



Board of Directors for Canadian Doctors for Medicare – Roles and Responsibilities (Updated: October 27, 2020)

The Board of Directors is collectively accountable to the members, community, funders and other stakeholders. They are accountable for the organization's performance in relation to its mission and strategic objectives, and for the effective stewardship of financial and human resources.

Time commitment

Six hours a month (board meetings, preparing for Board meetings, participating in CDM-related activities)

Term of Office

Three-year term (for regional positions and members-at-large). Two-year term for Student and Resident positions.

General responsibilities

- Provide overall strategic direction for the organization, including setting goals, establishing priorities and monitoring progress;
- Affirm the mission and understand the mandate and objectives of the organization;
- Oversee the financial state of the organization;
- Understand key operations;
- Assess achievements and results (financial and non-financial);
- Act within the bounds of authority granted by the by-laws

Individual Responsibilities

- Keep well informed on activities of the organization;
- Provide input on issues in healthcare that are relevant to CDM's mission, vision and organizational objectives;
- Read and understand all reports and proposals presented;
- Maintain confidentiality regarding issues discussed;
- Seek opportunities to promote and fundraise for CDM;
- Act as a CDM representative at regional and national healthcare related events;
- Recruit new members;
- Act as a spokesperson for CDM in the media;
- Actively participate in at least one board committee/working group;
- Attend one annual in-person meeting (hotel and transportation expenses covered) and one annual general meeting (remotely or in-person);
- Participate in email discussions



Fiduciary Responsibilities

- Act honestly and in good faith and always in the best interest of the organization as a whole;
- Make decisions in the best interest of CDM;
- Refrain from taking advantage of an opportunity presented by virtue of position for personal gain;
- Disclose any interests which conflict with those of the organization and decline to participate in any decision where the director has a personal interest in the outcome;
- Accept final decisions made by the Board and support that final decision with the membership and other stakeholders.

Authority

Individual board members have no authority to approve actions by the organization, to direct staff, or to speak on behalf for the organization unless given such authority by the board.

Qualifications

- Commitment to the organizations mission and strategic directions
- Able to fulfill the time commitment
- Openness to learning

Evaluation

The performance of individual directors is evaluated annually in the context of the evaluation of the whole board and is based on the carrying out of duties and responsibilities as outlined above.

Removal of a Board Member

A director may be removed from the board, by majority vote, for trying to exercise authority where they have none or for not following policies that apply to the board. Being absent from three consecutive board meetings without notice and reasonable cause may result in removal from the board unless otherwise determined by a decision of the board.