

## The power of physician leadership: Your voice, your vote

s physicians, we have chosen a profession grounded in service, advocacy, and the pursuit of better health for all. Yet our responsibility does not end at the bedside. In a time of profound change in our health care system—with new models of care, shifting patient needs, and mounting pressures on resources—physician leadership has never been more essential.

My tenure as president of Doctors of BC has provided me with a unique vantage point on the transformative power of physician leadership. When I assumed this role, I felt both humbled and challenged by the task of representing colleagues across the province. The stakes were high, and the learning curve was steep. But the experience quickly reaffirmed that when physicians step into leadership, we have the power to influence policy, strengthen collaboration, and advance the profession in ways that directly benefit patients.

Some of the most inspiring moments of my term occurred during conversations with frontline physicians who were struggling with burnout and systemic challenges. Discussing the challenges, exploring creative and actionable strategies for improvement, and seeing policies and processes that support physicians' abilities to deliver care and improve patient access and outcomes leave me with a deep sense of hope. It is a reminder that change is not merely a disruption—it is an opportunity. With courage, compassion, and collective effort, we can turn moments of uncertainty into catalysts for lasting improvement.

Leadership is not simply about holding a title; it is about using one's clinical insight, lived experience, and values to help shape the future. It is about finding common ground and listening to the perspectives of others, even in the most difficult discussions, and guiding our profession toward collaborative solutions that serve patients and medical professionals alike.

It is now time for the next round of elections for Doctors of BC's president-elect, Board, Representative Assembly, and statutory committees. Electronic voting opened on 27 October, and I urge my colleagues to cast your votes before the 27 November deadline. This is a pivotal moment for BC health care. Change is here, and with it comes the opportunity to do great things. By lending your voice and your vote, you can help shape the direction of our health care system at this critical juncture. You can learn more at www.doctorsofbc.ca/elections.

To all my colleagues, I extend my deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment to patients and one another. The bond we share as physician leaders, grounded in mutual respect, encouragement, and shared purpose, is one of our greatest strengths. Together, we can support each other in facing challenges, amplifying our collective voice, and creating a stronger, more resilient profession for the future, because together is our superpower.

—Charlene Lui, MD **Doctors of BC President** 

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**EDITORIALS**