

Election statement:

Throughout my career, I have remained deeply committed to advancing the pharmacy profession through leadership, advocacy, collaboration, and dedicated service. I am seeking election to the Board of the Ontario Pharmacists Association because I believe strongly in the vital role OPA plays in supporting pharmacists, advancing practice, and ensuring our profession continues to evolve to meet the growing needs of patients and the healthcare system.

My experience spans community, specialty, corporate, independent, regulatory, and advocacy sectors of pharmacy. I have had the privilege of serving as President and Chair of the Ontario College of Pharmacists, Vice President of Pharmacy at OPA, and President of the International Pharmaceutical Federation's Community Pharmacy Section. These roles have provided me with a broad understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing pharmacists across diverse practice settings, provincially, nationally, and globally. They have also reinforced the importance of strong governance, strategic thinking, and effective stakeholder engagement in shaping the future of our profession.

Advocacy has been a central focus throughout my professional journey. I have worked closely with government, policymakers, associations, and healthcare stakeholders on issues related to scope of practice, pharmacy sustainability, healthcare access, and strengthening the role of pharmacists within the healthcare system. I believe our profession must continue to proactively tell its own story and clearly demonstrate the value pharmacists bring to patient care and system capacity. At a time when healthcare systems are under increasing pressure, pharmacists are uniquely positioned to improve access, support patients closer to home, and help expand the reach of healthcare services.

If elected, I would bring a collaborative and solutions-focused approach to the Board. I value respectful dialogue and the inclusion of diverse perspectives as essential to strong decision-making. My leadership style is practical, grounded in experience, and always oriented toward advancing the profession. I am deeply committed to supporting the next generation of pharmacy leaders and fostering a profession that remains united, resilient, and forward-looking.

It would be an honour to continue serving the profession through the Ontario Pharmacists Association and contribute to shaping its future direction.

Sherif Guorgui