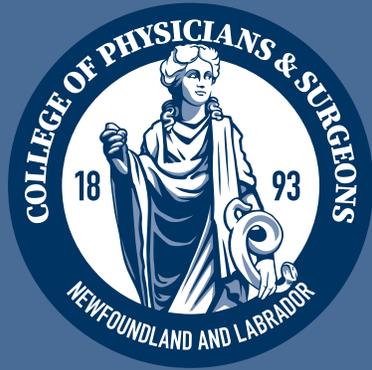


MARCH 2021 UPDATE



JUNE 19

Q2 Council Meeting
8:30
Location TBD

College AGM
1:30 p.m.
Location TBD

2021 Q1 COUNCIL MEETING

The Avalon Peninsula moved to pandemic Alert Level 4 concurrent with the College's first-quarter Council meeting (March 13). Consequently, the Council once again met virtually; all members attended remotely. Highlights included the following.

FIRST: A SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A special session on governance—with a focus on “Board Responsibilities in Diversity and Inclusivity”—was held Friday evening, March 12. The presentation was led by Ms. Jane Parody of Flow Consultants, and included contributions by four colleagues with special insights into these issues.

REPORTS PRESENTED

- **Complaints:** Activities and statistics of the Complaints Authorization Committee (CAC) during 2020 were reviewed; details will follow in the 2020 College annual report. College Counsel E. Bruce also reported that an Adjudication Tribunal Hearing was held in December 2020.
- **Licensing:** An update on licence renewals for 2021 was provided (see next page). J. Osmond,

Associate Registrar, also spoke about operational, technical, and other matters related to licensing and to the extra efforts required to prepare for 2021 renewals.

- **Information Management:** Several operational matters were discussed during the meeting; in particular, J. Osmond provided a detailed update on the College's extensive and ongoing Information Management project.
- **Quality Assurance:** B. Bennett, Director of Quality, gave updates on the seven active physician files that the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) is managing. He also briefed the Council on developments with the **Physician Peer Review–NL (PPR–NL)** program; Council agreed with the QAC's **amendments to the program's proposed rollout schedule**, re-targetted for April.
- **Standards and Guidelines:** Current work on eight new and revised Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines were presented for Council action. **See next page for actions and resolutions.**

Financial and other updates were also provided and discussed, including a report from the College's Governance Committee.

“PROVIDING CULTURALLY SAFE HEALTH CARE FOR INDIGENOUS PATIENTS”

At its March 13 meeting, the College Council resolved that **completing the above-named program will be mandatory for all practising physicians for 2022 licences.**

This course will be offered as another MUN Faculty of Medicine collaborative venture.

There will be a modest fee for completing the online program, which

will be accredited by the College of Family Physicians of Canada and by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

The new program will be offered in Spring 2021 for practising physicians. **All new physicians licensed as of July 1, 2021, must complete the course before they will be granted their licence.**

IN COLLEGE NEWS

NEW MEMBER APPOINTED: QAC

At its March 13 meeting, Council appointed Dr. Kevin Hogan to the Quality Assurance Committee. Annual committee membership is reviewed at each December Council meeting.

COMING SOON: TASK FORCE REPORT

The Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC) has taken the lead in establishing a Task Force on matters of diversity and inclusion, racial discrimination, implicit bias, and hateful conduct. It is anticipated that all Canadian medical regulatory authorities will be signatories.

These issues are many and complex—often systemic, such as those involving physician/patient, patient/physician, and physician/physician relationships. CPSNL is contributing to this work and looking forward to the Task Force’s report.

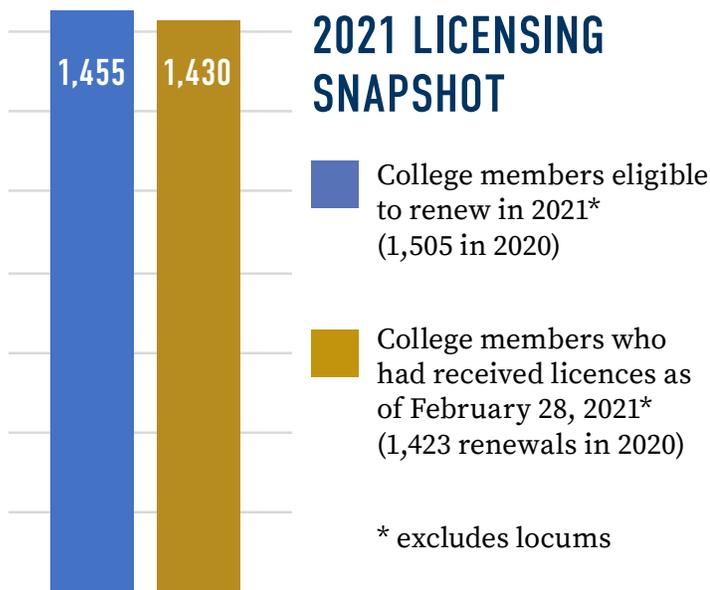
CHANGES TO STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES

The College Council resolved the following at its first-quarter meeting:

- **ACCEPTED:** The revised Standard “Boundary Violations.” A previous 2015 boundary violations policy was repealed.
- **ACCEPTED:** The new Standard: “Continuity of Care.” It replaces both the 2010 guideline “Outpatient Consultation” and the 2008 “Responsibility for Continuity of Care for Patients Without a Family Physician,” which have been repealed.
- **ACCEPTED:** The new standard “Virtual Care.” The 2017 standard “Telemedicine” was repealed.
- **ACCEPTED:** The new standard “Bloodborne Viruses.”
- **ACCEPTED:** The new standard “Physical Examinations.”
- **ACCEPTED:** The new standard “Chaperones.” A previous guideline, “Chaperones and Sensitive Examinations,” 2016, was repealed.
- **ACCEPTED:** The new standard “Disclosure of Harm.” The 2008 guideline “Disclosure of an Adverse Outcome” was repealed.
- **ACCEPTED:** The new standard “Advertising.” The 2016 guideline “Advertising and Public Communications” was repealed.

NOTE: Because the draft Standard of Practice “Closure of Medical Practice” requires further review (re locums/short-term practices), the 2017 Practice Guideline on this subject remains in effect.

All Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines can be accessed at cpsnl.ca.



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*