

My name is Meena Natarajan, and I want to be a passionate advocate for Family Physicians across Canada.

I currently work in Ontario and hold full practice licenses in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. I was raised in Nova Scotia, completed my undergraduate degree at St. Francis Xavier University, and my graduate and medical degrees at Dalhousie University. Prior to medicine I taught in a community college for 8 years and was a tutor with Dalhousie Student Accessibility services for health professions.

I was a solo practitioner in rural New Brunswick for 7 years, providing 24/7 on call service for a comprehensive practice of 2000 patients, daily hospitalist work, 2-3 days/week urgent care, covered a group home, and taught medical students.

In Ontario, I work in urgent care, surgical assist, and hospitalist work in remote communities. I teach clinical skills at the University of Toronto and volunteer at an interprofessional community clinic.

I currently sit on the Member relations, Advocacy and Communications Committee with the Ontario Medical Association and was on the Complaints and Registrations Committee with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick.

This is a pivotal time in Family Medicine. Increasing patient complexity, administrative demands, and increasing expectations for family physicians to absorb overflow of work without commensurate financial support is creating crisis and physician burnout.

I have been fortunate to work in many aspects in Family Medicine and am eager to learn more about effectively advocating for this incredible, comprehensive profession and for the tireless physicians who provide this care.

Meenakshi Matarajan