

# DECEMBER 2019 UPDATE



## JAN. 15

Last day for 2020  
licence renewal.  
See box on this page  
for details.

## MARCH 14

Q1 2020  
Council Meeting  
St. John's offices  
of the Chartered  
Professional  
Accountants NL  
95 Elizabeth Avenue

## Highlights: 2019 Q4 Council Meeting

The College's fourth-quarter Council meeting was held on **December 7** at the Gardiner Centre, Memorial University, St. John's. Highlights are outlined below.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS & LEADERSHIP

Drs. Kevin Hogan, Rebecca Rudofsky, Carl Sparrow, and Tracey Wentzell were returned by voting or acclamation in the recent **Council elections**. They will serve until December 2022. At the Council meeting, Ms. Gail Hamilton and Dr. Elizabeth Bannister were re-elected as **Council chair and co-chair**, respectively.

### SPECIAL PROJECTS: PATO AND PPR-NL

Council received a full briefing on two programs that are the focus of much current College effort:

- the **Physician Peer Review (PPR-NL)** project, which will be piloted by volunteer family physicians beginning in January
- the **Physician Assessment, Training, Oversight (PATO)** program, being developed in association with Memorial University; the practice-ready assessment component (PRA-NL) for international medical graduate family physicians will be the first PATO component developed and implemented

Council was informed that, related to this work, the Deputy Registrar and PATO Medical Director attended a national meeting on physician remediation (Calgary). Similarly, participation in a September conference in Chicago ("Continued Competency: Balancing Assurance and Improvement") confirmed that the **College's efforts align with current thinking on quality assurance/quality improvement programs**.

### MATTERS FINANCIAL

The **2020 budget was approved** (\$3.822 million), essentially unchanged over last year.



### FROM OUR OFFICE TO YOURS

Sincere best wishes  
to CPSNL members  
and their families

for a safe and happy New Year.

The CPSNL office will be closed  
December 24 to January 1 inclusive.

### REPORTS REVIEWED

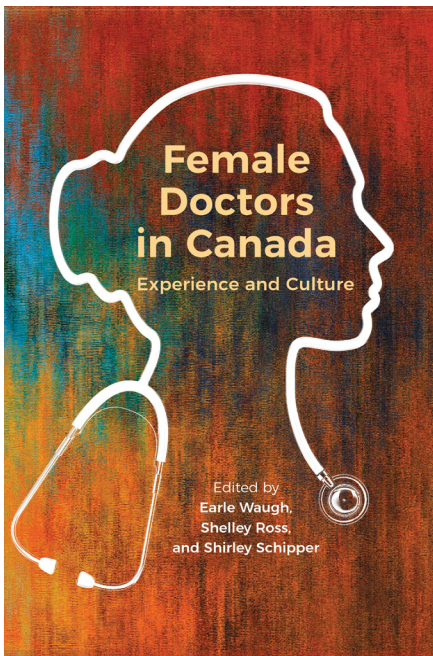
- **Complaints:** While the overall number is trending downward in the year-to-date, two general trends were noted: increases in **complaints about professionalism** and **by physicians about physicians**
- **Licensing: Renewals** are on par with last year
- **Public Engagement:** The draft terms for this **new committee of Council** were reviewed and approved; it will begin its work in the new year

### OPERATIONS 2020

The 2020 Operations Plan, created from the Strategic Plan approved at the previous Council meeting, was presented to Council and is **ready to roll out**.

### STILL TIME TO RENEW, LATE FEES APPLY

The regular **licence renewal** period has now closed, but applications can still be submitted. Late fees apply and there is no guarantee of licence renewal by the final deadline of January 15. On **January 16, 2020, administrative loss of licence** occurs and **licence reinstatement fees** will apply.



*“In 2018,  
42.1% of physicians  
were women,  
compared with  
39.1% in 2014”\**

## HOLIDAY READING

University of Toronto Press has just released a collection of thoughtful articles by doctors and researchers that explores how the world

of medical training and practice may need to change as more and more medical professions are women.

*\*Physicians in Canada, 2018, Canadian Institute for Health Information*

## ON OUR RADAR PHYSICIAN MOBILITY

Work continues on the regional initiative to find a **“harmonized” approach to physician licensing across the Atlantic provinces.**

The College participated in an information session with NL government officials in November, and a similar meeting of representatives from all four provinces and their medical regulatory bodies is planned for December.

Registrar Dr. Linda Inkpen reported that the College is pleased and encouraged that this work is moving forward, adding that “the College will assist where and when required.”

In her update to Council about this initiative, she noted that, if achieved, “regional harmonization can serve as an excellent example of what may be accomplished across Canada. National licensing could have many benefits to Newfoundland and Labrador.”

## COLLEGE NEWS

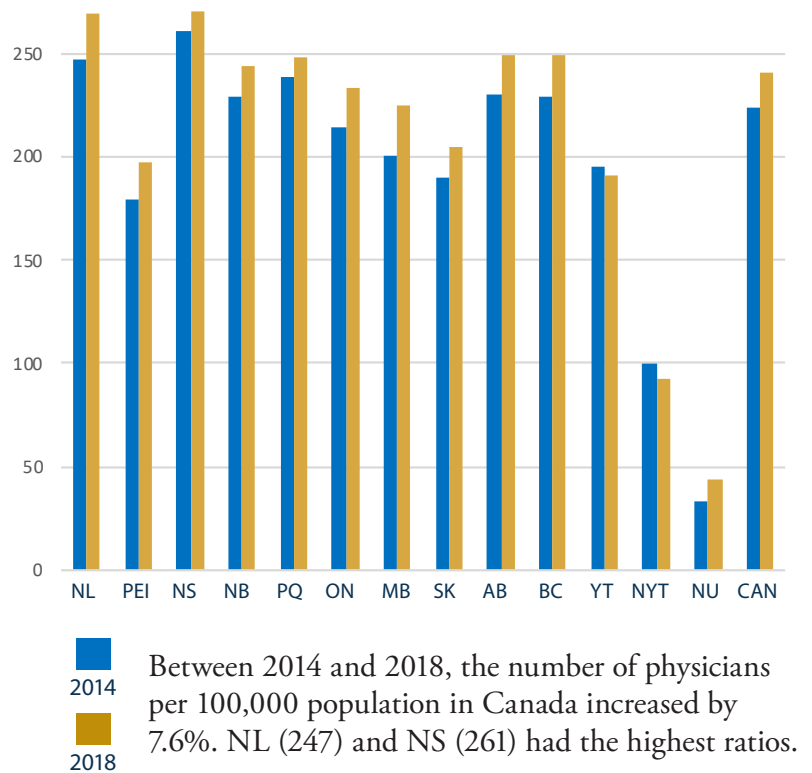
### REGISTRAR OUTREACH

In the second of her two annual trips to speak with physician members of the College across the province, CPSNL Registrar Dr. Linda Inkpen spent **a day in St. Anthony on November 19**. The purpose of this outreach is to promote better understanding of the College and its work and to give members an opportunity to present their issues and concerns.

### NEW BYLAWS FOR THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

In 2019, all of the College Council’s by-laws were reviewed by the governance committee. As a result, several proposed revisions were discussed with Council at the December 7 meeting. The approved **new bylaws will be presented to members** early in the New Year and accessible on [cpsnl.ca](http://cpsnl.ca).

## PHYSICIANS PER 100,000 POPULATION



Source: Scott’s Medical Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information

## 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