

Dr Kevin Martin - Family Practice Director - Doctors of BC Board

I write to you respectfully for your endorsement of a two-year term on the Doctors of BC Board

Who am I?

I have been a Family Physician in British Columbia since 2008 and have served in multiple leadership positions from grassroots medical associations to Divisions of Family Practice, from Doctors of BC, UBC and BC Family Doctors to Island Health Authority.

This gives me a diversity of perspective and understanding, experience in leadership and leaves me empathic and connected to a wide spectrum of physician colleagues.



Why me?

We face a period of uncertainty and change. The COVID-19 pandemic challenges not only how we work in our offices and hospital practice now and in the future, but also our governance and relationship with government. We have to look how we can approach our future differently to our past; this requires **new people and new thinking**, from leaders with experience in empathic representative leadership.

I offer you:

A pragmatic, well-rounded hard working early mid-career physician leader.

Commitment to true **diversification of leadership** through term limits for our senior, joint collaborative and statutory committees and intake of diverse medical leadership through improved methods of engagement, improved committee membership application processes and **an expectation of active mentorship** from those in influential roles. I will continue to add my voice to the call for transparent data, organizational anti-oppression training and better maternity and parental leave programs.

Advocacy to create and retain a variety of participatory options such as virtual meetings / meetings with childcare / other supports for the RA/committees to enable physicians of all stages of career and life to participate - specifically focusing on **empowering the Representative Assembly**. My time on the RA has been spent listening and observing what we, as RA members, need and say. This will continue as a Board Director – the relationships I have built with you will sustain and enhance.

Continued dedication to Physician Health and Wellness - I have lost a colleague and friend to suicide, we can and must do better. **I will bring commitment in respect of physician health to a higher level of influence.** At my core lies deep respect and compassion for my fellow physicians, my community, my adopted nation and fellow Canadians of every walk of life.

An unequivocal commitment for sustained action on the greatest enduring epidemic of our time, **the opioid crisis**.

A commitment to leave a legacy at the board level of increased organizational comfort for community and societal **activism** — bringing physician leadership back to a position of influence and relevance within a changed, and changing world.

What I can give you

I listen. I have spoken with, mentored and lifted up a great many colleagues. I have explored and shared many of your challenging realities. I understand the needs and interests of all of our profession — both Specialists and Family Physicians. Importantly I have learned that **only those who live a certain truth, can speak to it!**

Through diplomacy and questioning I am understanding of the collective interests of representative, professional and advocacy groups. Importantly - I am **committed to identifying and calling for diversification** where there is under-representation.

I am passionate about primary care and see our organization and its work as a construct of the entire physician collective — recognizing my duty to advocate for the needs of all sections and societies. **Working alongside Primary Care and Specialist colleagues in the community and in hospital has empowered me to understand the unique challenges of both groups AND the power of collaboration when we unite behind common challenges and shared aspirations**

I understand negotiations. As an RA delegate and society board member I was involved in much of the prioritizing of the 2019 PMA objectives. I understand the complexity of medical economics and how it relates to the needs of all of our profession. I have sought the perspectives of leaders to understand the key players and processes for negotiations, physician economics and joint collaborative structures.

I have worked in rural, suburban and urban Canada through my career. I have worked in different funding models — both Fee for Service and APP. I have worked in alternate jurisdictions in Canada. This **broad perspective** will empower me to deliver and represent the diverse communities within our profession, and work to empower all.

I am a strong proponent of **uplifting one another, of compassion, empathy and supporting vulnerability and critical thinkers who question the status quo.** I have and always will take action on inequality, systemic racism, the gender pay gap and reduced visibility of minorities in our profession, our broader healthcare system and our communities. I lobbied at the RA for The Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Working Group and the consultative process for DOBC inclusivity in which I participated. I have worked hard during my time on the DoBC Nominating Committee to ensure a diversity of perspectives and representation on all Doctors of BC committees. This work fills me with **hope for change, but it is a beginning** and not an end. We need our physician leaders in higher spheres of influence to be committed to building on the foundation we have fought hard to achieve. **I am that leader.**

As a husband and father, my family utilize the public healthcare system we cherish in British Columbia and Canada. I am proud of the system of care we have, and of the Physician Leadership that has built this system. We know that Physician Leadership is essential to the growth and sustenance of public healthcare. At times this has been lacking as governments have pushed ahead with new initiatives unilaterally. **I will fight to ensure Physician Leadership remains integral to all health system change in British Columbia.**

I hope that you will choose me to represent you on the Board of Doctors of BC. We are facing change. We need authentic change through **new unifying experienced voices representing you.** I can be that change for you and for our Association.

Kevin Martin