

JUNE/JULY 2024

UPDATE



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
June 3 to September 3

*

AUGUST 31

Deadline for submitting comments on three revised and new Standards of Practice

*

SEPTEMBER 14

Q3 Council meeting
CPSNL offices
8:30 a.m.

2024 Q2 COUNCIL MEETING

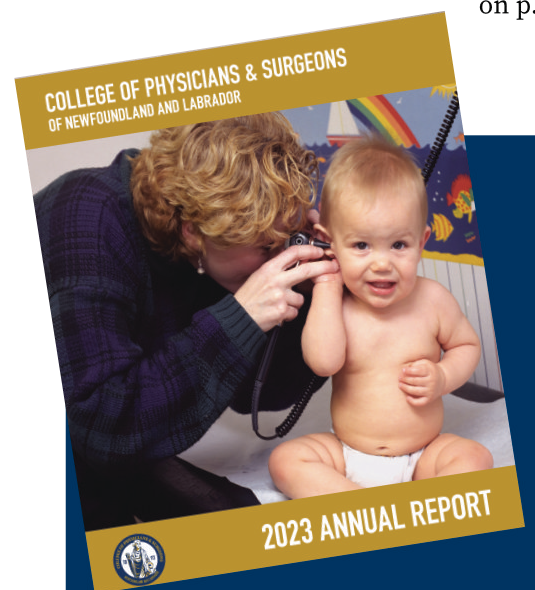
The College Council’s 2024 second quarterly meeting was held on June 8 at the College’s offices. It opened with a presentation by the new Deputy Registrar, Dr. David Carroll, whose official tenure began on June 10. Council gave its warm thanks to retiring Deputy Registrar Dr. Oscar Howell for his significant contributions to the College. Additional highlights of the meeting follow.

REPORTS and DISCUSSION

- **Strategic Plan:** T. Adey gave an update on College activities vis-a-vis the **three strategic drivers** (see the full Strategic Plan at cpsnl.ca). She also reported that fall **strategic planning days have been confirmed** for the Professional Conduct and the Licensing and Registration departments. Implementation continues on the outputs of the Quality department’s strategic planning day.
- **Professional Conduct:** O. Howell reported that the number of **complaints received continues to trend upward**, but the College’s consensual early dispute resolution process means **fewer reach the Complaints Authorization Committee**. E. Bruce reported that Family Medicine and Emergency Medicine see the most complaints and that **clinical decision making has reemerged as the top reason for a complaint** (42%), followed (at 19%) by communication.
- **Licensing and Registration:** J. Osmond noted an increase in licensing applications. Consideration will be given to **expanding the information the College collects** in order to better understand how physicians are practicing in

the province. O. Howell reported that the College is collaborating with the Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University, for the assessment framework component of the Specialist Associate Licence and we look forward to operationalizing this licence type upon its completion. **Council thanked J. Osmond and the Licensing team** for the significant innovation that has occurred at the College in the department over the past two years, under the leadership of J. Osmond, to address provincial human health resource challenges.

... continued on p. 2



Find and read our 2023 annual report at cpsnl.ca.

INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

This updated Standard of Practice was approved by Council at the June 8 quarterly meeting. Read the full Standard on cpsnl.ca.

... 2024 Q2 Council Meeting, cont.

- **Finance, Audit and Risk:** G. Hamilton reported on the April 26 committee meeting and that the **auditors were pleased with the work of the finance team**. C. Lee discussed audited financial statements for 2023 and internal financial statements for the 2024 first quarter.
- **Operations:** J. Osmond reported that **two new hires will join the College** at or before the end of August (executive assistant and communications officer). He noted that cyber-security risk management and response planning remain **ongoing priorities** and that work continues on the new registrant management system.
- **Quality:** Committee Vice-Chair D. Dove and T. Adey discussed the status of the College's peer review assessment program (**PPR-NL**) and steps being taken to develop a sustainable program that will apply to all physicians. O. Howell noted that guidance provided at the **Quality Department Strategic Planning Day** has been helpful and that Compliance is now part of the Quality department.
- **Governance :** G. Hamilton reported on **Council appointments** (see box below).
- **Standards and Guidelines :** E. Bruce led discussion of one new and two revised Standards of Practice. With

recommendations for adjustments to language, Council **released all three for member consultation**. Details about how to provide input (by survey or email) are on the Policies & Guidelines section of cpsnl.ca (under Consultations).

T. Adey reported that the Council Chair and College leadership are to attend the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC) AGM and Education Conference (June 11–14) in Muskoka, Ontario. Work has commenced on the **FMRAC Atlantic Registry Evaluation Plan** with financial contribution by Health Canada.

The Council meeting was followed by the College's AGM.

NEW AND CONTINUING COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

At the Council meeting, the Governance Committee reported that Allan Bradley, Dave Dove, and Gail Hamilton have been reappointed as Public Members and Dr. Tony Gabriel has been reappointed as a representative for the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA). Dr. Sohaib Al-Asaad has been appointed as the representative for Memorial University and Dr. Yordan Karaivanov has been appointed as the second NLMA representative. Appointments to Council are now complete. Council looks forward to working with its new members.

Training on Gender & Health Care

In keeping with the College's Strategic Plan—to ensure that policies and practices support equity, diversity, and inclusion—an **education session was held for Council and leadership** at the College on June 7. Dr. Mari-Lynne Sinnott was invited to present on the topic of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender-Inclusive Language in Health Care.

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

The mandate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador as established by the *Medical Act, 2011*