

AGM & Council Highlights

May 22, 2009

Council held its Annual General Meeting and quarterly council meeting at University of Toronto's Mississauga Campus, in conjunction with the Ontario Massage Therapist Association's (OMTA) annual education conference.

AGM:

Committee Updates

Committee chairs presented the 2008 Committee reports to Council. The Fitness to Practice Committee was not required to meet in 2008, as there were no matters for consideration.

Audited Financial Statements

Blair MacKenzie, Hilborn, Ellis, Grant, LLP presented the audited Financial Statements as at December 31, 2008. Council approved Hilborn, Ellis, Grant as the College's auditor for 2009. The College's senior management team was thanked by Council for their management of the College's operations and finances over the past year.

Recognition of Service by Non-Council Members

Individuals who served as Non-Council Members and on various College Committees in 2008 were thanked by the presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Catherine Moran, RMT, Parisa Moallemian, RMT, and Karen Redgers, RMT. K. Redgers was present to accept her Certificate of Appreciation.

Council Meeting

By-Law No. 7 - Amending the Annual Renewal Deadline

In 2008, members and several members of Council requested that the College consider moving the deadline date for renewal of Registration to earlier in the year to avoid the Christmas and holiday season and the associated costs and asked staff to study the matter.

In response, College staff considered a variety of dates within the context of the College's operational year. Members were surveyed and the majority supported moving the date to earlier in the fall. A proposal to amend By-Law 7, Fees, changing the renewal date to October 31st was reviewed by Council.

Following a presentation by the OMTA, and in consideration of the potential impact on OMTA membership, Council did not approve the amendment of By-Law No. 7 and the renewal date remains unchanged at December 31st every year.

By Law No. 2 – Election of Members to Council

In preparation for the College's submission to the government regarding increasing the number of seats on Council to assist with some anticipated caseload increases after June 4, 2009, the College proposed a revision of its electoral boundaries to enable the addition of a new district for another professional seat on Council. District 8 is the newly-created district and includes five counties previously in District 5. The district realignments, based on member representation, are as follows:

- Districts 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 remain unchanged
- District 5 – retention of four counties and addition of Simcoe county (1477 members)
- District 3 – remains unchanged with the exception of the addition of Simcoe county (1316 members)
- District 8 is the made up of 5 counties that previously were in District 5 (1177 members)

Council also discussed amendments to By Law No. 5 – Committees and made housekeeping amendments to ensure language consistency with changes to the RHPA effective June 4, 2009, including the amendment of “Complaints” to Investigation, Complaints and Reports Committee.” As well, amendments to the Schedule A of By-Law No. 5 were made to increase the number of members on Investigations, Complaints and Reports and the Discipline Committees.

Notice of the proposed amendments to By-Law No. 2 will be circulated to members in June 2009.

By-Law No. 8 – Register

By-law No. 8, sets out what information the College will maintain about members of the College and what information will be made available to the public.

To date, Registration numbers have been on the public Register so that insurers can verify that massage therapy services were provided by Massage Therapists. Members have expressed concern to the College that if their numbers were to be easily accessible through the College's website, they would no longer be able to protect them as required by the College's Policy on Certificates of Registration. The College's Professional Conduct department and Complaints Committee also expressed concern regarding misuse of numbers.

The amended By-Law No. 8 and the rationale for amending the By-Law was circulated to members for feedback and the vast majority of members agreed with the proposed amendment. The response rate was 14%, an increased response rate over last year's By-Law 7 “Fees” Survey (response of 10%). Specifically, the proposed amendment was to move the Registration Number to the non-public portion of the Register. The results of the survey were as follows:

Do you agree that s. 3 j) of By-law No. 8, The Register, "the certificate number assigned to the member at the time of first registration", should be deleted and that "the certificate number assigned

to the member at the time of first registration", should be added to section 4 to become paragraph f) of By-law No. 8, The Register?

- Yes: 1219 – 91.70%
- No: 111 – 8.3%
- Total Answered: 1330
- Skipped Question: 3

Council approved the proposed amendments.

Appointment of Council Members and Non-Council Members to Inquiries, Complaints & Reports Committee (ICRC)

Due to the By-Law changes as a result of amendments to the RHPA, ICRC will require additional members to further the work of the Committee. Council passed a motion to appoint R. Gupta, Public Member and P. Roach, RMT to the ICR Committee.

Definition of “In Good Standing”

For the purposes of the Agreement on Internal Trade, the College is required to define what being in “good standing” means for an applicant for Registration with the College from another regulated jurisdiction in Canada. The Registration Committee proposed the following:

An applicant is considered to be “in good standing” in Ontario for the purposes of the Agreement on Internal Trade if within their home jurisdiction they have no:

1. Current investigation into their practice or conduct related to complaints, discipline (professional misconduct), fitness to practice or registration.
2. Finding from a complaint, or registration hearing or discipline conviction for which the penalty is unfulfilled (e.g. suspension still in effect, fine or finding of cost unpaid, course work not completed etc.).
3. Current suspension or revocation of certificate of registration for any reason.
4. Unpaid fees.
5. Quality assurance requirements unfulfilled.
6. Terms, conditions or limitations on the certificate of registration, that would affect the member’s ability to practice in Ontario.

Council adopted the definition of “In Good Standing” as presented.

Strategic Plan - Breakthrough Connections 2008 – Actual & 2009 – Scheduled Tasks

Council was provided with and reviewed a breakdown of costs and deliverables from the strategic planning process.

Budget – Additional Funds for Strategic Plan

The 2008 audit is complete and indicates a positive year end position of \$278,164 with respect to revenues over expenses. With a surplus there is an opportunity to move the strategic agenda forward. The strategic plan projects that were originally budgeted for by the College and the OMTA are underway. A survey measuring the credibility of the profession had been scheduled for 2010 – 2011 due to lack of funding. This particular survey was considered fundamental to many other aspects of the strategic plan and will provide critical information on the performance of the strategy and strategic plan.

Council voted to apply \$90,000 from the surplus to this project (Credibility survey) in order to move the strategic plan forward.

Balanced Scorecard (BSC) Educational Session & BSC Report Out

Council received a brief educational session on the Balanced Scorecard. The College is now using a Balanced Scorecard as a performance management tool to track and measure performance according to strategic priorities. It uses a variety of indicators and from multiple perspectives: Stakeholder, Internal, Foundation and Resources. Council was presented with the College's first-ever Balanced Scorecard report out on progress against set targets for the previous quarter.

School Reports

Council was provided with an overview of the overall exam candidate aggregate performance reports that were provided to each Massage Therapy school earlier in 2009, and were advised that the overall pass/fail statistical report would be published in the College Standard in the Spring edition. The reports were created with input from representatives of the community and private massage therapy schools and were well received.