

DECEMBER 2022

UPDATE



JANUARY 15

FINAL DEADLINE

All licences not renewed for 2023 expire

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JANUARY 23-24

Council's Strategic Planning Sessions

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MARCH 11

Q1 Council meeting
CPSNL offices
8:30 a.m.



Warm best wishes to CPSNL physicians and your families for a safe and happy New Year.

The College office will be closed from December 24 to January 2 inclusive. Phone and email will be monitored.



2022 Q4 COUNCIL MEETING

The College Council held its fourth-quarter meeting on December 10, 2022 (highlights summarized below). Council and staff members attended in person and virtually. In addition, the two newly elected Council members attended as guests. Their terms began on December 12, 2022.

REPORTS PRESENTED

- **Professional Conduct:** O. Howell reported on the Complaints Authorization Committee's busy year. E. Bruce provided an update on disciplinary hearings.
- **Licensing & Registration:** J. Osmond presented the Q3 report, pointing out a trend: **an increase in Full Licences and fewer Provisional Licences.** He noted that the PRA-NL requirement for family medicine Provisional Licences may be a factor in this trend. Regarding the 2023 licence renewal process, positive feedback was reported. G. Hamilton advised that the Licensing Committee had been extra busy, in part because of changes to the *Medical Act, 2011*.
- **Operations Plan:** J. Osmond provided an update about progress on the College's 2022 Operations Plan, noting **elements deferred**

because of unforeseen resource demands.

- **Finance & Audit:** G. Hamilton provided Council with highlights of the November 25 meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee. The 2023 budget, approved by the Committee, does not reflect the unknowns that may arise from the effect of changes to the *Medical Act, 2011* on College operations. **Council approved the 2023 budget without amendments.**

REVIEWS & DISCUSSION

- **Five-Year Strategic Plan:** T. Adey reported on planning progress, noting stakeholders have been contacted for **consultations to provide input** for January strategic planning sessions.
- **Risk Register:** J. Osmond presented the Risk Register Update, noting **additional financial and operational risks** stemming from

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... 2022 Q4 Council Meeting, cont.

revisions to the *Medical Act, 2011* and other licensing changes.

- **Bill to Amend the *Medical Act, 2011*:** E. Bruce summarized for Council the contents of this Bill.
- **Quality Assurance:** O. Howell reported on the November 23 Quality Assurance Committee meeting and updated Council on planning toward expanding the scope of the Physician Peer Review program (PPR-NL) to include specialists and family physicians with specialized scopes of practice.
- **Assessment & Oversight:** O. Howell reviewed the College's current programs and how they may be impacted by the new *Medical Act, 2011* and *Medical Regulations*. In the short term, the College will explore opportunities to strengthen the program.

APPROVED FOR ACTION

- Council approved the following Practice Guidelines:
 - **Uninsured Services** (revised)
 - **Opioid Prescribing** (unchanged; it will be reassessed again in one year)
- Council approved the following revised Standards of Practice to be **released for stakeholder consultation**:
 - **Virtual Care**
 - **Closing or Taking Leave from a Medical Practice**
- Council approved the following revised Standards of Practice:
 - **Complementary & Alternative Medicine**
 - **Ending the Physician-Patient Relationship**
 - **Duty to Report a Colleague**
 - **Physician Treatment of Self, Family Members and Others Close to Them**

IN COLLEGE NEWS

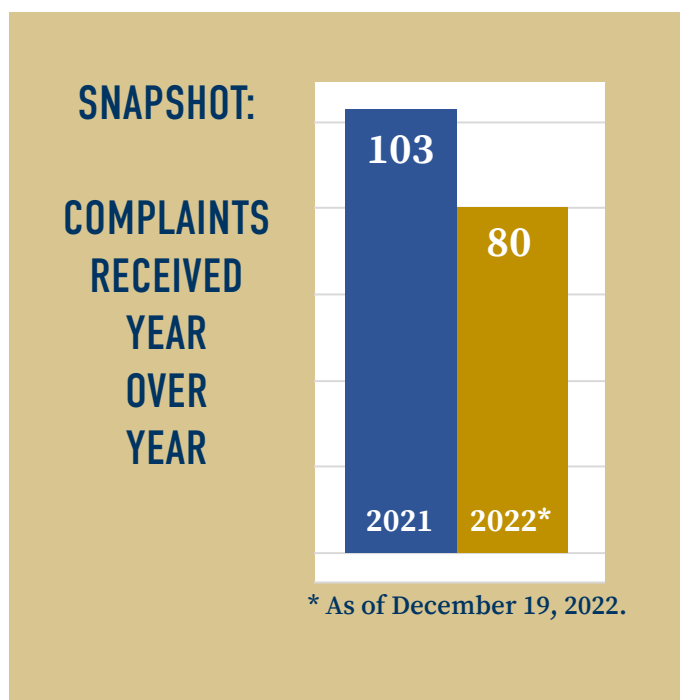
CHANGES ON COUNCIL

Two new members joined Council following the recent elections. Dr. Natasha Parady and Dr. Lynn Dwyer now represent the region of Mount Pearl / St. John's. In addition, Dr. Tracy Wentzell was acclaimed to represent the Remainder of the Province. No candidate was nominated to fill the second position for this region, however. The next opportunity to fill this vacancy is the Fall 2023 elections.

At the December 10 Council meeting, Gail Hamilton was re-elected Chair of Council, and Dr. Tony Gabriel was elected Vice-Chair. The Chair and the College's CEO and Registrar expressed gratitude to departing Council members for their valued contributions: Dr. Kevin Hogan, Dr. Rebecca Rudofsky, and Dr. Carl Sparrow.

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ATLANTIC REGISTRATION

Preliminary discussions are ongoing with all four Atlantic Colleges and respective governments to implement an Atlantic Registration process allowing for practise in all four provinces.



The 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*