

PORTFOLIO DIRECTOR & VICE-PRESIDENT CANDIDATES

CFMS SGM 2019, Niagara Falls, ON

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION





LUCAS KING

My name is Lucas King. Outside of medicine I am a parent, an athlete, and an avid fan of board games. Growing up in rural Saskatchewan I had very little exposure to this profession, which means that I came to this path later than some. As a result, I tested out a number of other careers that have given me a wealth of diverse knowledge, experience, and a unique perspective. From raising a child, to sales, personal training, chiropractic, teaching, and medicine I have found that no matter where I am, focusing on relationship-building and having a growth mindset has been critical. One of the ways we can do this is by pushing beyond expectations, and getting comfortable with being uncomfortable, as it provides us with the opportunity to learn, grow, and become better than we were before regardless of the outcome. Whether we are working with the AFMC, medical students, or administrative staff we have an opportunity to learn something new and develop new relationships that will contribute to the success of everyone. At the end of the day, we are all in this together and we are all working towards the same goal of empowering medical students to reach their goals. We have an amazing group of people within the CFMS and I cannot wait to bring both these ideas and a fresh perspective to both the uCMG crisis and the Education Portfolio as a whole.

Sincerely,
Lucas King
Class of 2022
University of Saskatchewan



RISHI SHARMA

Hi everyone, my name is Rishi Sharma and I am a second year medical student at McMaster University. I began my involvement with the CFMS as President for the McMaster medical student society and transitioned to Ontario Regional Director and attaché to the Education portfolio this year. My passion for engaging in student advocacy has always been motivated by my desire to improve the experiences of my peers. It is with this passion that I am writing to express my interest in running for the 2019-2020 CFMS Director of Education.

Over the past year as Education attaché, I have worked closely with Maylynn, the current Director of Education. Whether it be addressing various AFMC and CaRMS committees/working groups, advocating for change to address the uCMG crisis or working with our amazing file leads to implement their initiatives, I have learned a tremendous amount about the issues affecting medical students and have endeavoured to develop reasonable solutions.

The education portfolio is indeed vast, and while ensuring all files are making progress, there are a few priority areas I would like to focus on. If elected, I will continue advocating for uCMGs, namely increasing residency positions and ensuring supports are available to those that go unmatched. Secondly, I hope to work with the AFMC to improve the Student Portal by advocating for fee transparency and a national refund policy. Lastly, I look to continue collaborating with the AFMC regarding the impact of the Electives Diversification Policy.

Thank you for your consideration!



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 three advocacy areas:

1. Advocacy for curricula: Connect with each medical college's V.P. Education or V.P. Academic to examine barriers to student voices being heard by their faculty, concerning the curricula. Create a summary paper and work with member colleges to address these issues, to ensure students know that their feedback is valuable.
2. Reducing unmatched Canadian medical graduates: Collaborate with individual universities, CaRMS, and parliament, to advocate for effective policies to reduce the highly unfortunate, increasing rate of unmatched Canadian medical graduates. This will involve:
 - a. Advocating for the reservation of second iteration spots for Canadian medical graduates.
 - b. Advocating for universities to create plans and policies which allow for their own medical graduates, who go unmatched in both iterations, to find a position in their own medical college.
 - c. Advocating for modification of CaRMS, such that the Couples' Match includes an option for submitting a secondary rank-order-list, by both individuals, in case all of their ranked couple's options are exhausted.
 - d. Creating a position paper on creating a system like ERAS for students to apply to UK residency positions.
 - e. Ensuring optional fifth year electives.
3. Transitioning to residency: Examine the effect of residency shift hours on student education and mental health. Examine various options to reduce the maximum number of shift hours, and provide recommendations for actionable policies.

Thank you, Rafael

DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL HEALTH



NO APPLICATIONS.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED TO
07:00 AM ON APRIL 13,
2019.**

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS



GALI KATZNELSON

My name is Gali Katznelson. I'm a first year medical student at Western and I am running for Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy. I gained a background in policy and advocacy through my education at McMaster's Art & Science program and Harvard's Bioethics master's program. I have been involved in projects addressing shared decision making, transparency in healthcare, the opioid crisis, solitary confinement, genetic testing, and Ontario's sex-ed curriculum.

This year, I had the pleasure of getting involved with CFMS Committee on Health Policy, the OMSA Political Action Rapid Response Team, and the Schulich Political Action Committee. Through these organizations, I have worked on issues such as transfer policies across medical schools, addressing unmatched medical graduates, and improving tax clinics in London, ON. I am ready to build on this experience on the CFMS board.

As a second year student, I will have the time to prioritize this role. My goals include:

1. Publishing the results and analysis of a CFMS Lobby Day survey
2. Attracting media attention to CFMS advocacy efforts, such as Lobby Day
3. Ensuring that task forces are formed to address the recommendations of position and policy papers



DEVON MITCHELL

2019/2020 will be an important year for the CFMS, and for the Government Affairs and Advocacy portfolio in particular. With the 2019 election on the horizon, we have an opportunity to make the medical student voice heard and to place our issues at the front and centre. I want to be our voice in that process.

For those of you I haven't met, I'm a 3rd year student at UBC as well as the current VP External. I'm also a member of the CFMS Committee on Health Policy (COHP). When I'm not doing that, I can usually be found studying or scoping out farm-to-table eats (#soWestCoast).

I believe that my experiences this year make me ideally suited for leading the GAA portfolio. My role as VP External has given me the skills to run a large lobby day, speak with policy makers and legislators, and work collaboratively with the media. And my role on COHP has given me the policy experience to dive into the hard work of developing our asks in conjunction with the National Officer of Political Action. My vision for the portfolio is centred on two pillars:

- 1) Making pragmatic goal-setting a renewed priority
- 2) Increasing our engagement with the media and the general public to advance our interests in the public sphere as well as behind the scenes with government

If you have any question or just want to say hi, come find me on the conference floor, or (preferably) the dance floor! Thank you!



HELEN TEKLEMARIAM

My name is Helen Teklemariam, I am a third-year medical student at the University of Manitoba. I have served on the Manitoba Student Advocacy Committee, CFMS task forces on political advocacy, and various local initiatives within health policy. If elected, I will use these experiences to continue in the work of this portfolio and accomplish the following three goals.

1. Build and maintain relationships with stakeholders. I understand the challenges involved in pursuing this goal as an individual. If elected, I intend to empower the GAACs to share in this role in various capacities. This continuity is important for the organizations to hold us accountable in continuing to support them, once the CFMS moves on to other advocacy asks.
2. Implement strategies to maintain communication regarding previous advocacy asks. Increased continuity of communication with various government officials can help ensure that asks presented each year have adequate follow up. This will allow advocacy efforts to continue beyond Day of Action, thereby holding government accountable. One way I would accomplish would be to provide a structured way for the Day Action delegation to communicate with their local members of parliament.
3. Increase CFMS member engagement in advocacy. If elected, I will build on the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan to collaborate with VP Education to accomplish this. I would like to build on this partnership to increase opportunities for medical student health advocacy education. I intend to do this by increasing exposure to advocacy opportunities by utilizing existing tools, such as the advocacy toolkit.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT AFFAIRS





EMILY MACPHAIL

Dear CFMS family,

My name is Emily, and I am a University of Calgary MD/PhD. student (clerkship begun; currently final-year PhD). I've been quite involved with CFMS for several years, and am requesting your support in the Director of Student Affairs election.

If selected for the honour of representing you, my vision is to focus on medical trainee support/wellness at a systemic level, emphasizing three priority areas:

1) CONNECTION

- Reconsider a protected/private, moderated online forum as a space for students across the country to engage and share with each other.
- Improve Canada-wide mentorship opportunities for students (student-student, student-resident, student-physician), in diverse areas of similarity (e.g. parenthood, illness/disability, specialty interest, etc.).
- Explore non-traditional methods for CFMS member engagement around opinion/needs-assessment for services, resources, and advocacy.

2) SUPPORT and RESOURCE PROVISION

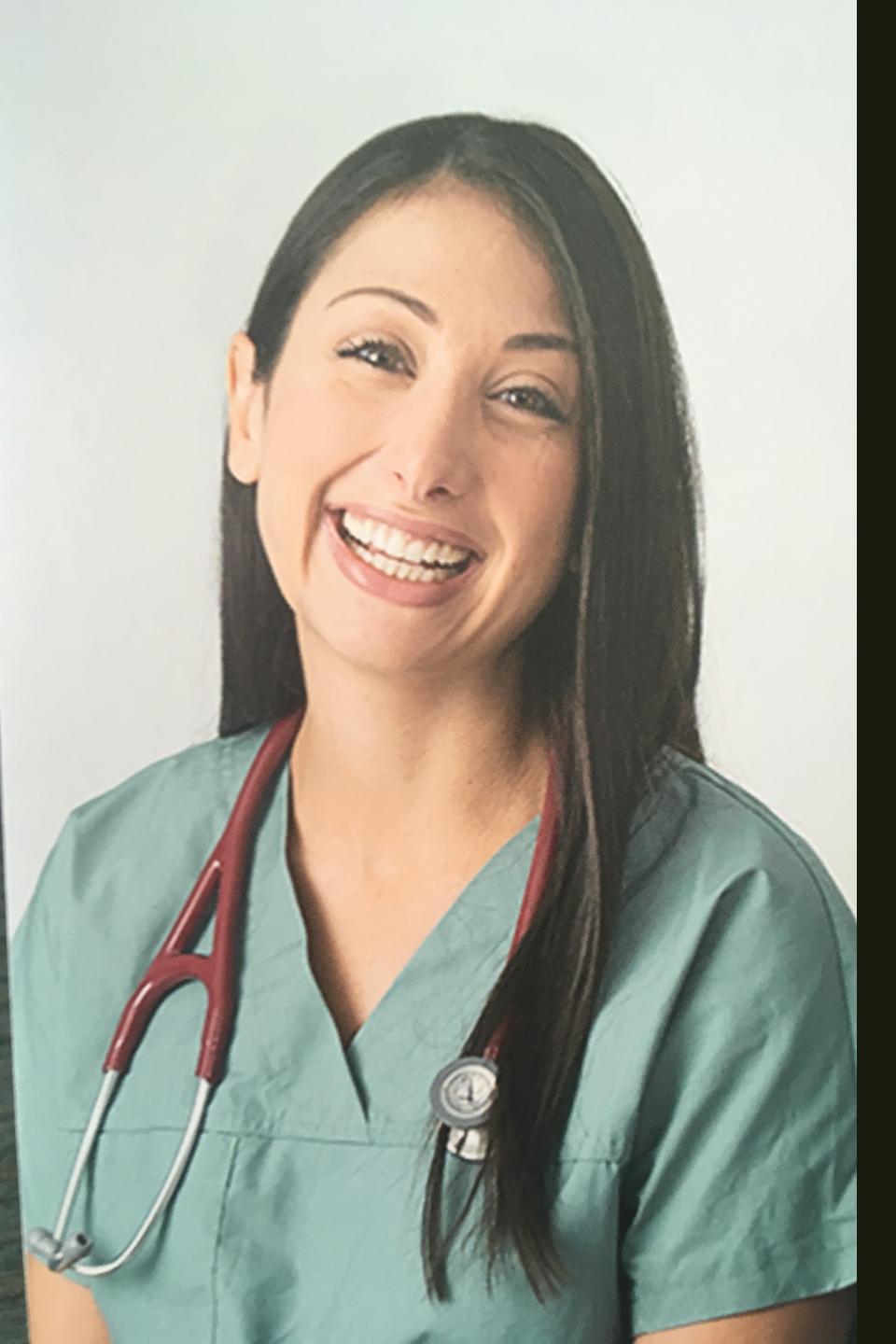
- Greater reflection of medical learner diversity in CFMS advocacy to better support students living with illness/disability, student-parents, etc.
- Work with deans via AFMC to encourage development of both national and local suicide response (and prevention) policies, along with a CFMS-specific response policy.
- Pursue discounts and partnerships on services that reduce student time burden (e.g. meal prep, cleaning services, etc.).
- Increase CaRMS resources, and ongoing support for unmatched CMGs.

3) OPTIMIZATION and REVIEW of the STUDENT AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

-Support current Dir. SA and wellness team in development of the Student Affairs portfolio strategic plan, including consultation opportunities available to all CFMS members.

- Restructure Student Affairs component of the CFMS website, for easier navigation.

Please accept my gratitude for your time and consideration.



SARAH ZAHABI

As current National Officer of Services under the Student Affairs portfolio, I have had the opportunity to work closely with the team leading Wellness and Partnerships initiatives on a National Level. I have been able to see first-hand all the great work of the more than 70 students across the country that drive our goals forward. They lead initiatives like the National Wellness Program, the Health Promoting Learning Environments Taskforce, and the Electives Database. Through the development of a Student Affairs Strategic Plan, one of my goals for this position would be to ensure that the Wellness theme is one that transcends all critical milestones along the journey to becoming a physician and beyond.

What I hope to achieve this year is to facilitate prosperity of on-going projects and to continue establishing new partnerships with external organizations who share our common goals. Effective communication between our many teams will be essential for establishing a national voice that will truly lead to a sustainable progress. Having been the CFMS Québec Regional Director, I have experience in establishing such working relationships.

This is a position where we need someone who can lead a group of autonomous individuals all working towards a common goal. I believe that at a National level, a collaborative approach is key to ensuring systemic change.

Having a productive and healthy workforce to serve our future patients is a high priority for the CFMS, and one close to my heart. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS



ADEL AREZKI

Dear SGM 2019 delegates,

I am excited and humbled to be presenting my candidacy for the position of VP Communications.

Over the past two years, I have been involved in the CFMS as National Officer of Information Technologies. In that role, I gained a strong understanding of the IT infrastructure of the CFMS and contributed concretely to the Communications portfolio by leading the development of several of the CFMS' website/communications feature as well as contributing to the recruitment of our new IT Contractor. There's still a lot to accomplish from an IT/Communications perspective in order to bring added value to our members, such as the continued development of the CFMS mobile app (where members can interact and access easily website key resources). This year, I was also involved in the CFMS Board as Quebec Regional Director and Finance attaché where I was involved in general finances and in the development of privacy policies.

My vision for the position is in 3 points:

- Make the IT assets of the CFMS more relevant to our membership
- Increase social media engagement, based on data from the past year
- Streamline and reorganize the structure of the portfolio in order to make Communications sustainable and efficient

I would be delighted to serve you this year on the Board and thank you again for considering my application.



SAMVEG SHAH

My name is Samveg Shah, and I'm a first year medical student at McMaster University. I am writing to express my interest for the role of VP Communications with the CFMS. I completed my undergraduate degree in Biophysics from Western University, where I was part of the Western Science Student Council's Communications team for two years. Prior to entering medical school, I worked as a software developer at Focal Healthcare in Toronto. Currently, at MacMed I'm the VP Communications for the McMaster Medical School Council.

As the VP Communications of CFMS, I wish to advocate for student interests by leveraging my background in software development. I intend to create a CFMS mobile app for current medical students and faculty members. The purpose of this app will be two-fold:

- 1) To extend information such as press releases, announcements, and event information from the CFMS to the general student body
- 2) To encourage cross-collegiate communication between students via open forums to share resources (such as journal articles, research opportunities) and classifieds (such as housing) to help with electives planning

Through this app, students can bring to light many important issues including mental health, academic challenges, and career planning. My previous experience with software will help me navigate upcoming challenges regarding app development including privacy concerns, and government policies to quickly bring the project to life!

Thank you for your consideration, and I would encourage you to refer to the attached CV to review my qualifications.

VICE-PRESIDENT FINANCE





ANDRIY KATYUKHA

Dear General Assembly Members of the CFMS,

It is my pleasure to submit this letter of intent to run for VP Finance of the CFMS for 2019-2020. My main motivation to serve in this capacity is my fervent belief that strategy and finance serve as a foundation for the positive work an organization can accomplish. I am inspired by the work the CFMS does advocating for and representing the values of students across Canada, and am hoping to tap into my diverse experiences to help bolster the position of the CFMS on the national stage.

I have served as the national VP Finance of the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union and have served as Chair of the Board of Directors at the University Students' Council at Western University. In both capacities, I have worked to implement financial policy/governance reforms, set strategic priorities, and find unique ways to approach revenue diversification. My platform is an amalgamation of my experiences with financial stewardship and governance and I am looking forward to discussing these ideas with all of you!

Key Pillars of My Platform:

- 1) Creating and monitoring a stratified risk registry of all external and internal risks to the CFMS
- 2) Implementing tactical plans that align divisional activities and initiatives with the CFMS Strategic Plan
- 3) Creating a Performance Appraisal and Planning Program for the future Executive Director
- 4) Grassroots fundraising to complement organizational sponsorship
- 5) Zero based budgeting in creation of the 2019-2020 budget

Many Thanks, Andriy Katyukha

A professional headshot of Anson Lee, a young man with dark hair, wearing a dark blue plaid suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark tie. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

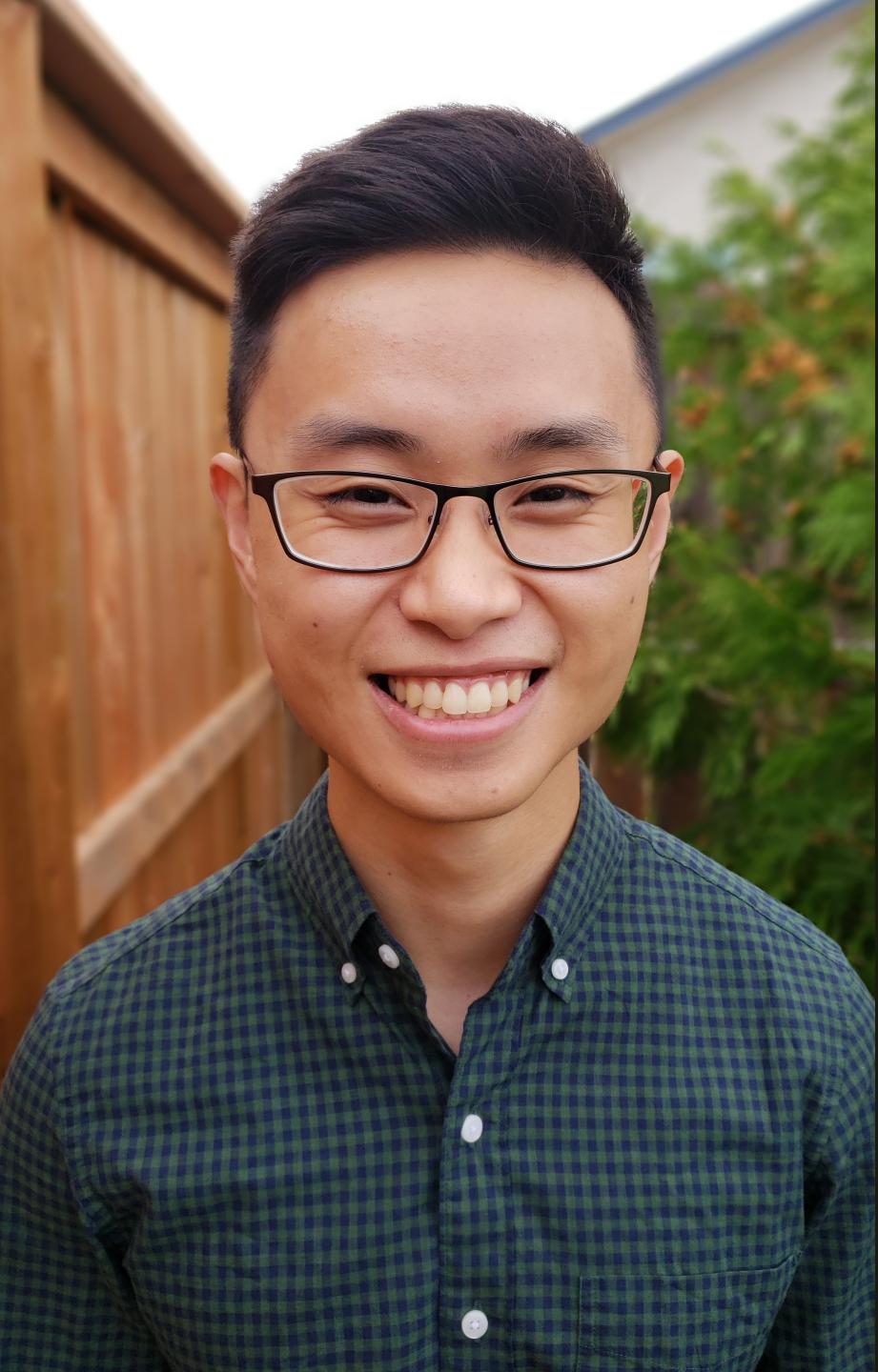
ANSON LEE

I am Anson Lee and I am seeking to be elected as the next Vice-President, Finance of the CFMS. Prior to pivoting to medicine, I pursued a career in investigative and forensic accounting at Ernst & Young. I conducted fraud investigations, dispute resolutions, and audits of both public and private companies. I have also acted as a consultant for not-for-profit organizations where I advised boards on the development and execution of their strategic and operational priorities. This involved assessing the organization's operational workflow, evaluating internal controls over financial reporting, and properly mapping the organization's financial resources to its strategic and operational objectives.

In obtaining the Chartered Professional Accountant designation, I have met a high bar of required competence in the management of financial matters of organizations. Furthermore, having participated in the FAHR and Governance committees in the last year, I am well-informed of the strategic and operational objectives of the CFMS. I am confident that I can bring my expertise to CFMS as its Vice-President, Finance and be an asset on the Board in its stewardship of the organization.

My vision for the role during my mandate involves:

- a. furthering our human resources agenda through engaging our membership and having adequate office support for our work;
- b. building on strong relationships with sponsors and external partner organizations;
- c. strengthening the participative budgeting process to better enable directors, officers, and chairs to achieve their goals; and
- d. being a reliable resource to the organization in board-level decision-making processes.



HENRY LI

My name is Henry and I am a second-year medical student at the University of Manitoba. I am humbled to once again have the opportunity to run for CFMS Vice-President Finance (VPF).

Using my experience as CFMS Sponsorship Lead, I will continue to expand the CFMS' funding sources. In addition, I will improve the sustainability of our funding model, support your nation-wide initiatives, and build on the great work that the Finance, Audit, and Human Resources (FAHR) Committee has accomplished in financial policies and literacy.

Having served on multiple CFMS committees and led the standardization of our National Officer Terms of Reference, I have a strong understanding of the activities of each portfolio. In addition, my non-profit finance and governance experience dates back to 2012, including overhauling the finances of the Manitoba Medical Students Association as their Treasurer and facilitating audits as part of the Doctors Manitoba Finance & Audit Committee.

Throughout these past 2 years, I have had the privilege of serving on the CFMS FAHR and Governance Committees, as well as attending general meetings. I have witnessed the great work that we have accomplished across the country, both locally and nationally. In addition, I have seen firsthand how the CFMS engages and supports our members. Consequently, I want to leverage my skills and experience in the role of VPF to improve the CFMS' ability to connect, support, and represent our members.

I hope you will consider me as your CFMS VPF! Please come find me with your questions!