

## STATEMENT

Dear Colleagues,

It is an honor for me to be nominated to become a member of the Commission on North American Affairs of the ILAE. Should I be elected to participate in this Commission, I would bring my experience as a current President of the Canadian League Against Epilepsy (CLAE), a former Director of Education of the CLAE, and my experience as a member of different committees of the American Epilepsy Society (AES), including my current role of Vice-Chair on the Council of Communication. Furthermore, I have participated in this Commission in the past as the Chair of a Task Force on Disparities in Epilepsy Care in North America. All these interactions with North American colleagues has allowed me to grow as a professional delivering care to those with epilepsy and as an academician with a focus on the education of residents in neurology and fellows in epilepsy.

Outside North America, I have been able to collaborate with colleagues in South America through different task forces and research and educational initiatives. But the most gratifying of all has been the development of the first two epilepsy surgery programs in Peru.

I am an adult neurologist, with special training in Epilepsy and Epidemiology, working in an academic institution in London, Ontario. My research interests have been to study the epidemiology of the epilepsies, as well as the outcome of different treatments offered to those with epilepsy, with an emphasis in the evaluation of potential disparities in care. As a result of my collaborative research, I have realized the great achievements that can be obtained when working with other colleagues with common shared goals.

Finally, I have had the opportunity to work multiple times with the incoming chair, Dr Nathalie Jette, in different research and educational projects in Canada. I share her vision and her plan to contribute with the ILAE priorities.

Yours,

Jorge G Burneo