

JUNE 2017

UPDATE



SUMMER

Communication begins re physicians' 2018 Licence to Practice renewals and Professional Medical Corporation registration

SEPTEMBER 9

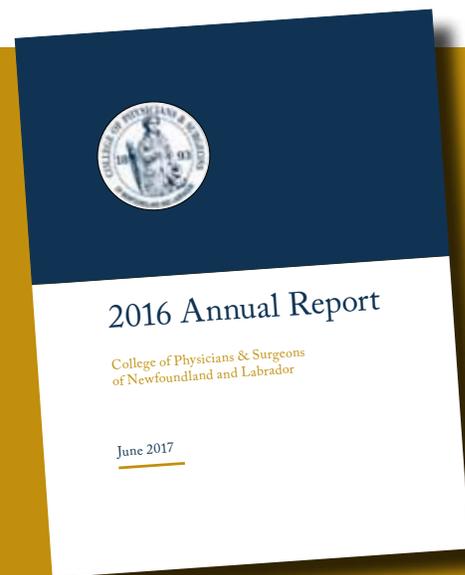
Q3 Council meeting, held in St. John's at the Johnson GEO CENTRE

2017 Q2 Council Meeting and AGM

The College's second-quarter Council meeting and annual general meeting were held, consecutively, on June 17 at the St. John's offices of the Chartered Professional Accountants of NL. Highlights of the Q2 Council meeting included:

1. Introduction of the five Provincial appointees to Council. They are three new appointments—Mr. Alan Bradley, Mr. Morgan Cooper, and Dr. Mohamed Ravalia—and two re-appointments, Ms. Gail Hamilton and Dr. Susan MacDonald. Ms. Paula Rodgers and Mr. John White have retired from Council.
2. Approval of the College's new Practice Guideline: Suboxone® for Opioid Dependence.
3. Presentation of the annual Council and Registrar performance evaluations.
4. Commencement of strategic planning for 2018.
5. Approval of updates to the Governance Manual including introduction of a three-person quorum for all College committees and a stipulation that one of these three must be a public Council member.
6. Discussion of how the College can best integrate the new Canadian opioid prescribing guidelines.

At the AGM, the Registrar gave a report summarizing the activities of the preceding fiscal year and looking ahead to the work of the coming year (see "On Our Radar," next page).



HAVE YOU READ IT?

The College's 2016 annual report can be downloaded at cpsnl.ca. We welcome your feedback.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 9, 2017

"2016 was a year during which the complaints authorization process received exceptional attention. The College has a much more efficient, transparent, and fair process as a result of this work. However, this work and process improvement will continue."

From Registrar Dr. Linda Inkpen's report to the 2017 AGM

IN OUR NEWS

WORKING NATIONALLY FOR SOLUTIONS

Several College staff and the Chair of Council travelled to Winnipeg in early June to attend national meetings and a conference organized to share information on regulatory issues. The conference, which focussed on the regulation of opioid prescribing, was sponsored by the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada.

HOW TO UPDATE YOUR SAFE-PRESCRIBING CME REQUIREMENT?

The College now requires its members to include a safe-prescribing course in each five-year continuing medical education (CME) cycle. Acceptable courses are offered by both the Royal College and the College of Family Practice, where members can find courses that suit their own practices and needs. In addition, it is now possible for members to fulfill this responsibility by completing the new Safe-Prescribing course offered through Memorial University, initially designed for physicians practising in this province for the first time. The College has emailed members further information.

ON OUR RADAR

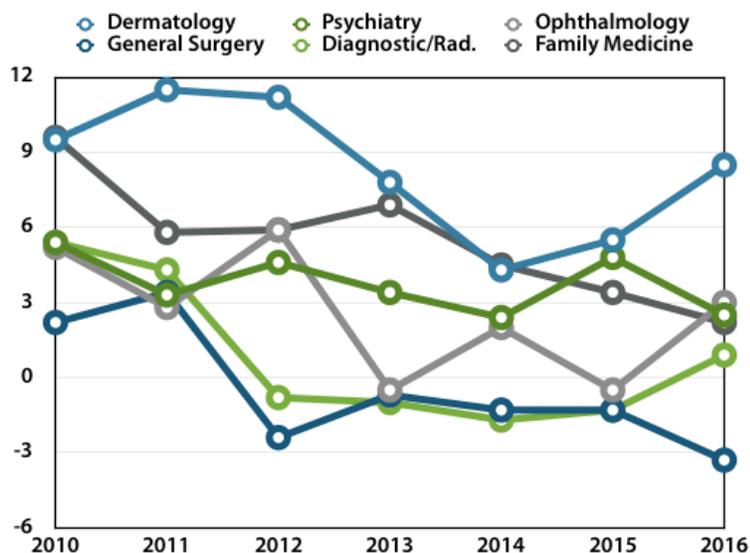
COLLEGE ACTIVITIES OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

As outlined in the remarks of the College Registrar at the AGM, the following tasks will be among the College's priorities for the remainder of 2017:

- preparing several new Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines
- forwarding the Strategic and Operational Plans
- continuing implementation of the College's new database
- studying how to create a better working model for physician quality assurance
- streamlining the annual online licensing process
- undertaking a major review of sponsorship criteria and processes
- monitoring and applying national standards to our own licensing, registration, and complaints processes, our quality assurance and policy endeavours, and our internal operations
- helping identify possible interventions to address the abuse, misuse, and diversion of narcotics and other medications of concern while advocating for a robust, real-time prescription-drug monitoring program

TRAINEE TRENDS

The graph below shows the percentage annual change in the study areas of ministry-funded postgraduate trainees (national). It is reproduced courtesy of the Canadian Post-MD Education Registry (CAPER), which notes that: "Broad specialty proportional trends in Canadian postgraduate medical education have stayed fairly constant . . . over the last two decades. Medical specialists have increased slightly to just over half (53%)."



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