



ADVISORY COUNCIL

Role, Responsibilities and Meetings

What is the PARA Advisory Council?

The Advisory Council (Council) is a designated standing committee of the Board of Directors, with membership and mandate in accordance with Article 9 of the Association Bylaws. The Council is comprised of regional and practice-specific delegates to represent members' interests and provide input to the Board regarding strategic direction.

What is the role of the Advisory Council?

1. Acts as advisory to PARA's Board of Directors
2. Share member and program information/experiences/perspectives with Board of Directors to inform decision making and priority setting
3. Share information/actions/opportunities for engagement from Board of Directors to members, in support of engagement, accountability and transparency
4. Build capacity and understanding within PARA of program-specific information that will allow PARA to better collaborate with Programs and PGME partners
5. Act as champions for PARA initiatives, programs and events, both with general membership and with external partners
6. Champion and participate on PARA's internal working groups and committees to help guide initiatives and programs for all members
7. Support external committee opportunities to ensure resident physician representation with partners

Advisory Council Membership

- Program representatives (U of A and U of C)
 - Programs with <30 residents = 1 representative
 - Programs with 30+ residents = 2 representatives
- Members at Large (U of A and U of C)
 - PGY 1 & 2 (3 representatives)
 - PGY 3+ (3 representatives)
 - Open (2 representatives)

Term

- One academic year, unless otherwise extended per PARA policy

Who is eligible/how are elections run/who is responsible for selecting program representatives?

- PARA oversees the election process, and the PARA membership votes for all program representative and member-at-large positions
- All PARA members in good standing are eligible to submit a nomination for program representative or member-at-large
- If any position receives more nominations than positions available, an election will be held
- Important dates:
 - Call for nominations open: July 6–22, 2026
 - Elections: July 24–31, 2026
- After the close of elections, PARA will notify Program Directors of the names of resident physicians within their program who have been elected to the Council for the 2025–2026 academic year

Meetings/Time Commitment *(see 2026–2027 Advisory Council Meeting Schedule – next page)*

- Orientation: An orientation session will be offered for new members of the Council with respect to their role and responsibilities as members of the Council, as well as support available to them
- Four established meetings per year (August, November, February, May); in person and virtual
- Ad-hoc meetings, surveys, working group meetings as appropriate throughout year

How does PARA support Advisory Council reps and the time commitment?

- Protected time off for PARA business is granted under Article 8.2 of the Resident Physician Agreement
 - A letter will be provided to each Program Director following the close of elections, confirming their program’s representative(s) to the Advisory Council and encouraging their support of the role and time requirements

2025–2026 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE (exact meeting times TBC)

MEETING	DATE	LOCATION
Advisory Council orientation	August 27, 2026 (7–8:30 p.m.)	Virtual
Advisory Council meeting	September 15, 2026 (12–4 p.m., plus travel if applicable)	In-person (Edmonton)
Advisory Council meeting	November 10, 2026 (12–4 p.m.)	Virtual
Advisory Council meeting	February 10, 2027 (1–4 p.m.)	Virtual
Advisory Council meeting	May 12, 2027 (1–4 p.m.)	Virtual