures (1st letter)
There has been an increase in antisemitism
People don’t feel safe supporting the Palestine people
3rd letter was written by Health Community, anyone providing healthcare

- [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqy-evTsPAbdag_itlXhS64KWlihg50BECuLiVHXg3pAtw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqy-evTsPAbdag_itlXhS64KWlihg50BECuLiVHXg3pAtw/viewform)
- 3000 signatures with names attached

University of Toronto under fire for not hiring (revoking offer) professor who wrote on human rights violations in Gaza
- Uof T being boycotted
- Events being cancelled

Where does CFMS stand?
- Med SoCs (Student Medical Societies) hesitant and fear of repercussions
  - Look for some direction
- Med SoCs looking how best to support all students at their schools
- Students from region reach out to chat
  - Both sets of people are really hurting in different ways
  - Conflicts between students in school
- Faculties don’t want to speak out, too worried
- What do medical schools want/ need from us right now?
  - Do we wish to send out a statement?
  - Do we wish to support existing statements?
  - Creating safe space for all students?
- Making a statement requires taking a stand
  - Don’t want to make things worse
  - Think carefully
  - Neutrality may be worse than say nothing
- In the same vein as with the Match process offer safe spaces, guide to professionals for emotional support
  - Peer-to-peer support sessions
  - Get people who feel the same way in the same room
  - Do we want to create two sides, something to think about?
- CFMS can offer
  - Community
  - Funding
- Reflect on what the impact of a statement can be
  - To ensure students feel comfortable to engage
  - Make sure no reason for discrimination or harm
- Do something to support local level student organizations
  - Advocacy Toolkit
- Fear of repercussions, can what we put out come back to bite us?
- Difficult to create nuance that is required in this kind of situation
  - Can make the distinction between standing up for people who are being killed and having human violations put against them and also demanding that there should be no antisemitism as a result of these conflicts
Interpretation by students will be tough to predict
  ○ Not pro-Palestine enough
  ○ Neutral for both sides

Chance of losing respect of certain students
  ■ Make sure comfortable with what we put out and stand by it
  ■ Fear of missing something crucial
    ● State bombing civilians is wrong
    ● Antisemitism is wrong
    ● Both should be defensible
    ● Not sure which words to use
  ■ Statement can be about supporting communities, bringing people together, and safe spaces for voices to be heard
    ○ Do a blind poll tonight to get a sense of where everyone is at to decide how to continue
      ■ Peer-to-Peer support session
      ■ Advocacy tool-kit for local student groups to be able to write a statement
      ■ Statement directly from CFMS
      ■ Statement endorsing other statements already written
      ■ Compilation of other letters being written
        ● Summary of what is happening for students that have not been able to keep up
    ○ Action items and timeline
      ■ Things are moving quickly, need to get started right away
      ■ Poll to be blind
      ■ Have something in place in next few days
      ■ To be set up by VP Ed, WRD and VP Fin
        ● Reach out to VP Externals (CFMS Representatives/ Reps RoundTable)
          ○ What is happening in schools?
          ○ What are they doing?
          ○ What know now is very informal
          ○ Survey?
        ● ARD is chair of RRT as Communications portfolio Attache/Dyad
          ○ Informal WhatsApp Group
          ○ Can communicate with them on what to get their thoughts on

Nominations Committee Update
  ● Released Call for Nominations for Board positions in social media (By-Elections)
    ○ Up until 28th of June
    ○ Needs to be open for 6 weeks
  ● Next deadline for NomCom this Monday (May 24th) for VPs and Directors to have the spreadsheet updated
    ○ Highlight changes in red for benefit of Bilingualism Committee
  ● Will send out the Google Forms to portfolio directors to be updated
    ○ Same template for every portfolio
  ● Question: Has VP External for Quebec (McGill) been notified?
Answer: VP Externals not notified yet
- One line of communication for By-elections and NomCom
- Will be done but not yet

- Question: When do the Google Forms need to be ready?
  - Answer: Also Monday, May 24th
- Question: One Google Form per portfolio and list positions with questions?
  - Answer: Yes, would be easiest for marking
- Question: Is there a rubric (template) for marking?
  - Answer: Available on the Google Drive under the Nominations Committee folder
- Question: Where does the marking go, who does the marking?
  - Answer: It goes to the specific/ relevant Roundtable(s)

- Issue on clarity of marking
  - EDI Task Force: not enough transparency on NomCom
    - What is it?
    - Where is an application going?
    - Who does the marking?
  - Rough sketch of what happens, organizational workflow
    - Post graphic as part of the calls for nominations
  - Have EDI TF involved in reviewing applications
    - Part of integrating EDI
    - Financial reimbursement for EDI support (Ask from EDI)
    - Do we need to change by-laws?
      - Don’t think so, but will make sure before June 28th when the 2 weeks marking takes place

- Wish to meet on Monday with the portfolio leads
- Global Health postpone all positions hoping to do a whole rehaul this year
  - Having information sessions with leads to know what’s going on
    - Implement for future calls
- Question: Would Summer NomCom be doable?
  - Answer: Would need to review bylaws, and the timeline might be tight
  - Timeline might not work. In talking with other NOs, try and prioritize NOs that need to be filled for this call, because the transition may leave a big gap when the time comes later this year
- Question: Can one leave an open box to make up a position and create it as needed?
  - Answer: Like idea, though may be difficult if large number students applied
- Remark: If need to run more NomComs be cognizant of the budget
- Question: if this process is causing headaches, what can we do to change it?
  - Answer: If it’s a headache that’s probably because it’s the only one we know
    - Need to fill the positions creates pressure
    - Can look at changes for the Fall NomCom
  - Could be creative with open calls, call it something to the effect of “File Lead at Large”
  - Can also find volunteers without formal process
  - Titles confer some recognition re: volunteers, can they be given titles, and is there rules around numbers?
Remark: some concerns about establishing a marking procedure with “open box” calls
  ○ Solution could be for the “suggestion box” to go towards positions in the FallCom
  ○ Dir Ed will write it out and send it out
Question: Who are the members of the NomCom committee?
  ○ ARD, with Yseult’s (previous Quebec RD) help
  ○ Dir SA (Director Student Affairs) offers help with committee
  ○ Dir GH also very keen on helping with NomCom
    ■ Also hoping to welcome folks that want to join leadership circle
    ■ Wonders if a conversation around creation of new position would be helpful
    ■ Hoping to have conversation with applicants for any GH position

Appointment of Executive Vice-President
  ● Bylaw requirement for Executive VP to be named from Board
  ● Responsibilities would be
    ○ To act in the role of president should they be unable to complete their responsibilities
    ○ To communicate with the Minister any bylaw changes
    ○ Any other tasks as delegated by the board

CFMS General Manager Update
  ● Rosemary has given rough terms of reference for position
    ○ Would like to have new person in place by the end of June
      ■ 1 month transition period to follow
  ● Open up discussion on what want role to look like, and who might be up for helping with the hiring process
    ○ To the previous discussion around General Manager vs Executive Director
      ■ Director position often require a higher salary and different tasks
      ■ Might not be good fit for this position right now
    ○ Want this role to be restricted to BIPOC individuals?
    ○ There has been precedent for that
  ● Is there anyone who would like to be part of this process with Dir SA and Interim-President?
    ○ Dir GH would be up for helping with this process

CFMS Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes Posting
  ● Received reminded that, to get meeting minutes onto website, need to approve them at a meeting
    ○ Will send out minutes from previous meetings for review
    ○ Review before approving them at a subsequent meeting
  ● There is an AI program that can help with minute-taking by transcription, perhaps look into it

EDI National Survey from Quebec Medical Association
  ● Link to the survey: ENG - Sondage EDI
  ● FMEQ (Fédération Médicale Étudiante du Québec) asked for endorsement from the CFMS
    ○ Similar surveys have been sent out in the past
  ● Motioned, Seconded, Motion Carried
VP EDI Roundtable
- Dir GH and Dir GA trying to set up meetings with VP Equity from different schools to help develop the framework, including roles and responsibilities, for CFMS VP EDI
  - CFMS VP EDI will work with VP EDI from various schools to lead initiatives and develop position papers
  - Purpose of VP Equity Roundtable is more administrative, building structure
    - Not meant as way to definitely shape role of CFMS VP EDI
- Creation of CFMS VP EDI position will need the general membership vote
  - Will take place at upcoming Annual General Meeting
- Role of VP EDI will be discussed in the future meetings
- Action Item: Formulate what accountability looks like in each of portfolios

Eagle Law Update
- Board has decided to go with Eagle Law for further consultation
- Agenda item was discussed in camera

The Indigenous Medical Student Association of Canada (IMSAC)
- IMSAC received Strategic Innovation Award
- Proposed further funding from the CFMS
  - Idea accepted by the CFMS Board
  - VP Finance will examine how to further support the IMSAC initiative

Meeting adjourned