

President's Letter -Year End Report

February 25th, 2020

Dear Colleagues and Fellow Members of the Armenian Canadian Medical Association of Ontario,

Next week we will hold the Annual General Meeting of the Armenian Canadian Medical Association of Ontario (ACMAO). This is the time of year where we take a moment to evaluate our success over the past year and identify areas where we can improve. We will have many discussions about the challenges and opportunities facing our organization.

As you review this annual report, you will notice that in the past year we have accomplished a number of key initiatives that were proposed by our Executive Board or our members.

To this day, and after 31 years since its foundation, ACMAO continues to contribute towards the humanitarian work in Armenia and Arstakh, while alongside serving the Armenian community in Ontario. Our mission was, and will remain, the improvement of health and wellbeing of the people of Ontario and Armenia through health education, humanitarian projects and academic endeavors.

At the beginning of the last year, our Executive Board Committee organized a strategic planning meeting with our Advisory Committee members and former presidents of ACMAO. The purpose of the meeting was to set strategies and plan goals for the future of ACMAO.

The key objectives from that meeting included:

1. Focusing locally, and reinforcing ACMAO's leadership in improving the wellbeing of the Armenian Community members in Ontario through health education.

2. Improving ACMAO's image on social media and revitalizing ACMAO's website.
3. Reorganizing our Membership list and connecting with Armenian health care workers in Ontario.
4. Strengthening the collaboration among our members by organizing social and networking events.
5. Providing help and guidance to new-comer or international health care professionals.
6. Expanding and revitalizing our Scholarship programs.
7. Attracting young health care professionals and including them in our plans
8. Updating ACMAO's Bylaws

Throughout the year we worked hard to accomplish most of the mentioned objectives. We focused on strengthening ACMAO and expanding its influence locally, in various Ontario Armenian communities. We completely updated our website and became active on social media. Many social events were organized to bring ACMAO members and Armenian health care workers together.

In addition to that, we also kept our close connections and good relations with our "Friend" organizations. We intended on co-operating with several non-profit organizations in organizing events and projects; from those organization we will mention; Hand in Hand Armenia, Hayasdan Foundation, Yerevan State Medical School, ARS School, Armenian Student Association (ASA), Armenian Family Support Services (AFSS), Ontario Dental Association, Greek Dental Association, and many others.

I am grateful for all our ACMAO Executive Board members, our Advisory Committee members and our members in general, who have done tremendous work as we have taken our strategic plan from paper to reality. It is encouraging to serve alongside individuals who are as passionate as they are brilliant, and who are committed to our ACMAO mission.

I would also like to thank our donors who give so generously to support our work. Without you, our plans would not turn into reality, and we want you to know that we are committed to the stewardship of your gifts.

In 2019, we took some important steps forward for our organization, but at the same time, we know there is more that we need to do, and more challenges that we need to overcome.

Please join us at our Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 1st, 2020 at the St Gregory Armenian Catholic Church hall in Toronto. Together let us evaluate our successes in the past year, and seek new opportunities for the exciting year ahead.

May 2020 be a successful and fruitful year for ACMAO.

Respectfully Yours,

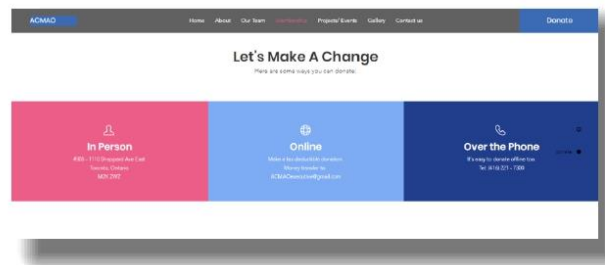
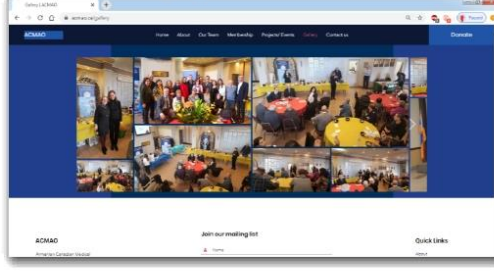
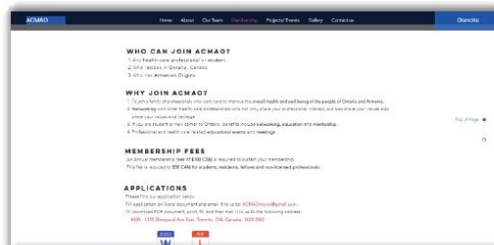
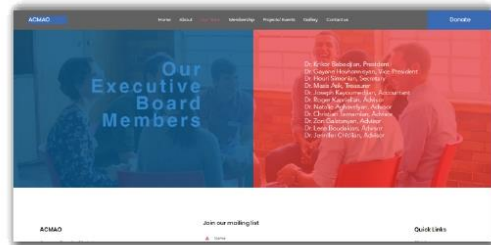
Dr. Krikor Bebedjian
President of Armenian Canadian Medical Association of Ontario (ACMAO)



ACMAO's Events and Projects for 2019-2020 Year

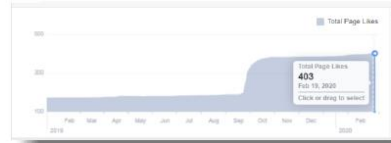
✓ AMAO's New Website

Self-editing website where we can upload videos, photos and articles without the need for professional help. Also a new platform for connecting with ACMAO members through the ability to send emails and event invitations.



✓ **Facebook & Instagram**

- Increase in Facebook followers by more than 250% in the last 12 months -More than 400 likes.
- Created Instagram account



✓ **Brushmania:** (4 dentists, 1 dental hygienist and 3 dental assistants participated)

Ontario Dental Association's not-for-profit program, designed to promote oral health and awareness among young children from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6.

- ARS Armenian school of Toronto (5 April, 2019)
- Arpi Meras Nursery (29 April, 2019)
- Cambridge Armenian Saturday School (25 May 2019)



- ✓ **Social event (23 August, 2019)**
For ACMAO members and Friends



- ✓ **Public Lecture (22 September, 2019) Hypertension, Diabetes and reducing confusion Around Nutrition** - Dr. H. Hamboyan (Family Physician) & T. Kansabedian (registered dietitian)



- ✓ **Career Night (27 September, 2019)** in cooperation with Armenian Student Association UofT
Took place at the University of Toronto St. George Campus



- ✓ **Presentation at "Soup for the soul" event organized by AFSS (16 February, 2020)**
Topic: **CoronaVirus Outbreak** by Dr. Gayane Hovhannisyan



✓ **ACMAO Talent Show** (4 November, 2019)

Social event – audience of more than 100 – more than 10 performers



✓ **Scholarship awards**

1. ARS Armenian School (2 prizes of \$250 CAD for two grade 12 students with the highest marks in science)
2. Yerevan State Medical School in Armenia (5 prizes of \$200 US for medical students from Gyumri region – dedicated to ACMAO's 30th anniversary)
3. Undergrad Science students (2 undergrad university students interested in pursuing a career in a regulated health care field)

