



VOTE

Dr Nigel G Walton

CMA Director

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE - MEANINGFUL CHANGE

I know I am not alone in being unhappy with the Canadian Medical Association. Recently together with many of our colleagues I feel it has neither represented us effectively nor acted in our best interests. In 2018 it sold our most prized asset, MD Management. I question why this was done without any consultation with members. It was our retirement savings that made it the largest private investment business in Canada. It was sold for \$2.6-billion! What did we get out of it? No increase in membership dues! Really? That is our money - and it must come back to us.

Now we are in the middle of the biggest challenge we have faced in a generation. We will deal with it but glaring inequities have been exposed. We need better care for the elderly but is the answer really highly paid nurse practitioners parachuted in to provide complex chronic care displacing GPs who have done this for years despite significant costs? Technology is accelerating virtual care but will the highly valuable data collected be stored safely and properly regulated? And what about the climate crisis? We are environmentally conscious but we all know this is an extremely complex issue and much more needs to be done. The choices we make and that are made for us now, today, will affect our lives for many many years to come.

I have over 25 years of experience in medical politics purposefully advocating for my colleagues, serving as a director of Doctors of BC on the Board and Executive and as delegate at the General Council of the CMA thirteen times. I have the knowledge, breadth of experience and most importantly the vision to provide effective representation at the national level. In recent years physicians have been driven away from the CMA. Corporatism has replaced the General Council and the GP and Specialist Forums. We need to bring back members to a strong and democratic organization that takes on a meaningful leadership role and truly seeks the opinion of those it represents - the medical profession as a whole - so that the unified voice of Canada's physicians will be heard once more again. It is time for change.

Vote for me and I can assure you, I won't let you down.

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Dr Nigel G Walton

Biography

MB ChB, Liverpool UK, 1978; MRCGP, 1986; CCFP, 1988 Full time, full service General Practitioner practicing in West Vancouver for the last 30 years. In the past worked in both urban and rural settings, including the North. Privileges at Lion's Gate Hospital in North Vancouver. Graduated from the University of Liverpool Medical School in the UK and did postgraduate training in General Practice at University College London, UK. Emigrated to Canada in 1986. Certification in Family Medicine from the College of Family Physicians of Canada and also a Member of the Royal College of General Practitioners of the UK. Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Practice at the University of British Columbia. Former Vice Chairman, a member of the Executive and on the Board of Doctors of BC representing physicians from the North Shore, Sunshine Coast, Squamish, Whistler and Pemberton for 18 years. BC delegate thirteen times at the General Council of the Canadian Medical Association. Active in the North Shore Division of Family Practice. On the North Shore Covid-19 Task Group.

Early Life - Cheshire and Liverpool, UK Raised in the North West of England on the Wirral in Cheshire. At age 16 joined the Air Cadets at school and learnt to fly a glider but best subject at school was biology and was good with people who were upset or suffering so was persuaded apply for medicine and went to the local Medical School at Liverpool University. Was in the RAF Liverpool University Air Squadron and an active member of the Medical Students' Society representing students on the faculty boards of Pre-Clinical and Clinical Studies.

London and Portsmouth, UK - 1978-1980 After graduation did the equivalent of a rotating internship in London, UK and Portsmouth and then Emergency Medicine at University College Hospital, London UK. **Northern Saskatchewan - 1981** Wanted to put something interesting on my CV so looked for a position involving medicine and flying. Arrived in Uranium City in Northern Saskatchewan on a mild (-20°C) day in February. Flew to clinics on reservations three days a week for six months. Took and passed my LMCC and went back to the UK. **London, UK - 1981-1986** Trained in General Practice at University College Hospital. Spent a couple of years part time in research in Primary Care. Took and passed the British equivalent of the CCFP exam - MRCGP. **British Columbia - 1986-Present** Didn't like the prospects in the UK so returned and went to work in Golden, BC. Became a permanent resident. Took and passed CCFP. Moved to the North Shore to be closer to my relatives. Became a Canadian citizen and set up in practice in West Vancouver in 1990 and have been here ever since.

Doctors of BC 1994-2017 I have always remained and intend to continue as a full time practising physician and I always viewed my political work as an addition to and not a replacement for my practice. To make the best decisions I have always thought that it is particularly important to remain close to grass roots maintaining contact with my patients and colleagues on a day to day basis. I started on the BCMA Board in 1994. I served on several committees including the Council of Public Affairs and Communications, Finance Committee, Staffing Committee, Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which I chaired for a while, the BCMJ Editorial Board, PITO Steering Committee and the Governance and Nominating Committee and Resolutions Committee. I was the Vice-Chair of the Board and the GP Member-at-Large on the Executive and the Doctors of BC liaison to the Society of General Practice Board. I served on the Negotiations Forum for several years. I was a member of the MD-MLA Contact Program. I was a delegate thirteen times at the CMA General Council and a member of the MD-MP Contact Program.

Personal Interests I read extensively, mainly current affairs, history, philosophy, political science and economics. I enjoy the outdoors having spent many weekends off in Pemberton where I hike and bike in summer and cross-country ski in winter. I used to fly paragliders there but gave up after a serious accident in 1999. I have visited almost all Canadian Provinces and been to NWT. If my holidays take me further I will be found in the art galleries, museums and the theatre in London or another European capital or traveling in Spain or Portugal. I speak Portuguese and I can get by in Spanish. I have visited Cuba and Brazil several times as I love the music. I have a large collection of Classical music too. I had to give long distance running after my accident but replaced it with something I never thought I could do, dance - salsa! Since the pandemic began I have been exploring virtual reality. I like flight simulators. Finally, I am a longtime supporter of the soccer team in the city of my alma mater - Liverpool Football Club, currently Champions of the English Premier League and I hardly ever miss a game.