



General Assembly (GA) Charter

Purpose of this OMA General Assembly (GA) Charter

This GA Charter:

1. Sets out the mandate of the GA
2. Establishes the guiding principles of the GA
3. Outlines the specific duties and responsibilities of the GA
4. Defines the structure of the GA
5. Reviews the reporting and communications process
6. Outlines the General Assemblies' right for information and independent advice

This GA Charter applies to all of the entities that are part of the General Assembly, including the Networks, Priority and Leadership Group, Panels, Working Groups, and the General Assembly Steering Committee.

1. Mandate of the General Assembly

The GA is composed of several entities that are collaborative, diverse and empowered to support the OMA's priority and policy generating process. The GA will work together across constituencies and demonstrate that the OMA is united, future-focused and outcome driven. As an essential resource to the Board of Directors in its decision-making, the GA is responsible for making recommendations to the Board, based on the priorities set by the Priority and Leadership Group:

- That are based on available evidence and best practices
- That incorporate appropriate input from OMA Constituency Groups including elected leadership and/or members

2. Guiding Principles

- The GA supports the vision and mission of the OMA
- The GA promotes understanding and cooperation among its constituencies
- The GA reflects the diversity of the profession
- The GA is transparent to members through its work and procedures
- The GA promotes innovative thinking
- The GA supports fairness and consensus-building
- The GA supports a culture of agility, unity, cooperation and teamwork
- The GA contributes to an effective OMA governance system where roles and accountability are clearly delineated

3. General Assembly Responsibilities

The GA advocates for the well-being and interests of the profession as a whole. The General Assembly, with all of its entities, will place the highest priority on addressing the needs of the entire Ontario physician community, while bringing forward the unique perspective of the Constituency Group that they represent. Specifically, the GA entities will:

1. Identify strategic and priority issues through an annual priority-setting conference including:
 - Setting priorities for physician issues and health care policy
 - Setting priorities for advocacy and compensation issues
 - Supporting the OMA strategic planning process
2. Support the development of recommendations addressing OMA health policy and professional priorities, compensation priorities, and physician advocacy priorities through the efforts of Panels and Working Groups
3. Hold a conference at least once a year that includes leadership development, learning, and networking opportunities
4. Ensure that new communication tools and processes for ongoing member engagement are implemented
5. Elect the GASC including the Chair and Vice-Chair

4. Structure of the General Assembly

The GA is composed of Networks, a Priority and Leadership Group composed of 125 leaders nominated from Sections, Districts and Fora*, Panels, Working Groups, and the General Assembly Steering Committee (GASC).

The work of the GA and all its various entities will be supported by OMA staff.

**Note: Please see the Priority and Leadership Group Delegate Allocation Policy for further details*

GA Networks

- The Networks act as forums for physician collaboration and finalize Delegates for the Priority and Leadership Group

GA Priority and Leadership Group

- The Priority and Leadership Group convenes annually to support the OMA to identify policy priorities that aim to address the opportunities and challenges facing the profession. The Priority and Leadership Group also supports the development of the OMA strategic plan in strategic planning years

GA Panels and Working Groups

- There are three GA Panels — Issues & Policy, Compensation, and Advocacy — that oversee the generation of recommendations for consideration by the Board of Directors. GA Panels will establish a series of Working Groups to deliver and make recommendations on approved priorities

General Assembly Steering Committee (GASC)

- The General Assembly Steering Committee ensures the General Assembly, with its various entities, fulfills its mandate and functions effectively

Note: Please see the GA Network, Priority and Leadership Group, Panels, Working Group and General Assembly Steering Committee Charters for further details

5. General Assembly Duties

Priority and Leadership Group Delegates and members of the General Assembly Steering Committee (GASC), Panels and Working Groups, will be required to exercise duty of care, skill, diligence, integrity, both individually and collectively, to ensure an effective and efficient GA. Priority and Leadership Group Delegates and members will:

- Meet their duty of care to the OMA and its membership when carrying out its duties and responsibilities
- Demonstrate skill and diligence through attentive, thorough, and careful effort in executing their responsibilities
- Be guided by high integrity and ethics when executing their responsibilities
- Act in good faith and demonstrate loyalty to the OMA and its membership
- Demonstrate respect for all OMA members and constituencies
- Exercise vigilance for and declare any apparent or real conflict of interest in accordance with the General Assembly's policies
- Uphold confidentiality of all information deemed confidential and ensure there is no disclosure through any means, including social media
- Act as a champion and an advocate for physicians, the OMA, and the General Assembly

- Accept accountability, jointly with the rest of the General Assembly, for the performance of the General Assembly

6. Reporting and Communications

Open and transparent communication between all the GA entities is essential to the success of the GA. Working Groups, Panels, and the GASC will be accountable and provide regular progress reports as per OMA governance policies.

7. Information and Independent Advice

The GA will have access to all existing OMA information, documents, and records that it determines is necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities (except in camera records or restricted embargoed records), including any and all reports from external counsel including a lawyer, accountant, consultant or any other advisor/professional.