

Dear Colleague:

I write to ask for your support in the upcoming Doctors of BC election in my application to become a specialist member of the Board of Directors.

Our association's mandate is "to promote a social, economic, and political climate in which members can provide British Columbians with the highest standard of health care, while achieving maximum professional satisfaction and fair economic reward". I believe that my breadth of experience both in clinical practice and in leadership have equipped me to serve you well in pursuit of these goals.

I have been a practicing BC physician for over 10 years in multiple practice settings. As a fellowship-trained colorectal general surgeon I certainly see the specialist and surgeon perspectives, but as the physician lead of a regional complex wound centre, I've worked with family physicians and community-based home care services to shift our focus from end-stage tertiary care, to partnered acute/subacute wound care targeting high-risk patients, focusing on primary and preventative care to ensure each patient is seen by the right person at the right time. I have practiced in private clinic settings, in hospitals, in health-authority-administrated offices, and at corporate headquarters. My clinical income is partly FFS, partly health-authority-contracted service. I've been a locum, a new staff starting on provisional privileges, and an active member of my local medical staff association. I have advocated for more resources as a surgeon, but also for increased MOCAP levels as a surgical assist.

I have a broad experience as a leader. As a Physician Advisor for the Fraser Health Physician Quality Improvement (PQI) Program, I have participated as the medical side of a leadership dyad and spearheaded a flagship Doctors of BC program. In 2015, I co-founded the RCH QI League, a local frontline-initiated and -driven QI initiative and later became the hospital physician QI lead. As a physician lead of our hospital Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program (CUSP) I collaborated on projects to establish a safe and non-discriminatory learning culture, led several QI projects on a wide array of outcomes from cardiac surgical site infections to OR staff "joy in work", and have supported many other projects initiated by my colleagues through QI education, coaching, and mentoring. As a Provincial PQI Lead (Culture), I have advocated for more collaboration with entire interprofessional teams and administrative leadership while still maintaining the centrality of physician leadership in the health system.

I am a strong believer in consensus and have a thoughtful, respectful and inquisitive nature to achieve this. I have no professional or personal disclosures other than I wish to apply a quality improvement lens to every aspect of the health system. I am an active participant in the workforce and in my community. I have board experience at a national, regional and local levels. As a husband and father of 2 teenagers, I've learned patience, kindness and humility.

In summary, I have the training, experience, and leadership qualities to advocate for my colleagues across a wide range of backgrounds. Thank you for this incredible opportunity to serve.

Respectfully,

John Hwang MD MSc FRCSC

John Hwang Bio

Clinical

- MD University of Toronto (2000)
- General Surgery Residency – University of Calgary
- Colorectal Fellowship – UCSF
- General Surgeon – Private Office
- Physician Lead – Fraser Health Complex Wound Clinic
- Cardiac Surgery Surgical Assist – Royal Columbian Hospital

QI/Leadership

- Physician Advisor – Fraser Health PQI Program
- NSQIP Surgeon Champion – Royal Columbian Hospital
- Wounds Canada – National Board of Directors (Vice Chair)/National Strategy Committee Member/Succession Planning Committee Chair
- SSC-PQI Provincial Physician Lead (Culture)

Personal

- Married 20 years, 2 teenagers (14,16)
- Resident of New Westminster (7 minute walk from the hospital)
- Enjoys hiking, going out without the kids, and Netflix