

MARCH 2019 UPDATE



JUNE 15

Q2 Council meeting, preceding the College's annual general meeting.

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CPSNL annual general meeting, Health Sciences Centre, Conference Room 1343, Level 1, in St. John's. The meeting begins at 1:30 pm.

Highlights: 2019 Q1 Council Meeting

The College's first-quarter Council meeting was held on Saturday, March 9, at The Gathering Place in St. John's. Highlights of the meeting included:

1. The preceding evening, at JAG Hotel, David Gibbs (Deloitte) delivered a presentation: "The Effective Board."
2. Submission of a report on 2018 Complaints activity. The results of two Q4 Adjudication Tribunal hearings were also presented.
3. Presentation of a report on 2018 licensing numbers and activity, with an update on 2019 numbers.
4. Updates on several ongoing quality assurance endeavours, including the NL360+ program now underway at MUN, the new guide for sponsorship and orientation of provisionally licensed physicians, development of the new Physician Assessment, Training and Oversight (PATO) program.
5. Approval of the College's revised *Governance Manual 2019*.
6. Distribution of Council, Committee, and Registrar annual evaluation forms.
7. Submission of the completed 2018 Operations Plan, which reported on successful achievement of 2018 goals and objectives.
8. Adoption of the new CMA Code of Ethics and Professionalism (see box below).
9. Updates on several key external activities of College staff, specifically with the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC). See updates elsewhere in this bulletin.

The Council also reviewed details for the College's upcoming annual general meeting.

ON OUR RADAR

NATIONAL LICENSING STANDARDS

As physicians who have moved about this country well know, beginning work in a new province is not an easy process. One solution to minimizing the paperwork and expense involved is implementing national licensing standards.

A broader approach to licensing has been on politicians' and health regulators' radar for at least a decade. Ongoing talks have been focused on streamlining regular licensing for fully licensed doctors with no disciplinary history, and on helping locum physicians who move from one province to another for fill-in work to make those moves more quickly.

It is likely that introducing pan-Canadian licensing standards will begin with a regional approach—specifically in Atlantic Canada. Talks are underway to make this happen, potentially within the next few weeks.

HAVE YOU CHECKED THE UPDATED CODE OF ETHICS?

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recently released a new Code of Ethics and Professionalism.

In response, the College has transferred its adoption of the previous version of this document (as its By-Law 5) to this updated Code.

The Code can—and should—be reviewed on the College's website, under "Standards of Practice."

IN OUR NEWS

JOHN WHITE (1946–2019)

The College notes with sadness the death of John White on January 10, 2019. A longtime member of the College Council, Mr. White had a long career with the provincial government and served on several College committees during his time on Council (2005 to 2016).

ATLANTIC REGION DISCUSSING CHANGES TO LOCUM LICENCES

The Atlantic Colleges' Registrars convened in Halifax on February 20—a special meeting held to explore whether an expedited process for licensing locums could be achieved within Atlantic Canada. This would be a short-term solution, in anticipation of a pan-Canadian solution currently under discussion. College counsel Elyse Bruce and licensing staff at CPSNL have played an important role in this development.

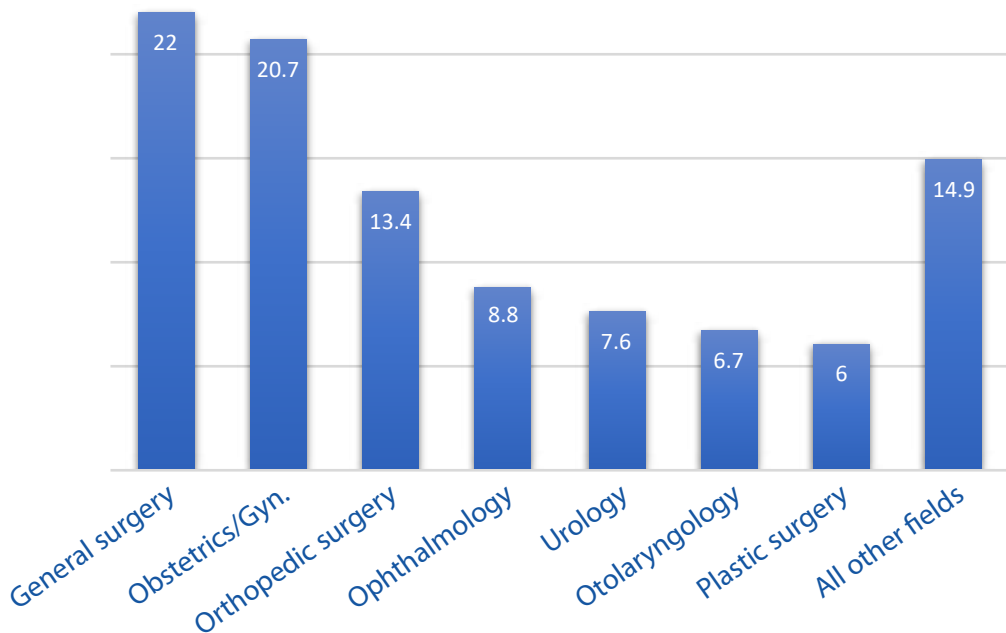
With luck and continued effort, a signed Memorandum of Agreement for the four Atlantic Colleges will be forthcoming within weeks.

MEETING WITH CLINICAL CHIEFS, EASTERN HEALTH

On February 12, the College Registrar and Associate Registrar, Dr. Linda Inkpen and Jamie Osmond, were invited to speak to Eastern Health's Clinical Chiefs' meeting. The main topic was the difference between full and provisional licences, which the College issues. In addition, the Clinical Chiefs sought details about Royal College Fellows, other formal Fellowship Programs, and the range of informal fellowship programs in several Canadian provinces. Discussions also covered the province's licensing standards, especially in medical specialties experiencing a shortage of sub-specialists, and national model standards and licensing standards in other Canadian provinces.

TRENDS IN POST-M.D. SURGICAL SPECIALTIES RESIDENT TRAINING

% OF 2,335 CITIZENS/P. RESIDENTS IN SURGICAL SPECIALTIES



Data courtesy of Canadian Post-MD Education Registry (CAPER)

This graph shows specialties pursued by residents and fellows studying in Canada in the 2017–18 training year (only Canadian citizens and permanent residents included). CAPER further reports a general increase in enrollment in the most commonly enrolled Surgical Specialties from the early 2000s through 2010. More recently, enrollment has generally decreased in general surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, and orthopedic surgery and generally increased in ophthalmology and urology.

Mandate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador

“The college is authorized to regulate the practice of medicine and the medical profession in the public interest.”

As established by the *Medical Act*, 2011