

MOTION FORM
CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION – GENERAL COUNCIL 2015

MOTION CATEGORY AND TYPE	x Policy Motion Directive Motion			
Delegates' Motions				
MOVER Dr. Bryce Durafourt				
SECONDER Dr. Salina Teja				
MOTION				
The Canadian Medical Association supports in principle the right of Canadian medical students and medical residents to vote in the election of their medical association representatives.				
1. SUBSTANTIVE RATIONALE				
<p>This motion supports in principle the right of Canadian medical students and residents to vote in the election of their representatives. Currently, CMA's elections for the position of President-Elect are open to all members in provincial/territorial nominations. The practice, however, is not reflected uniformly in the bylaws of the provincial/territorial medical associations. A patchwork of practices includes barring all learners from voting, allowing only residents to vote, or infrequently allowing all learners to vote. The motion does not bind provincial/territorial medical associations to any action but reinforces CMA's position and the expressed interest of Canadian medical students and residents.</p> <p>The importance of extending franchise to all members of medical associations is that it builds active participation in organized medicine at the earliest stages of professional formation. Providing franchise gives students and residents the responsibility of informed decision-making and of increasing their awareness of key political and organizational issues facing the profession. Franchise represents the most basic relationship between medical associations and medical students and residents. Conversely, disenfranchising medical students and residents reinforces a hidden curriculum of outdated concepts of hierarchy and disempowerment, misses an opportunity to educate the newest members of the profession, and fails to engage with a core demographic that is vital to the growth and relevance of medical associations. Most importantly, without enfranchisement medical associations cannot claim to truly represent the voice of the entire profession. Thus, the fundamental aim of this motion is to support the strengthening of the medical profession and empower a new generation of engaged learners.</p>				
2. KEY STAKEHOLDERS: Provincial/territorial medical associations, especially those with medical schools in their jurisdictions, Canadian medical students, Canadian medical residents, Resident Doctors of Canada, Canadian Federation of Medical Students, Fédération médicale étudiante du Québec, Fédération des médecins résidents du Québec				
3a. SUGGESTED IMPLEMENTATION: This motion if passed should be used by the CMA Board as a guiding principle for increasing the participation of medical students and residents in the activities of their medical associations. It can be used as a tool for advocacy in relations with provincial/territorial medical associations. Further, it demonstrates an active commitment by national medical leaders to medical students and residents in supporting the most basic right of professional membership. Minimal action - if any - would be required on the part of the CMA Board.				
3b. SUGGESTED IMPLEMENTATION (by mover/second): This motion if passed should be used by medical students and residents, their local representative societies, their provincial/territorial representative societies, and their national representative societies to advocate for the right to franchise across all jurisdictions.				
4. RELEVANCE TO CMA STRATEGY				
Medical professionalism	High	Medium	Low	N/A
➤ Advance medical professionalism	x			
➤ Improve physician health and well-being				x
➤ Strengthen the national voice of the CMA for the medical profession	x			
Patients and the public	High	Medium	Low	N/A
➤ Lead national vision for a healthy population and world-class health care				x
➤ Maximize strategic relationships		x		
Growth and relevance	High	Medium	Low	N/A
➤ Develop and market products and services that are highly responsive to member needs				x
➤ Increase member engagement, member satisfaction and membership growth	x			