

JUNE 2019 UPDATE



SUMMER HOURS

CPSNL office hours
from June 1 to
August 31 are:

8:30 a.m.
to
4:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 14

Q3 Council meeting
CPA offices
(Chartered Professional
Accountants)
95 Bonaventure Ave.
St. John's

EARLY FALL

2020 licensing process
starts

FALL

College Council
elections

www.cpsnl.ca

Highlights: 2019 Q2 Council Meeting

The College's second-quarter Council meeting was held on Saturday, **June 15** at the Health Sciences Centre in St. John's. Highlights of the Council meeting follow.

TWO GUEST PRESENTATIONS

On Friday evening, Dr. Heidi Oetter, registrar of B.C.'s College of Physicians and Surgeons, gave a presentation about progress toward **pan-Canadian licensing** (telemedicine, fast-track licensing, and licence portability for locums).

Fleur-Ange Lefebvre, executive director of the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC), spoke to Council about **FMRAC organizational priorities** and core activities.

REPORTS REVIEWED

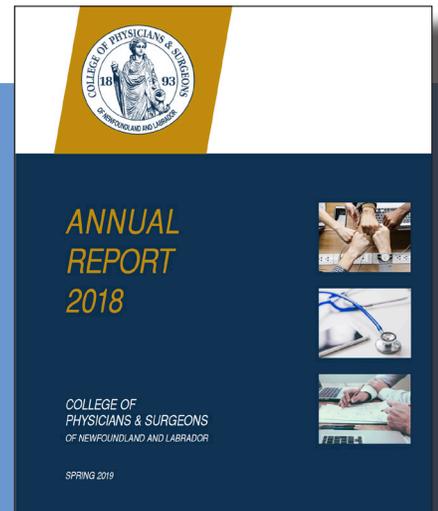
- an update on **complaint** activities currently in process or completed since the previous Council meeting
- a summary of individual licences to practise medicine and professional medical corporation **licences** issued to date
- updates on **Quality Assurance** meetings and programs (see gold box at right for a major development)
- the regular report on **risks to self-regulation of professional bodies**
- a FMRAC draft **discussion paper** on pan-Canadian licensure was provided to Council members

STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

- Council approved a revised Practice Guideline (**Independent Medical Examinations**)
- Council approved a new Standard of Practice (**Consent to Treatment**)

OTHER BUSINESS

- Council, committee, and registrar **evaluations** were reviewed
- **planning** is underway for 2020 licensing, as well as work-plans and priorities for the coming year; work-to-date on the 2019 operations plan was also reviewed



A snapshot of College activities during 2018 was provided at the June 15 **annual general meeting**, which followed the Q2 Council meeting. Details are also captured in the CPSNL 2018 annual report, available at cpsnl.ca.

OPTING OUT OF APMPR

Council was notified at its June 15 meeting that on May 30 the CPSNL Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) resolved to formally withdraw from the Atlantic Provinces Medical Peer Review (APMPR) program, effective June 1. The College's funding contributions and current and planned physician assessments will continue to December 31, 2019.

A new program for peer assessment is being piloted and will be ready in January 2021. For details about the College's quality assurance and quality improvement activities, see the 2018 annual report.

IN OUR NEWS

CHANGES IN COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Appointed Council member **Morgan Cooper** has resigned from Council effective July 1. This leaves two vacancies on Council, both government appointments.

MOU SIGNED: REGIONAL LOCUM LICENSING

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by representatives of the four Atlantic colleges of physicians and surgeons on March 26, 2019. The MOU outlines a commitment to creating the process(es) that will **expedite the issuing of locum licences** for physician members of any of this region's MRAs who hold full unrestricted licences to practise.

OFFICE RENOVATIONS

Office renovations are currently underway that will provide more working space within the existing CPSNL office footprint while also improving both efficiency and workplace friendliness. The College hopes to have everything **completed by the end of August**.

REGULATING BOUNDARY VIOLATIONS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC

In her report to Council on **risks to self-regulation of professional bodies**, College Counsel Elyse Bruce reported on information exchange that took place in B.C. in connection with FMRAC's annual conference, attended by CPSNL staff. The conference theme was "Physician Sexual Boundary Violations: Effective and Proactive Regulation for Public Protection."

CROSS-BORDER CONTACT

As part of her work as FMRAC president (and also representing CPSNL), Registrar Dr. Linda Inkpen attended the annual general meeting of the **Federation of State Medical Boards** (FSMB). She reported to Council at the Q2 meeting that this country's (and regional) MRA counterparts in the U.S. are facing similar regulatory concerns.

IMPROVING HOW WE COMMUNICATE

Thank you to all College members who completed the survey circulated by Praxis Communications in March. The College has received the consultant's final report and will formulate an Action Plan from its recommendations.

CPSNL LICENSED PHYSICIANS IN THE CANADIAN CONTEXT

Licensed Physicians* 2018



* Includes non-clinicians and physicians working primarily in administrative positions who hold a licence to practice, and part-time and semi-retired physicians but not medical residents and physicians over 80.

(Source: Canadian Medical Association database)

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CPSNL COUNCIL?

Four elected Council members complete their terms this year: two each from St. John's /Mount Pearl and the rest of the province. Look for details about the nomination and election process later this year.

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