

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

CFMS SGM 2019, Niagara Falls, ON



VICTOR DO

I was first driven to run for the CFMS Board 2 years ago to represent students in Western province schools at national discussions on learner wellness. When I ran for Director Student Affairs I relayed my desire to change medical training culture because learner mistreatment, mental health challenges, burnout and moral injury are far too prevalent. Having also had the opportunity to also serve as Executive Vice President and Vice Chair of the Governance Committee I am further motivated to prioritize improving educational policy and our organizational social accountability mandate. These priorities drive my desire to serve as your 2019-2020 CFMS President.

As we reach the 2 year mark of the 2017-2022 CFMS human resources and operations strategic plan I will in collaboration with portfolio leads implement 3 year portfolio specific strategic plans in order to reinvigorate and embolden our efforts in the areas of learner wellness, educational policy, national advocacy and social accountability. My vision is to further empower our membership through strengthening our committees, roundtables, task forces and working groups.

The CFMS must be a leader in boldly addressing equity, diversity and inclusion issues within medicine and society. That starts from within. I want to ensure that all members feel that the CFMS supports, represents and connects students from across Canada. All members should feel that their voice matters, that they are welcomed, valued and see themselves in our work. It would be an honour to be your President, I look forward to connecting with you this weekend.



ODELL TAN

April 11, 2018

Dear Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) Members,

This is an expression of interest for the position of 2019-2020 CFMS President. As a third-year medical student with a variety of experience within medical leadership organizations, I believe I have the skills necessary to be an ideal fit for this position.

I have been involved in various bodies, including the Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan, as their 2016-2018 VP External and current Year 3/4 Class Representative, and the CFMS, as the 2017-2018 Western Regional Representative and current VP Finance. These roles have also given me the opportunity to lead groups of peers and represent organizations to external stakeholders, which has provided me with a wealth of experience that would enhance my abilities as CFMS President. For example, leading the 13-member External Committee at the University of Saskatchewan involved six different portfolios and required in-depth knowledge of a variety of areas in order to best guide and enable my peers. Similarly, being VP Finance has necessitated familiarity with almost all of the operations of the different CFMS portfolios in order to determine appropriate spending and distribution of funds.

I am excited to run in this election, as the CFMS is in a period of growth with plenty of opportunity throughout the entire organization. To leverage this occasion, I would utilize my extensive organizational knowledge and leadership experience to provide the CFMS with a guiding hand to fulfill our vision of Tomorrow's Physicians Leading for Health Today.

Sincerely, Odell Tan



RAFAEL ZAKI

Having served as the Matchbook editor, and on the Services Committee, I would be honoured to use my skills, experience and dedication to expand upon four advocacy areas:

1. Student Affairs:

Assess available student services, focusing on mental health, career counselling, and student advocacy services. Update CFMS website, and increase transparency. Reduce waiting times for mental health services. Explore negative effects of psychiatric drugs on mental health, suicidality, and violent behaviour for youth. Explore alternatives. Advocate policies enabling research in youth. Clearly define discrimination, harassment, relational aggression and censorship. Discourage use of vague terms in policy. Advocate policies identifying and addressing issues using due-process. Teach medical students their rights, and available resources.

2. Matching:

Reserve second iteration spots for Canadian graduates.

Policies for unmatched graduates to find a position in their own college. Advocating for a system like ERAS for applications to the UK.

Ensuring optional fifth year electives.

Examine the effect of residency shift hours on education and mental health, and options to reduce maximum hours.

3. Advocacy:

Advocate policies enabling research towards affordable treatments for rare conditions.

Advocate for a national pharma-care program. Compare drug prices in countries, create recommendations, and demonstrate that lower prices will not negatively affect access to new drugs.

Examine pharma advertising to doctors. Provide recommendations to contain costs, distribute funding to research, and for a more objective continued education system.

4. Communication:

Keep CFMS website updated. Create easier summary figure, or navigation format, for better understanding available resources and opportunities.

Thank you, Rafael