



**Canadian Doctors for Medicare  
Annual General Meeting Minutes**

September 19, 2019  
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM EDT

**In attendance:** Danyaal Raza, Sharmini Fernando (Interim Executive Director), Matt Blair (Comms), Jaimie MacPherson (Auditor), members attending virtually. Afsoun Amiraslany, Kavya Anchuri, Melanie Bechard, Venessa Brcic, Melissa Brooks, Jacqueline Caverhill, Alice Cavanagh, Monika Dutt, Sarah Gander, Sarah Giles, Morgan Hay, Bernard Ho, David Howe, Jennifer Hulme, Richard Klasa, Kapil Kholi, Linda Lan, Joel Lexchin, Catherine Oliver, Karen Palmer, Nick Parle, Jerilynn C. Prior, Danyal Raza, Lindsay Reddeman, Curtis Sobchak, Edward Xie, Robert Wollard ( proxy ballot); Brian Hutchison (proxy ballot), Samantha Green (proxy) Richard Klasa, Ritika Goel, Iwona Baran ( proxy ballot); Samir Raza ( Proxy ballot), Krista Margeson ( proxy ballot); Hasan Sheikh (proxy ballot); Rahimali Manji ( proxy ballot); Edward Xie ( proxi ballot)

**1.) Chair, Opening Remarks and report—D. Raza**

Danyaal Raza welcomed everyone and reminded everyone that this was a members meeting and only members could vote. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm ET.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Moved by Richard Klasa, Seconded by Melanie Bechard. **Carried.**

**2.) Chairs Report:**

The past year -2018- was a year of significant internal transition with the termination of the long term relationship with Public Interest. That relationship ended due to unfulfilled expectations, and a more direct relationship was created with our staff, accompanied with a move to new office space. This gave the board more direct involvement with operations in addition to governance. Although there has been a learning curve, the transition has been beneficial.

There is work to do. CDM needs to improve its communication with its members. In 2018, we also had fewer resources to dedicate to maintaining our substantial public presence. However, we have maintained a strong presence with regard to our two core issues: Pharmacare and the Cambie Surgeries Corporation Charter challenge in British Columbia. In our intervenor role in the CDMs B.C. board members and supporters have played a key role in building and maintaining our presence in the court of public opinion. Closing arguments will be in November and December, citing expectations that the decision will be presented in early 2020 with a subsequent appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The other core issue for CDM is Pharmacare, which is an important opportunity to improve upon and build Medicare. We have had strong activity in this campaign, including our presence in National Advisory Council on the Implementation of Pharmacare town halls nationwide and collaborations with the Canadian Labour Congress. We have been active in the media leading up

to and following the release of the National Advisory Council's on the Implementation of Pharmacare's final report, as well as the implications of the new trade deal. As a result of these efforts CDM is seen as a credible voice in matters of health care. CDM and its board members are routinely approached by media regarding these issues and others, such as "pay for plasma" and virtual care. Thank you for your support and ongoing commitment to the Mission of CDM.

**3). Presentation of Audited Financial Statements:** Jaimie MacPherson presents the auditor's report. The audit opinion this year is the audit had no issues and the organization is in good financial position.

David Howe requests a breakdown of the revenue line. Auditor clarifies and provides explanation. Motion presented to approve the 2018/2019 audited financial statement. Moved by Richard Klasa , Melanie Bechard seconds. **Carried.**

**4.) Appointment of Auditors for 2019-20**

The Executive Committee recommends that the MacPherson Group be appointed for the completion of the 2019/20 audit. Moved by Monika Dutt to renew the contract with Jaimie MacPherson for the 2019/2020 fiscal audit. Venessa Brcic seconds. **Carried.**

**5.) Election of Directors:**

Vacant and held positions are reviewed. New Board of directors were announced, with a re-vote for Student and Resident position due to insufficient receipt of nominees.

New Board members are as follows with two year terms of office.

Ontario: Joel Lexchin

Central: Jillian Ratti

Thara Kumar

B.C.: Richard Klasa

Rupinder Brar

Territories: Sarah Giles

Residents: Osman Raza (after recount)\*

Students: Kavya Anchur ( after recount)\*

Alice Cavanagh (after recount)\*

\* Due to a tie in the student vote, the student vote a re-vote was conducted for Student positions

\*Due to a lack of nominees for the Resident position, a re- vote will be conducted for Residents.

**Motion** to approve the results of all votes and all acclamations. David Howe motions; Melanie Bechard seconds. Sarah Giles calls for commendation of outgoing board members;..

**Questions and Additional Items:** David Howe asks about the shelf life of the Atkinson Grant. Dan clarifies that this was a seven-year grant for operations that ended a few years ago. The new grant is in relation to Pharmacar,, and it is distinctly separate funding.

Chair requests motion to destroy electronic ballots received by email. Monika Dutt motions; Melanie Bechard seconds. **Carried**

Motion to adjourn AGM. Sarah Giles motions; Monika Dutt seconds. **Carried**