

MARCH 2018 UPDATE



APRIL 30, 2018

Deadline for consultation on two new draft Standards of Practice

JUNE 16

Q2 Council meeting, in St. John's at Memorial University Medical School

JUNE 16

2018 AGM, following the Q2 Council Meeting

Highlights: 2018 Q1 Council Meeting

The College's first-quarter Council meeting was held on March 10 in the the Board of Regents boardroom at Memorial University of Newfoundland (St. John's campus). Highlights included:

1. Reviewing the 2018 Report on Licensing, which presented data on new and renewed individual physician licences and Professional Medical Corporation licences.
2. Reviewing the 2017 Complaints Report.
3. Reviewing one draft Practice Guideline (PG) and four draft Standards of Practice (SoP), which were at various stages in their review process.

The results were:

- **NEW** PG: Physician Use of Social Media (approved by Council)
- **NEW** SoP: Withdrawal of Physician Services During Job Action (approved by Council)
- **NEW** SoP: Conflict of Interest (approved by Council)
- SoP: Medical/Surgical Procedures in Non-Hospital Facilities (sent for consultation with College members)
- SoP: Prescribing (sent for consultation with College members)

The three approved Practice Guideline/Standards of Practice are now posted on the College's website, as are the draft SoPs requiring member consultation.

4. Reviewing and updating the College's Governance Manual.
5. Passing of two bylaws: an amended Bylaw #4 ("Registers") and a new Bylaw #9: "Publication of Adjudication Tribunal Findings and Proceedings."
6. Reviewing the progress and funding reports on four ongoing College projects:
 - Assessment: Licensing process (using LEAN principles)
 - Website revision
 - Assessment: Business continuity and disaster recovery
 - Creation of a new post-graduate online application
7. Distributing annual College Council, Committee, and Registrar evaluation forms to Council members.

DO YOU HAVE FRENCH-SPEAKING PATIENTS?

Statistics Canada reports French is the mother tongue of more than 3,000 people in Newfoundland and Labrador (2011). This can pose challenges when seeking or receiving health care in our largely anglophone province.

The Francophone Health Network (FHN) has recently updated its Directory of French-Speaking Health Professionals here and made it available on an interactive map on its website (see www.francotnl.ca/RepertoireSante).

If you are not included in this directory but would like to be, contact the Francophone Health Network at Sante@fftnl.ca or call them at (709) 757.2862.

As the FHN says, not only does being treated in French "contribute to the cultural identity preservation of Francophone and Acadian patients" who live here, it increases the effectiveness and quality of the health care such patients receive.

IN OUR NEWS

COLLEGE COUNCIL: IS IT YOUR TIME TO SERVE?

This fall, three elected positions on the College Council will be open for election—two from the St. John's–Mount Pearl area and one from the remainder of the province. Information about how to nominate yourself or another member will be emailed in the summer. In the meantime, however, consider whether this service has your name on it.

The College and all members benefit the most from Council members who:

- have a passion for medicine and for ensuring that practitioners uphold the highest standards
- have a desire to help shape medical regulation
- are committed to serving the public interest—and to protecting it
- are seeking meaningful ways to become involved in the medical profession

Does this describe you? Please consider putting your name forward in 2018.

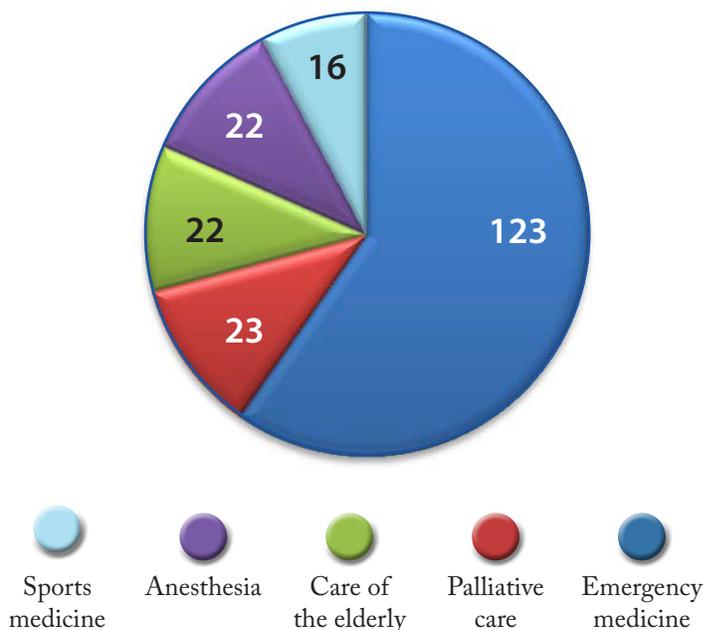
WE WILL BE ASKING FOR INPUT

In the coming months, the College will develop a survey to gather information and feedback about our existing complaints process. The survey will be given to all complainants and physicians who go through the College's complaints process, once that process is completed. Its purpose is to provide data and information that will help guide the College in revising the process, as needed.

WHAT IS "CONFLICT OF INTEREST"?

The College's new Standard of Practice on this topic defines "conflict of interest" as "a situation in which a physician is or appears to be at risk of acting in a biased way because of a personal interest . . . [which] can be financial or non-financial and the physician does not necessarily need to directly benefit from the relationship if [his/her] family, close friends or business will profit."

2016–17 CERTIFICATES OF ADDED COMPETENCE (CANADA)



According to the Canadian Post-MD Education Registry (CAPER), the number of family medicine residents who chose to complete a third year of training has doubled over the last decade (although it has generally been falling since 2010–11). In 2016–17, 19.4% of all Family medicine residents chose to go on for a third year. The chart above sheds light on those among them who completed a Certificate of Added Competence during that year, by specialty.

Reproduced courtesy of CAPER

SAFE-PRESCRIBING COURSE: THE FIRST YEAR

The College is pleased to report that since the new Safe-Prescribing Course, which was developed in collaboration with Memorial University of Newfoundland, has been offered (beginning in January 2017), 325 physicians in Newfoundland and Labrador have successfully completed it.

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