

CMAJ Editorial Governance Principles

1. The CMA/CMAH recognizes CMAJ as an editorially independent peer-reviewed journal and accepts and respects the necessity of editorial independence of the Editor-in-Chief. The Editor-in-Chief assumes total responsibility for the editorial content in CMAJ.
2. The Editor-in-Chief will report to the President of CMA Media Inc. for matters that pertain only to business and financial operations.
3. The Production Manager and Electronic Publishing Manager will report solely to the Editor-in-Chief regarding editorial content in CMAJ and CMAJ.ca.
4. The Journal Oversight Committee (JOC) will exist to 1) evaluate the Editor-in-Chief 2) act as an objective intermediary between the Editor-in-Chief and the CMA, through CMAH for consideration of issues that arise between the Journal and its parent organization and 3) make recommendations to the CMA Board of Directors regarding the governance of CMAJ in order to ensure the Journal's editorial independence 4) make recommendations regarding the hiring and dismissal of the Editor-in-Chief.
5. The 5 members of the JOC will include one senior CMA elected official and four members of the medical, editorial, author and peer reviewer communities. No member of the JOC may be a CMA or CMAH employee.
6. The JOC will elect its own Chair, who shall not be the CMA elected official. The JOC will prepare an annual evaluation of the Editor-in-Chief, based on objective criteria developed by the JOC which will be reported to the President of CMA Media Inc. and the CMA Board of Directors. The Chair of the JOC shall also attend the annual meeting of the CMAJ Editorial Board to inform the Editorial Board of the JOC's deliberations in the previous year.
7. Any and all concerns from the Editor-in-Chief and (or) management regarding the editorial content of CMAJ will be brought to the attention of the JOC who will seek input from the President of CMA Media Inc., the Editor-in-Chief, and any other relevant parties. Written reports of these deliberations will be made to the CMA Board of Directors.
8. The members of the JOC will serve a staggered 3 year term, renewable once. JOC members will be selected by the CMA Board of Directors through CMAH, from a list of recommended persons submitted by the JOC to the CMA Board. Three names per person will be recommended by the JOC except if the JOC recommends an incumbent for reappointment in which case, only 1 name may be submitted. A 2/3 supramajority vote of the CMA Board is required to appoint or dismiss a member of the JOC. In the event that the Board of Directors does

not select one of the submitted names, the JOC shall recommend other individuals for the Board to consider.

9. Any proposal to dismiss the Editor-in-Chief for whatever reason must be brought to the JOC for evaluation and formal vote. Should the JOC vote to dismiss the Editor-in-Chief, it would present its recommendation to the CMA board for a formal vote along with the recommendation and views of the President of CMA Media Inc. A 2/3 supramajority vote of the CMA Board of Directors through CMAH, would be required for the dismissal of the Editor-in-Chief.

These principles will be in effect during a 90-day interim period between now and when the Governance Review Panel submits its recommendations.