

CPSA Council Highlights - May

Council met in Edmonton on May 25th and 26th, 2017 to discuss College activities and vote on policy matters affecting physicians and the public. Meeting highlights included:

Appointment of New Registrar

Council officially appointed Dr. Scott McLeod as the CPSA Registrar, effective July 1, 2017. Dr. McLeod was also named to the board of the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC) and to the Medical Council of Canada as the CPSA's second representative.

Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation Standards

Council approved new standards for Diagnostic Imaging facility accreditation. The new standards came into effect June 1, 2017 and will be used for assessments starting in Fall 2017.

Standards of Practice – Direction and Control of a Medical Practice

Last September, Council directed the Direction and Control standard of practice be revised to require a designated medical lead for all practice settings where there are two or more physicians.

In follow up to that request, CPSA staff recommended developing a Standard of Practice to address the requirement.

Council directed CPSA staff to draft a Standard of Practice outlining the role and responsibilities of the medical lead for the September 2017 Council meeting. If approved, the draft will go out for formal consultation in October.

New Canadian Opioid Guidelines

On May 8, the [2017 Canadian Guideline for Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain](#) were released. In response to concerns about the connection of some panel members to the pharmaceutical industry, the Federal Minister of Health called for a review of the guideline development process by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

While the original intention was for CPSA Council to endorse the Canadian guidelines, that process will be put on hold until the CIHI investigation is complete. In the interim, Council endorses the [US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention guideline](#).

Refreshed Strategic Plan - *Mission & Vision*

The College's new Mission & Vision were approved by Council as follows:

Vision: The highest quality medical care for Albertans through regulatory excellence.

Mission: To protect the public and ensure trust by guiding the medical profession.

Assisting the LGBTQ Community

In alignment with Alberta government expectations, the CPSA is developing guidelines to support and respect diverse sexual orientation. Ms. Cathy MacDonald and Dr. Louis Hugo Francescutti volunteered to participate on the CPSA's guideline working group.

Bylaws

Amendments to the following bylaws were presented:

- *Amendments were made to the following Annual Elections*
- *Non-hospital surgical facilities procedures list*
- *Filling deadlines and length of submissions on appeal to Council*

Bylaws amended as presented, with one minor addition: to ensure legal counsel understand they are to notify the president of council prior to the scheduled appeal if an extension is to be requested (re: Filling deadline and length of submission on appeal to Council)

Justification for Ordering Clinical Tests

Council discussed whether the CPSA should mandate the justification of clinical test ordering, referencing the specific clinical question of Cardiac Exercise Stress Testing.

Council felt CPSA accreditation assessors should feel free to raise concerns about inappropriate testing but also agreed that accreditation processes are not the place to address these concerns. Rather, these issues should be referred to Professional Conduct or to the Continuing Competence department.

Based on this discussion, CPSA staff will develop a working plan to help educate physicians on the appropriateness of ordering clinical tests and share the plan with Council in September.