

## **Director of Government Affairs & Advocacy**

My name is Alan Michaud, and I am a medical student at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. I am honoured to be sharing my platform for the position of Director of Government Affairs and Advocacy (GAA).

My vision for the Government Affairs & Advocacy portfolio centers around four domains:

- 1) Longitudinal Advocacy
- 2) De-Siloing
- 3) Budget Expansion
- 4) Self-Sustainability

### **Longitudinal Advocacy**

I propose expanding the National Day of Action (NDoA) from a once-per-year event into a biannual, multi-year advocacy campaign. This is more than an extended timeline. I aim to introduce new initiatives, including formal receptions with MPs and Senators, drafting legislation, submitting proposals during the federal pre-budget consultation period, and joint CFMS X CMA days on the Hill.

The evolution of this flagship initiative will strengthen relationships with representatives, better align our efforts with federal budget milestones, and more effectively achieve defined advocacy objectives.

In Year 1, we will present our Asks in meetings on Parliament Hill in the form of formal meetings and receptions both independently and in collaboration with the CMA. In Year 2, we will focus on engaging key supporters to advance legislative development, pushing for adoption of our drafted legislation. Between biannual visits, we will maintain engagement through an updated Political Advocacy Follow-Up committee structure. Each Ottawa visit will align with key moments such as the Spring and Fall Economic Statements, pre-budget consultations, and the Fall Budget Vote.

### **De-Siloing**

The CFMS has been moving towards a more integrated organizational structure. I will continue to follow this trajectory by expanding the virtual components of our Longitudinal Advocacy Training Series to be open and advertised to international medical students interested in Canadian advocacy techniques through the Global Health portfolio. I will also look to collaborate with the Student Affairs portfolio in our NDoA initiatives to enhance student experience and strengthen student engagement.

### **Budget Expansion**

The GAA portfolio is the tip of the CFMS' advocacy spear—it provides advocacy training, serves as a primary point of contact with the federal government, and amplifies the voice of medical students.

To better support the scale of our initiatives, I will work to increase the GAA budget by \$20,000 through:

- a) Sponsorships (CMA, OMA, Doctors of BC, Alberta Medical Association, AFMC, etc.)
- b) Academic institution funding
- c) Municipal health organization partnerships
- d) Strategic reallocation of CFMS budget

### **Self-Sustainability**

Across all these initiatives, I will prioritize long-term sustainability. I will continue refining our recently developed NDoA Operational Guide, standardizing future NDoA quality and ensuring continuity. I will also collaborate with the CFMS Governance Committee to formalize the changes to our National Officer of Political Advocacy Follow-Up role, ensuring our focus on longitudinal advocacy is maintained.

For funding initiatives, I will pursue recurring or renewable agreements and provide detailed guidance and written instruction to future GAA leaders so that they may maintain and expand these efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.



Alan Keith Michaud