



Nominee: **Ali Damji**

Geographic Representation: **NW Mississauga**

PEM Representation: **FHO, FHT**

Position(s): **Board Member**

**Why are you excited to be part of the MH PCN leadership team?**

I joined the interim leaders group because I firmly believe that while there are immense challenges and uncertainty right now in our system that there is also immense opportunity. The OHTs provide an opportunity to redesign healthcare to best serve our communities. I know from studying and working in healthcare systems around the world that the best systems have primary care as their foundation. The OHT needs primary care as its foundation or else it will simply create more of the same, and we will not see the dramatic improvements our system desperately needs to keep up with systems around the world. I am concerned that primary care's instrumental role to drive change is being lost due to the lack of a powerful representative voice. Via the MHPCN, I want to use the skills I have cultivated in leadership, advocacy and health systems improvement to bring an evidence-based, loud, solutions-oriented and unified voice for primary care so that we can make all care in our region better.

**If you were part of the MH PCN leadership team, what would be one issue you would like to champion? Why?**

I would champion the creation of virtual communities within our region using social media. A great example of this is the First Five Years Group for Family Practice Facebook Group. In this group young family doctors use this as a space to connect and share advice and ask questions around complex cases, share resources e.g EMR templates, and assist one another with patient navigation challenges e.g. which specialist has the shortest waiting time in Region X? I'd like to create a similar initiative for the MHPCN where colleagues would be able to connect with one another and develop a virtual community, not just for clinical matters but even for helping one another out with setting up practices, navigation, sharing of resources, challenges with burnout/staff, finding coverage, and providing support. It also would help our Leadership group have a better sense of concerns from the grassroots as we work with external stakeholders and lead system change.

**Do you have deep expertise in an area that you think would be valuable for the MH PCN leadership team?**

Leadership and Quality Improvement (MSc System Leadership & Innovation), Social Media communications, Governance & Roberts Rule of Order from leading Annual General Meetings for Canadian Federation of Medical Students as Honorary Chair, Advocacy Campaigns.

**Do you have any potential conflicts of interest by being involved with the MH PCN leadership team?**

None

