



COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

2025-Q2 Update

July 18, 2025

2025-Q2 Council Meeting Highlights

A meeting of the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador (the College) was held on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at the College Offices, 120 Torbay Road, St. John's. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held virtually following the Council meeting.

Since the last Council meeting, the Complaints Authorization Committee met three times and aims to maintain the median timeline for file closure of 11 months. Complaints continue to trend higher than the five-year average, in line with the record volume experienced in 2024. A number of complaints were related to poor communication around clinical decision making. Physicians are reminded to make formal arrangements for follow up when diagnostic imaging is required and ensure that clear instructions are provided to their patients for its completion. A robust review of 2024 will be released in July in the Professional Conduct Annual Report.

In Q2, to advance the strategic objective of being "easy to work with," the College reviewed and updated all templated letters used in the complaints process. The primary focus was to ensure letters were easy to read, understand, and required actions were clearly identified. Also supporting our "easy to work with" objective, the College is pleased to report that the position of Professional Conduct Navigator to aid both physicians and the public during the complaints process has been filled and work began on June 30.

The College has adopted a new process for the management of the oversight program. This new process is designed to increase both transparency in how we communicate with physicians and procedural fairness, as the decision is made by a committee with the opportunity for physician input.

Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) Standard of Practice

Physicians who choose to assess eligibility for or provide MAiD, must have sufficient training, experience, and qualifications to safely and competently do so. Please review the Standard [here](#). The Model Practice Standard can be found [here](#). If you are unsure about your ability to offer MAiD, please contact licensing@cpsnl.ca.

The College has received numerous inquiries about Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD). Physicians interested in adding MAiD to their scope should contact the College directly at licensing@cpsnl.ca to discuss the process per the [Re-Entry to Practice and/or Change of Scope of Practice policy](#). The College would like to remind registrants that this pathway is for those who have not already been practicing MAiD in their existing scope; those who already have this included in their scope do not need special permission from the College to continue practicing in this area.

A significant amount of work has been completed on the Physician Peer Review (PPR-NL) program. Peer reviews help physicians maintain quality standards and identify areas of improvement and is a requirement under the *Medical Act, 2011*. The College will be expanding this program beyond its current scope of family medicine physicians to include all physicians.

The Licensing and Registration Committee approved an update to the Non-Practicing Status policy. Owners or part-owners of a Medical Clinic or Professional Medical Corporation (PMC) may have additional requirements to be able to avail of non-practicing status, which also may affect the ability of a registrant to qualify for licensing fee refunds. Registrants are encouraged to review the [updated policy](#).

The Corporate Services Team has focused on continued implementation of the College's registrant management system, fee schedule review, risk management and privacy efforts, and administrative policy reviews. The College is pleased to report that the position of Information Management and Data Analytics Lead has been filled. This new role will oversee data management frameworks, analytics strategies, and reporting systems to ensure data is accurate, accessible, and utilized effectively in support of the organization's overall strategic goals. **-Continued on Page 2**



Oversight Providers

The College is seeking physicians who are interested in becoming oversight providers. Oversight providers are paid for their service and their reports to the College play an important role in ensuring access to quality patient care for residents of NL.

Please contact quality@cpsnl.ca if you are interested in becoming an oversight provider!



Regulating the practice of medicine in the public interest.

Fairness - Quality of Service - Innovation - Social Responsibility - Communication - Transparency - Inclusion & Diversity



2025-Q2 Council Meeting Highlights

(continued)

The College requested and was granted funding from the Department of Jobs, Immigration and Growth to evaluate the need for a multistakeholder orientation program for Internationally Trained Physicians (ITP) new to the NL healthcare system. The evaluation includes hiring a consultant, completing a jurisdictional scan, conducting a literature review, delivering a survey to ITPs, and a hosting a one-day symposium. The consultant will submit a report with recommendations in Q3.

The Governance Manual has been updated to reflect improved governance processes including an annual declaration of conflicts of interest, a new process for Council members to introduce new business, and guidance for private meetings of Council.

Q2 marked significant progress for Public Engagement including a strategic planning day, staff training, and a meeting of the Public Engagement Committee. In Q3, the College aims to establish a public advisory network to ensure that the public has a meaningful way to engage in College work.

The Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC) Forum, titled The Evolving Role of Medical Regulators: Innovate, Regulate, Elevate was held in Calgary, June 10-12. This provided College representatives an opportunity to share knowledge and delve into the pressing topics of medical regulation. Our CEO and Registrar, Dr. Tanis Adey, has been appointed as FMRAC President for a one-year term as of July 1, 2025.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Sept 13. The College would like to extend warm wishes to our registrants, partners, and stakeholders for a safe and enjoyable summer.

How do you feel about our level of communication? Do you prefer more or less? Tell us how you would like to see it change. [Click Here](#)

Physician Care Network (PCN)

The PCN embraces the principles of prevention and treatment of health conditions. The process is confidential, and information is only shared with the College when there is a legislated mandate to report (s.41, *Medical Act*, 2011).

The PCN is available to physicians, residents, and medical learners; and we encourage our members to self-refer if you are experiencing any health difficulties. Self-referrals offer an opportunity to address issues early, ideally before impairment occurs.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the PCN.

Virtual Care

Standard of Practice

Physicians using virtual care in the delivery of health care are held to the same legal, ethical, competency, and professional standards as when providing in-person medical care. The use of virtual care must maintain the standard of practice. Click [here](#) to learn more!

Provisional to Full Licence Pathway

Licensing Policy

If you are provisionally licensed and have certification from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada and five (5) years of practice history, you may be eligible to obtain a full licence without the LMCC/MCCQE1.

Contact licensing@cpsnl.ca to determine your eligibility.

Annual General Meeting & Report

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador was held virtually on Saturday, June 7, 2025, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. The event was open to licensed physicians.

A copy of the Annual Report can be viewed [here](#).