



COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

2025-Q3 Update

Oct 16, 2025

2025-Q3 Council Meeting Highlights

A hybrid meeting of the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador (CPSNL) was held on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at the CPSNL Offices, 120 Torbay Road, St. John's; virtual attendance was offered through Microsoft Teams.

Since the last Council meeting, the Complaints Authorization Committee met two times. Complaints continue to trend in line with the record volume experienced in 2024 and have increased in complexity. A robust review of physician professional conduct issues in 2024 can be found in the [2024 Professional Conduct Annual Report](#). CPSNL welcomed a Professional Conduct Navigator to the team. The Navigator is a registered Social Worker who will provide support to both the complainant and the Registrant during the complaints process.

The Licensing and Registration Committee approved a new Temporary Full Licence Policy. The Licensing Team leveraged this policy to ensure a seamless licensing process for physicians accompanying Canada Games teams to the province.

As a result of recent changes to the *Medical Act, 2011*, the composition of the CPSNL Council has changed. Council membership increased from 15 to 16 members. Representation from Eastern Urban was reduced and representation from the rest of the province was increased to better reflect the distribution of the medical community. A new seat was created for a Postgraduate Learner to strengthen the voice of physicians in training and reinforce collaboration with the medical education community. Current Council members will remain in their seats until the end of their terms; new members will be added as Council seats are vacated to reflect these changes. CPSNL is currently accepting [nominations](#) for representation in Eastern Urban, Eastern Rural, Western, and Labrador-Grenfell.

There was one meeting of the Quality Assurance Committee since the last Council meeting. A newly developed process was adopted for the Oversight Program. This new approach increases both transparency and procedural fairness.

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2025 Council Elections Call for Nominations!

There are three (3) vacant seats in the upcoming Council Election that must go to active CPSNL Registrants that live or practice in these regions:

- one (1) seat in Health Region 1 (Eastern Urban)
- one (1) seat in Health Region 2, 4 or 5 (Eastern Rural, Western, or Labrador-Grenfell)
- one (1) seat in Health Region 2, 4 or 5 (Eastern Rural, Western, or Labrador-Grenfell)
- [Click here](#) to view the Health Regions.

Serving on the CPSNL Council is a challenging and rewarding opportunity that requires time and participation in Council and Committee meetings. Council members are remunerated for attending Council and Committee meetings and any required travel is covered in accordance with CPSNL's Travel and Business Expense Policy.

Please review [The Ideal Candidate](#) document to determine your eligibility to run. If you are interested in this opportunity, please approach **two (2) colleagues** who are CPSNL Registrants to nominate you as a candidate and complete the [Nomination Form](#).

Nominations will be accepted until 12:30 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2025.

CPSNL values diversity, equity, and inclusion and encourages underrepresented members to apply.



Oversight Providers Wanted

CPSNL is currently seeking Registrants who hold an unrestricted Full or Provisional Licence to become Oversight Providers. Oversight Providers are paid for their service and their reports to CPSNL play an important role in ensuring physicians provide safe and quality patient care.

Please contact quality@cpsnl.ca if you are interested in becoming an Oversight Provider!



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2025-Q3 Council Meeting Highlights

(continued)

CPSNL continues to exercise good financial practices. The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee reported that CPSNL is operating within the budget parameters for 2025. Annual licence fees were reviewed and are aligned with other Atlantic Canadian Regulatory Authorities and remain unchanged for the 2026 licence period.

The Corporate Services Team has focused on continued implementation of the registrant management system, risk management, data analytics, and privacy. CPSNL welcomed an Information Management and Data Analytics Lead. This new position will be integral in the growth of data governance reporting and information system optimization.

The work to evaluate the need for a multistakeholder orientation program for Internationally Trained Physicians new to the NL healthcare system has been completed and a report has been submitted to the NL government. CPSNL will convene a meeting of the Governance Advisory Committee to review the report’s recommendations and determine next steps.

Draft Standards of Practice (SOP) on Physical Examinations & Procedures and Maintaining Professional Boundaries – Sexual & Personal were circulated for consultation to Registrants and stakeholders. CPSNL thanks respondents for their feedback which will inform the final versions of the SOPs.

The creation of a Public Advisory Network remains a priority for CPSNL. Draft terms of reference have been created, and commitment has been confirmed from other health regulators. This network will create a pathway for the public to meaningfully engage in regulatory work.

August marked substantive changes to the *Medical Act, 2011*, and *Medical Regulations, 2023*. Key changes include the regulation of Physician Assistants, an updated definition of the practice of medicine, and the ability to add non-Council members to the Complaints Authorization Committee. New and renewing Registrants for the 2026 licensure period will now be automatically registered with the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA). Registrants are reminded to ensure your NLMA fees are paid as maintaining good standing is mandatory for licensure.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for December 6. The College would like to extend warm wishes to our Registrants, partners, and stakeholders for a safe and enjoyable fall season.

2026 Annual Renewal



Key Dates:

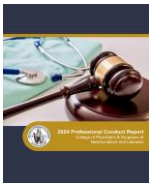
- **Nov 3, 2025:** 2026 Licence Renewal period begins
- **Dec 4, 2025:** Administrative penalties applied for applications submitted after Dec 3
- **Jan 15, 2026:** 2025 Annual Licences expire 11:59 p.m.

New for 2026:

- Registrants can opt in and out of the Atlantic Registry
- Questions added to better understand your practice (practice type, MUN Faculty of Medicine affiliation, hospital privileges, and locum coverage)
- NLMA auto registration: by renewing your Licence to Practice Medicine in NL, you automatically become a member of the NLMA. Please ensure your NLMA fees are paid as maintaining good standing with the NLMA is the best way to avoid any unnecessary licence expiry, reinstatement fees, and/or interruptions to patient care.

Not Renewing a
Licence in 2026?

LET US KNOW!



2024 Professional Conduct Report

[Click here](#) to learn about CPSNL’s busiest year to date.



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 CPSNL 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.



FAST-TRACK TO CPSNL LICENSURE
For Licensed Canadian Physicians



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

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