

Hello everybody! My name is Carolyn Horwood (she/her) and I am a Class of 2027 student at the University of Calgary. Over the past year, I have had the pleasure of serving as Western Regional Director for the Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS). It has truly been a gift to connect with students across Canada over this past term, and I am excited to put my candidacy forward for President for the CFMS's 50th year of operation.

Over the past year, I have connected with students from coast-to-coast, and am proud of what I have been able to achieve in representing, connecting with, and advocating for Western Canadian students. Alongside a very successful Western Regional Roundtable and Western Deans Meeting, I collaborated at a national level to implement the inaugural National First in Medicine Mentorship Program (NFIMP), connecting over 700 students who are the first in their family to pursue medicine. Additionally, I was elected to the CFMS Governance Committee, where I completed five different organizational policy documents. Finally, I am actively leading the inaugural Medical Students' Association of the West Implementation team, with elections set for this coming October!

My interest in serving as CFMS President stems from the joy I have experienced working with students nationwide with the CFMS, collaborating closely with medical student societies across the country, and the immensely rewarding experience that I have as the President for the Calgary Medical Students' Association (CMSA).

If elected as President, I aim to achieve the following goals:

### **1. Advocating for Optimization of the Final-Year Clerkship Experience**

I have heard from many students the immense financial and administrative burden of clerkship electives and the CaRMS application processes. As President, I will advocate through the AFMC for national standardization of elective requirements and processes. I additionally will support the creation of a national visiting elective financial resource hub. Finally, I will lean on preexisting relationships with CaRMS leadership to advocate for standardized CaRMS reference letters and improved access to student-led CaRMS support.

### **2. Implement Best Practice Support for CFMS Medical Student Societies**

Throughout my time with the CMSA and CFMS, I have heard from many students that there are challenges with integrating regional campus integration, student interest group management, and accreditation support. As President, I commit to regularly attending the Satellite campus roundtables and implementing a national best-practices recommendation guide to support

medical student societies in integrating regional campuses, management of student interest groups, and guiding student involvement in accreditation.

### **3. Support Equitable Support for Francophone Medical Students**

I have had the pleasure of connecting with many students from Francophone sites, and have heard the importance of ensuring equitable opportunities for both Anglophone and Francophone students. As President, I commit to continuing current efforts to professionally translate all CFMS governance documentation into Canadian French and to continue strengthening collaboration with FMEQ to further opportunistic equity for all students.

### **4. Expand the Nation-Wide National First in Medicine Mentorship Program**

It has been one of my greatest joys to implement the NFIMP over the past year, connecting first-year students with upper-year students who are the first in their family to pursue medical school. I plan to expand this program to include access to mentorship opportunities with residents and staff physicians in collaboration with local efforts.

### **5. Champion Inaugural Director of Social Accountability and Intentional EDIA Model**

I commit to providing financial and institutional support to the inaugural Director of Social Accountability and will support implementation of an intentional EDIA strategy to guide CFMS board and local advocacy efforts.

**As President, I promise to lead the CFMS with the following values and principles:**

1. A kind, compassionate, action-oriented and community-centered leadership style.
2. Open and receptive communication, and commitment to meet with the VP Externals and Presidents of all CFMS member school medical student societies within 3 months of election.
3. Transparency and accountability, especially regarding finances, governance, and decisions that directly impact medical students.
4. Presence and engagement, such as attending CAMSA (and soon, MSAW!) board meetings and regular connections with student bodies.

I sincerely appreciate your time reading and am grateful for your consideration of my candidacy. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!

With warmest wishes,

Carolyn Horwood