

President Position Description

1. Overview and Mandate

The President is required to be a Director and is elected by members during the regular election period, in the year prior to assuming office. The President fulfills the following mandate:

- Acts as the OMA's Spokesperson, and the voice of the OMA on physician and professional matters
- Works closely with the CEO and communications staff in representing the OMA when communicating to Ontarians and delivering messages to the media
- Acts as a communications partner within the OMA, faithfully representing and advocating the OMA's positions, even when these may conflict with their own opinion
- Reinforces the message that the OMA is the trusted voice in transforming Ontario's health care system, advocating for and supporting doctors, and strengthening the role of doctors in caring for patients
- Plays an important role in OMA public relations initiatives and reducing the impact of any negative publicity targeted at the OMA

The President is not responsible for the operational management of any aspect of the OMA's business and is therefore not an executive of the OMA

2. Term of Office

The President serves for a one-year, non-renewable term and is a voting Member of the OMA Board of Directors. At the completion of his/her full term as President, the President becomes the successor to the position of Immediate Past President.

3. Knowledge and Skills

The position of President requires special skills which the incumbent may not immediately possess. As such, the President is therefore expected to acquire these skills as soon as possible at the expense of the OMA, subject to Board of Directors approval of a budget. The President must have the time required to effectively carry out his/her responsibilities.

The President will demonstrate strong knowledge related to:

- The OMA organization and the on-going issues being addressed by the OMA
- The medical profession in Ontario and beyond
- The Ontario healthcare system and OMA stakeholders
- Issues and policies impacting the OMA
- Medical issues impacting physicians in Ontario
- The Board of Directors Policy Manual

4. Leadership Qualities

The President will demonstrate personal integrity and a commitment to collaboration and professionalism at all times. She/he will uphold the OMA code of conduct and consistently demonstrate the following leadership qualities:

- Excellent communication skills
- A team approach and ability to work with other OMA spokespeople
- Respected by fellow Board Directors and the community
- Ability to speak effectively to the media regarding member issues
- Approachability
- Ability to be an active listener
- Ability to build relationships
- Ability to think with a strategic and integrative approach
- Strong skills related to conflict resolution
- Commitment to the OMA and the physician profession
- Impartiality, objectivity, and credibility
- Confidence, transparency, and empathy

5. Working Relationships

The President ensures an effective working relationship with the Board Chair, fellow Board Directors the Chief Executive Officer, and fellow spokespeople.

6. Specific Responsibilities

The President will fulfill his or her role as a Board Director according to the position description for a Board Director. As Official Spokesperson for the OMA, the President will make announcements and appearances to promote the organization. Specifically, the President will:

- Serve on the Board of Directors as a voting member first and foremost, with fiduciary duty to the OMA
- Speak to the media on emerging issues related to physician and professional matters as Official Spokesperson for the OMA, in collaboration with the CEO and senior management
- Participate in press conferences, television appearances, newspaper ads, and op-eds in collaboration with the CEO and the senior management
- Represent the OMA at industry events, conferences, District meetings, or other designated non-Board related events, at the request of the Board of Directors or CEO and subject to budgetary circumstances
- Work with the OMA Speaker's Bureau to ensure that physicians with the appropriate experience are invited to speak on a given issue (at the request of the Board of Directors or CEO)
- Act as a mentor and coach to the OMA President-Elect in cooperation with the Immediate Past President
- Seek feedback on performance as President and further develop skills as needed
- Succeed to the position of Immediate Past President in the year following the commencement of service as President
- Perform such other functions as the Board of Directors may specify from time to time