



Medical Alumni Association
University of Toronto

Notice to MAA Members:

On 14 June 2023, a Special General Meeting of the members of the Medical Alumni Association of the University of Toronto (MAA) was held via Zoom. At that meeting, a resolution was passed to dissolve the MAA as an independent corporation and to transfer its property to the University of Toronto.

As described in my letter in April, over the last decade we have experienced a decline in the number of active donors and in the amount donated. We could foresee a time when our annual donations would not meet even operating costs, let alone build the funds to support medical students.

When the MAA was established, financial aid to students and support for MD alumni were not provided by the University. During the last 25 years, the Faculty of Medicine, now Temerty Faculty of Medicine (TFM), has invested significantly in these areas, creating dedicated teams of advancement and learner affairs specialists to provide substantial student support. Much of the MAA's mission is now duplicated, but on a larger scale, with fundraising, student support, and alumni engagement activity now provided by the University. As a volunteer-led organization, with two staff, the MAA cannot maintain the same level of service.

Ending an association that has operated for more than 130 years has not been a step taken lightly or easily, but the MAA's effectiveness and ability to carry out its mission to support medical students and alumni have eroded over time. While we all find it an occasion for sadness, I believe it is a correct and necessary decision, in the best interests of both medical students and alumni.

As I also wrote in April, we have negotiated an agreement with the Temerty Faculty of Medicine. Among the provisions of that agreement are:

- Our programs for student support will be continued. Named awards or bursaries will continue under the same names and terms of reference.
- The University is going to match the money we transfer, so our programs will have even greater effect.

- Undesignated funds will be used to start new Medical Alumni Association (MAA) Awards to be given based on financial need.
- The *MAA Matters* electronic magazine will continue under the same name.
- The physical property of the MAA, such as artifacts and archives are being assessed by U of T archivists and librarians who will preserve them.
- Assistance with reunions will continue to be available through the Faculty's Advancement and Alumni Affairs office. The MAA has already been working with them in partnership for several years on this.
- An alumni voice will be maintained through a new Medical Alumni Advisory (MAA) Council being created within the Faculty.
- The legacy of the MAA will be recognized on donor walls in the Medical Sciences Building and in Simcoe Hall, the central University offices. A permanent Medical Alumni Association Garden, between the MSB and McLeod Auditorium, will have a stone marker perpetuating our history.

As a graduate of the MD program at U of T, you will continue to receive communications from the Faculty and University. I urge you to continue to support medical students by donating directly to the Faculty. You may direct your support to the newly established Medical Alumni Association (MAA) Awards [here](#) and all donations received before 31 December 2023 will be matched by the Faculty. Regular monthly donors to the MAA and those who have made other donations in the last two years will receive another communication from us about how you can continue your support.

I urge all of you to take an active role in supporting the alumni effort through the Temerty Faculty of Medicine.

Sincerely,

David McKnight
President, Medical Alumni Association
Class of 1975