

Council Highlights
August 25, 2008

Council was not constituted due to the resignation of Darren Stevens, RMT from Council in June. Council met and reviewed background materials related to fees and strategic planning. Council proposed to amend By-law No. 7 – Fees and reviewed the Survey responses received from members regarding proposed amendments to:

By-law No. 2 – The Election of Members to the Council, and
By-Law No. 8 – The Register and Member Information

Proposed Amendments to By-law No. 2 – The Election of Members to the Council

Council thanked all those members who responded to the survey.

For further details about the survey responses, please see the Autumn 2008 edition of the College Standard on the College's website.

Proposed Amendments to By-Law No. 8 – The Register and Member Information

Under provisions of the Health Systems Improvement Act, the *Health Professions Procedural Code* (the Code) will be changed effective June 4, 2009, or earlier at the discretion of the Lieutenant Governor. The amended Code will require the Health Regulatory Colleges to collect additional information from members and to make the information available to the public and to the government.

In order to collect this information on the 2009 registration renewal forms and to be able to provide the public register information as of June 2009, the register requirements in By-law No. 8 must be changed to authorize the College to collect and disclose this information.

There are two major sets of changes which must be implemented: what information is collected and what information is disclosed to the public or as aggregate data.

1. THE ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DATABASE SYSTEM is being set up by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to allow the government to collect consistent and reliable data on health professionals to produce better health human resources planning.

Standardized data elements needed for planning were to be determined by the end of September 2008. The College will collect this information on its 2009 registration renewal forms in order to be able to report out to the Ministry at the end of 2009. This information will be reported as aggregate data, so no information will be reported on individual members of the College and individual members' information will not be available to the public.

2. PUBLIC REGISTER INFORMATION

The *Health Professions Procedural Code* (the Code) lists what member information is public and what information members are required to provide but which is not public. The changes to the Code provide substantially more information to the public about members than has previously been the case. The additional information available to the public includes:

- the terms, conditions and limitations on a certificate
- a notation about every matter referred to the Discipline Committee for professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity
- the result, including a synopsis of the decision, of every disciplinary and incapacity proceeding unless there is no finding
- a notation of every finding of professional negligence or malpractice unless the finding is reversed on appeal
- where a discipline decision is under appeal, a notation that it is under appeal

- a notation of the resignation and agreement where a member resigns during or as a result of a complaint proceeding

RESPONSES TO THE SURVEY

(For more details about the members' survey responses concerning this issue, please see the Autumn 2008 Edition of the College Standard on the College's website).

A substantial number of respondents to the survey did not make the distinction between information the College collects for its own use or to provide to the government and information that is available to the public. Many respondents assumed that all of the information collected is available to the public and did not understand the distinction between information the College collects for its own use (e.g. e-mail addresses) and information the College collects to provide to the government (e.g. date of birth). Many of the comments provided were negative and assumed that birth dates, e-mail addresses, etc. are available to the public.

Policies Adopted

The Executive Committee, which is constituted, met immediately after the Council meeting adjourned to ratify the following policies, in order to move the business of the College forward:

Criminal Record Screening
Examination Failures in Other Jurisdictions

There is no requirement to circulate proposed policies to the members for comment. However, in proposing policy to Council, Committees complete relevant and appropriate research, including obtaining member feedback through focus groups or online surveys. The complete wording of the adopted policies can be found on the College's website.

The Executive Committee directed that the proposed amendments to By-law No. 7 – Fees, discussed by Council, be posted on the College's website and circulated to stakeholders for the required 60-day consultation period.