PILLARS
THE SIX PILLARS THAT ENABLE FMRAC TO ACHIEVE ITS MISSION AS PROACTIVELY AND CREATIVELY AS POSSIBLE ARE:

- Establish mechanisms for the effective exchange of information, discussion and collaboration with its members and others, on issues that involve medical regulation
- Be an effective voice to interact with and inform key stakeholders (including governments, the public and media) on medical regulatory matters of national or international importance
- Develop policies, standards, statements and perspectives on aspects of medical regulation – either pan-Canadian or drafts that can be adapted by the members
- Actively participate in the design and coordination of pan-Canadian health system changes
- Identify and mitigate risk to medical regulation in a timely manner

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
It is with tremendous pleasure that I provide a few words to summarize FMRAC’s past year. I think it goes without saying that, during this time, the world has become far different than previous years and that means medical regulators were dealing with many new and complex issues.

FMRAC’s core strength comes from the working relationships that we develop among all the Canadian medial regulators, the broader medical community in Canada and the broader international regulatory environment. During such challenging times, it is more important than ever to build strong, supportive and productive relationships with our partners and find common solutions that meet the best interests of all Canadians.

I think you will see in this update that FMRAC has remained fully engaged with our partners and continued to learn from everyone so we can best support our Members, the 13 provincial and territorial MRAs, do the best work possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT 2021-22
Dr. Nancy Whitmore, Registrar, CPSO, was elected to the position of President-elect of FMRAC. This is a one-year term followed by two years as President.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
It was a year for learning: how to adjust and rearrange one’s abode to be able to be productive and efficient while working from home; virtual meeting etiquette as we adapted to the rapidly evolving technology that fortunately allowed us to engage with each other in a meaningful manner; to be patient as we realized again and again that the pandemic would be controlling so many aspects of our lives for much longer than originally expected; how to spot the signs that our colleagues may be flagging and in need of encouragement; the importance of taking time off work even with stay-at-home orders; and I could go on. It was also a time to realize just how much we appreciate being in each other’s company, working and strategizing and socializing together in the same room.

Most importantly, the past year marks the beginning of a journey into my own understanding of the really difficult issues of implicit bias and privilege and injustice and colonialism. As I strive to listen and absorb information that will help me grow and fulfill my professional mandate, as I grasp the fact that I may yet not know how to listen fully, I am amazed at the honesty and openness of those who share their stories with us. I am grateful to them for putting so much effort and time into helping me.

WATERSHED EVENTS IN 2020 – 2021
1. THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
a. Adapting to working from home and holding virtual meetings (including complaints)
b. Registration and licensure requirements for the 2020 and 2021 graduating cohorts (undergraduate and postgraduate)
c. The rapid adoption of virtual care across Canada
2. ANTI-RACISM – the influence and impact of the following movements and events on how MRAs fulfill their mandate to protect the public
a. The death of Mr. George Floyd and Black Lives Matter
b. The death of Mrs. Joyce Echaquan while in hospital and Joyce’s Principle
3. THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF CANADA’S recent decision to award the LMCC to candidates who have passed the MCC Qualifying Examination Part 1
a. The MCC incorporated the preference stated by the FMRAC and its Members as to which cohorts would be eligible
b. The MCC cancelled its current MCC Qualifying Examination Part 2 and will revisit this assessment upon receiving the recommendations from its Assessment Innovation Task Force

SNAPSHOT 2020 – 2021
Year in Review
The FMRAC Offices are located on the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinabe People. / Les bureaux de la FOMC sont situés sur le territoire ancestral et non-cédé des peuples anishinabe de la nation algonquine.

MISSION
TO ADVANCE MEDICAL REGULATION ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC THROUGH COLLABORATION, COMMON STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES.
### ORGANIZATIONAL PRIORITIES

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>PRIORITY</th>
<th>PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENTS</th>
<th>Pillars</th>
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<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Artificial Intelligence and the Practice of Medicine (expected delivery – Fall 2021 or Winter 2022)</td>
<td>• Session 1 of the virtual 2021 FMRAC Educational Conference focused on this topic via a series of three, facilitated webinars that included various stakeholder perspectives and small groups that considered issues of current or emerging importance relevant to the mandate of medical regulators.&lt;br&gt;• The working group believes it is premature to recommend minimum guidance to physicians on the use AI tools in patient care until it has become more fully integrated. A report to the Board that reflects a synopsis of activities and issues considered to date, as well as the input and observations of other stakeholders, is being developed.</td>
<td>P1</td>
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<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>The Impaired Physician (expected delivery – Fall 2022 or Winter 2023))</td>
<td>• The remit is a framework on a regulatory approach to the impaired physician from an occupational health perspective.&lt;br&gt;• Using the World Health Organization’s Classification of Functioning (ICF), Disability and Health Checklist as a starting point, FMRAC’s framework is progressing, with the need to reinforce or add elements that address the specific needs of the Members&lt;br&gt;• The draft underpinning principles include: justifiability, consistency, equity, transparency, procedural fairness and timeliness.&lt;br&gt;• Many external stakeholders are interested in this file and will be included in the consultation phase.</td>
<td>P2, P6, P1</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>Virtual Care (expected delivery – Winter / Spring 2022)</td>
<td>• The second session of FMRAC’s June 2021 educational conference focused on regulatory issues relating to virtual care, comprising various stakeholder perspectives and presentations over two webinars.&lt;br&gt;• The working group’s mandate is to consider the development of an updated FMRAC Framework on Telemedicine that reflects any issues that are new or require further emphasis or clarity in a post-pandemic environment. The Framework will build on issues that emerged from the 2021 educational conference and multiple stakeholder surveys during Winter and Spring 2021. This will be the group’s focus during Fall and Winter 2021.</td>
<td>P1</td>
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<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>Physician Competency (expected delivery – Fall 2021)</td>
<td>• A new Discussion Forum on Physician Continuous Quality Improvement was struck.&lt;br&gt;• External consultants (Mr. Steven Lewis, Mr. Andrew Neuner and Dr. Marcie Lorenzen) undertook a scoping review as the first phase of a study on the MRAs’ roles in ensuring a physician's competency throughout the career lifespan (from entry to medical school to retirement) – the report was submitted to the Registrars in June 2021 and will be reviewed by the Board in August 2021.</td>
<td>P1, P2, P3</td>
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<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>Streamlined Registration (completed)</td>
<td>The Board suspended further activity at this time on licensure for the purposes of telemedicine / virtual care; and license portability agreements.</td>
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The Board approved the [FMRAC Statement on Fast-tracked Licensure](#) in February 2021.
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<th>CORE ACTIVITY</th>
<th>PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENTS</th>
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<td>C1</td>
<td>advocacy and common voice – where FMRAC stands publicly and speaks on behalf of the medical regulatory authorities of Canada</td>
<td><strong>FMRAC Statement on Physicians and Public Statements</strong> (January 2021) &lt;br&gt; Presentations at webinars put on by: &lt;br&gt; • FMRAC &lt;br&gt; • Coalition for Physician Enhancement &lt;br&gt; • International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities</td>
<td>P4, P6</td>
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<td><strong>Federal Government</strong> &lt;br&gt; • Medical Assistance in Dying &lt;br&gt; • Cannabis for recreational purposes – health products that do not require health care practitioner oversight &lt;br&gt; • Cannabis for medical purposes – physicians authorizing unusually high amounts for people who grow or have someone grow their product &lt;br&gt; • Safer supply of opioids for patients with substance use disorder &lt;br&gt; • “Agile regulations” consultations on advanced therapeutic products (ATPs) and medical devices that incorporate artificial intelligence &lt;br&gt; • Emergency licensure of physicians during the third wave of the pandemic &lt;br&gt; • Licensure of international medical graduates during the pandemic &lt;br&gt; • Virtual care (with the provincial and territorial governments)</td>
<td>P3, P4, P6</td>
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<td>C2</td>
<td>surveillance of political developments and trends that may have an impact on the work of the Members in fulfilling their mandate</td>
<td><strong>NINE PROVINCIAL MRAS</strong> are using FIRMS Standards 2.0 &lt;br&gt; <strong>11 modules of standards with high levels of compliance across all the MRAs</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>The next phase will identify areas for improvement and possibly MRAs that require assistance</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>Working with the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada (HIROC), FMRAC will offer the FIRMS Standards 2.0 to regulators of other health care professions that are HIROC subscribers</strong></td>
<td>P5, P6</td>
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<td>C3</td>
<td>FMRAC Integrated Risk Management System (FIRMS)</td>
<td><strong>extension of the “COVID-19” license to the 2021 cohort</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>licensure for candidates who had previously failed the Royal College or CFPC exams</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>postponements or cancellations of the 2021 exams, including the Royal College oral exam, the CFPC SOO (simulated office orals) and the MCC Qualifying Examination Part II</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>academic certification</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>recognition of certification in family medicine in other countries</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>practice-eligibility routes to certification</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>changes in the timing of the CaRMS Match due to the pandemic</strong> &lt;br&gt; <strong>FMRAC Statement on Military Physicians</strong> (April 2021)</td>
<td>P4, P6</td>
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<td>C4</td>
<td>Model Standards for Medical Registration in Canada</td>
<td><strong>in addition to IELTS-Academic, two other ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY EXAMS were added to the Model Standards for Medical Registration in Canada, pending approval by each MRA</strong> &lt;br&gt; • Occupational English Test (Medical) or OET-Medical &lt;br&gt; • Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program or CELPIP</td>
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<td>FMRAC worked closely with its Members on several issues, in collaboration with other key stakeholders such as the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (Royal College) &lt;br&gt; • College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) &lt;br&gt; • Medical Council of Canada (MCC) &lt;br&gt; • Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada &lt;br&gt; • Resident Doctors of Canada &lt;br&gt; • Canadian Federation of Medical Students &lt;br&gt; • Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS)</td>
<td><strong>THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF CANADA – recent decision to award the LMCC based on the MCCQE Part I</strong> &lt;br&gt; • the preferences of FMRAC and its Members on the cohorts who would be eligible were heard and incorporated into the MCC’s decisions</td>
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C5 anti-racism in medical practice and medical regulation
FMRAC identified the need to focus first on Indigenous-specific racism

- The Working Group on Anti-racism is chaired by Dr. Lana Potts, an Indigenous physician working in Calgary and Siksika, AB
- Three documents are in the draft stage:
  - FMRAC Statement on Anti-racism
  - FMRAC Statement on Anti-Indigenous Racism in Medical Care
  - FMRAC Framework on Wise Practices in Medical Regulation – Towards an equitable and meaningful experience for Indigenous people

C6 FMRAC Annual Meeting and Conference – ongoing planning process
The 2021 conference on ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND VIRTUAL CARE: MEDICAL REGULATION FOR HIGH QUALITY CARE was held virtually over five days, featuring a two-hour webinar each day with 100 to 125 attendees

14-16 June – Artificial Intelligence
21-22 June – Virtual Care

SURVEYS OF MEMBERS (on behalf of FMRAC, its members or other stakeholders) (P5, P1, P6)

- Honoraria for preparation time (August 2020)
- Candidate requirements for licensing the 2020 graduating cohort (October 2020)
- Requirement for physicians to have an email address (November 2020)
- Cultural safety – mandatory courses for physicians (December 2020)
- Governance composition (February 2021)
- Vaccination roll-out (February 2021; for the Public Health Agency of Canada)
- Virtual care (October 2020, December 2020, January 2021)
- Medical registration – guiding principles and sample revised standards (February 2021)
- Family medicine as a specialty (March 2021)
- Endoscopic procedures (March 2021)
- Declaring criminal offenses on a certificate of professional conduct (March 2021)
- Physician Competency – Phase I (March 2021)
- Pre-screening requirements for international medical graduates (April 2021)
- Physician health (April 2021)
- CaRMS – receiving first iteration results (May 2021; for AFMC)
- Physicians with licenses in multiple jurisdictions (June 2021)

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES AND REPRESENTATION
FMRAC IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED ON SEVERAL COMMITTEES, TASK FORCES, BOARDS OF DIRECTORS AND WORKING GROUPS OF STAKEHOLDER ORGANIZATIONS

- Royal College
  - Corporate Accreditation Committee (Dr. Derek Puddester [CPSBC] and Ms. Fleur-Ange Lefebvre)
  - Residency Accreditation Committee (Ms. Lefebvre)
  - Professional Learning and Development Committee (Ms. Lefebvre)
  - Credentials Committee (Ms. Lefebvre)
- CFPC
  - Accreditation Committee (Ms. Louise Auger)
  - MainPro+ Standards Working Group (Ms. Lefebvre)
  - National Committee on Continuing Professional Development (Dr. Anna Ziomek [CPSM])
- Canadian Resident Match Service (Ms. Lefebvre – Board member)
- Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (Dr. Jeremy Beach [CPSA])
- Committee on Accreditation of Continuing Medical Education (Ms. Lefebvre)
- Canadian Patient Safety Institute consultations and annual general meeting (Ms. Lefebvre)
- Canadian Medical Association
  - Committee on Ethics (Dr. Ziomek)
  - National Health Summit (Dr. Scott McLeod and Ms. Lefebvre)
  - Canadian Medical Protective Association Annual General Meeting (Ms. Lefebvre)
  - Canadian Medical Forum (Dr. McLeod and Ms. Lefebvre)
  - MINC#NIMC (Mr. Douglas Anderson [CPSO; President], Dr Yves Robert (until his retirement), Dr. Michael Caffaro and Ms. Lefebvre)
- International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA)
  - Chair-elect (Dr. Heidi Oetter [CPSBC])
  - Regulatory Best Practice Working Group (Ms. Lefebvre)
  - Physician Information Exchange Working Group (Dr. Oetter, Chair)
- CFPC – Royal College – CMA Virtual Care Task Force (Dr. Oetter and Ms. Lefebvre)
2021 – 2022 BUDGET

- The only revenue is from membership dues and investment income, as there was no registration fee for the virtual Annual Conference.
- The followed costs were not incurred in fiscal year 2020 – 2021 or the first half of fiscal year 2021 – 2022: in-person meetings of the Board, committee and working group; President’s activities including travel; and staff travel.
- The resulting increased percentage for salaries does not reflect an increase in actual value.

MEMBERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEDICAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
- Collège des médecins du Québec
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Prince Edward Island
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland & Labrador
- Yukon Medical Council
- Northwest Territories
- Nunavut
- Canadian Forces Health Services

REGISTRAR / FMRAC DIRECTOR
- Dr. Heidi Oetter (FMRAC Executive Committee)
- Dr. Scott McLeod (FMRAC President)
- Dr. Karen Shaw
- Dr. Anna Ziomek
- Dr. Nancy Whitmore (FMRAC President-elect)
- Dr. Isabelle Tardif
- Dr. Ed Schollenberg
- Dr. George Carruthers
- Dr. Douglas A. (Gus) Grant
- Dr. Linda Inkpen
- Ms. Stephanie Connolly
- Ms. Samantha VanGenne
- Ms. Barbara Harvey
- MGen Marc Bilodeau (Observer)

OFFICE CLOSURE
FMRAC OFFICES CLOSED FROM 13 MARCH 2020 AND REMAIN CLOSED TO THE PRESENT DAY, WITH ALL STAFF WORKING FULL-TIME FROM HOME.

We wish to close by thanking and commending the members of the FMRAC staff for their due diligence and dedication, and for maintaining a calm, even keel throughout the pandemic.

Scott and Fleur-Ange