

**OMSA Council Meeting #4**  
**December 4, 2021 10:00 - 16:00 EST**  
[Zoom](#)



**Present via teleconference:** Ushma Purohit (President), Angie Salomon (President-Elect), Mahdi Zeghal (VP Communications), Zack Chuang (VP Finance), Connie Li (VP Education), Sinthu Senthilmohan (VP Advocacy), Faran Khalid (VP Operations), Sauliha Alli (VP EDI), Devon Wilton (McMaster), Abby Ross (Ottawa), Shauna Peng (Western), Justin Lin (Toronto), Lara Parlatan (Toronto), Aidan Goertzen (NOSM), Jamal Tarrabain (Queen's), Victoria Turnbull (CFMS - ORD)

**Guests:** Dr. Adam Kassam (OMA - President)

**Regrets:** Leah Bennett (VP Student Affairs), Mike Darcy (McMaster), Kristina Yau (Ottawa), Ayushi Bhatt (Western), Rylee Mose (NOSM), Amelia Boughn (Queen's)

## 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Adoption of the Agenda

### 1.1. Motion to Start the Meeting

- Mover: Zack Chuang
- Secunder: Ushma Purohit
- Motion passes

### 1.2. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

- Mover: Devon Wilton
- Secunder: Lara Parlatan
- Motion passes

### 1.3. Motion to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes (October 30th, 2021)

- Mover: Victoria Turnbull
- Secunder: Lara Parlatan
- Motion passes

## 2. Land Acknowledgement - *Devon Wilton, McMaster VP External*

- Introduction
- Treaty land acknowledgement
- Brief overview on treaties (and a map of treaties) and examples of Wampum Belts
- Learn more on the Ontario.ca website, but especially sites from Indigenous groups

### 3. OMA Remarks - *Dr. Adam Kassam*

- Introduction
- Overview of responsibilities of the President role
- OMA's areas of focus in the past months
  - Pandemic response
  - OMA governance transformation
- [OMA Five-Point Plan for Better Healthcare](#)
- Issues that need to be addressed in the future
- Other topics discussed and brought up by OMSA Council members
  - Unbiased centralized referral system, which is in the process of being proposed in Ontario
  - Residency allocations - total positions and proportion of openings of CMGs, IMGs,...
    - OMA currently advocating for increased residency positions
    - Advocacy on increasing residency spots if medical school enrollment increases
  - Shift in culture surrounding medical student & physician wellness
    - [Healing the Healers: System-Level Solutions to Physician Burnout](#)

### 4. CFMS Update - *CFMS Ontario Regional Director*

- Please review the following [update](#).

### 5. Executive Updates

#### 5.1. Advocacy

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Has been collaborating with VP Communications to update sections of the website and post the most up-to-date policy/position papers. Committees are currently working on material to be updated on the site and should have that ready near the end of December

#### 5.2. Communications

- Please review the update [here](#).

#### 5.3. Education

- Please review the update [here](#).

#### 5.4. Student Affairs

- Please review the update [here](#).

- VP will be following-up with an email updating on clerkship kits and their dissemination, with help from VP Externals.

#### 5.5. Operations

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Acceptance/rejection emails have been sent out for most portfolios. Round 2 for Call to Applications will begin in a few days for IT and Bilingualism committees.

#### 5.6. Finance

- Please review the update [here](#).

#### 5.7. EDI

- Please review the update [here](#).

#### 5.8. President & President-Elect

- Please review the update [here](#).
- In terms of increased medical school enrollment and accommodating this with residency positions, there has not been a clean plan laid out yet; no entity has claimed significant responsibility for preparing a plan to add residency positions for the increase in medical students.
  - There are less urban areas which may become teaching sites to allow for more training opportunities for graduates, particularly family medicine residents. However, five-year residency program positions are not as easy to add so if this is not done while more medical students enroll, the rate of students not matching will gradually grow in number.
  - A discussion item may be included in the next council meeting to further expand on this topic and get other perspectives as this would be important to raise at external councils.

### 6. Break (Lunch)

### 7. School Updates

#### 7.1. McMaster

- Please review the update [here](#)

#### 7.2. NOSM

- Please review the update [here](#).

#### 7.3. Ottawa

- Update:
  - Pre-clerkship electives “hoping to start in mid-February 2022”
  - Successful Movember campaign raised over \$3000

- Hosted panel on Continuing the Conversation around Truth and Reconciliation
- No other major updates since last meeting

#### 7.4. Queen's

- Please review the update [here](#).
- President-Elect will reach out to the VP External for each school for information on the academic policy for pre-clerks/clerks

#### 7.5. Toronto

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Plan for hiring promotions: Shared via our FB page. Leah and Sinthu also shared it.

#### 7.6. Western

- Update
  - Med Soc Meeting is Dec 1st so will add updates based on that
  - Pre Clerkship:
    - Plan to be completely in-person in January
    - December exams switched to in-person due to concerns about not being prepared for clerkship
    - Observerships ongoing
    - Morale is low in 2nd yrs (1st years doing better)
    - In general, class councils + clubs noticing decreased engagement this year
  - Clerkship
    - Ready to distribute clerkship kits once we get fanny packs from Windsor + PPE portraits/pronoun pins

### 8. Motions

None

### 9. Break

### 10. Discussion Items

#### 10.1. Taking stock - what's going on with OMSA? – *Full Council*

- A lot is going on behind the scenes
- Most important events/initiatives/opportunities for students to know about
  - Advocacy
    - Nothing significant happening

## 10.2. Grants & Awards Marking - *VP Finance*

- Number of challenges we're facing with OMA governance
  - Refer to the following link:  
<https://transform.oma.org/the-newgeneral-assembly/>
  - Past: OMA General Council was a 250-person general council with 8 student representatives. Now, it is the OMA Priority Leadership group - a 125-person priority and leadership group with now only 1 student representative. Observers are also being limited / not being allowed, which further limited student representation at the OMA.
- Elections
  - OMSA council election occurs in May, but the election for OMA Section of Medical Students happens on a different date and occurs on a different platform. The issue is that because there is no official link between OMSA and the OMA Section of Medical Students, hypothetically any student could run, but it typically has been the OMSA President that naturally holds the position on the Section.

## 10.3. Regional OMSA Representation - *Presidents*

## 10.4. New University at York University - *VP Education*

## 10.5. OMSA Hiring Policy - *VP Operations*

## 11. Reflections on Equity and Diversity (RED) Discussion - *President-Elect*

- Discussion Topic: Global Vaccine Equity
  - Lower vaccination rates in LMIC
  - Overview of COVAX

## 12. New Business/*Varia*

- None

## 13. Next Meeting

13.1. January 8th, 2021: 10am - 4pm

## 14. Meeting Closure

### 14.1. Motion to end the meeting

- Mover: Ushma Purohit
- Secunder: Zack Chuang
- Motion passes