

CPSA Council met in Edmonton on September 7th and 8th, 2017 to discuss College activities and vote on policy matters affecting physicians and the public. Meeting highlights included:

Role & relevance of self-regulation in a changing world

Council discussed the healthcare environment, emerging opportunities and risks to professional self-regulation following presentations on regulatory risk, Alberta's healthcare landscape and the Auditor General's report *Better Healthcare for Albertans*. Greater physician engagement and leadership are seen as essential to influencing change within the profession and at a system level and are priorities for this Council.

Annual physician fee unchanged for 2018

Council approved the 2018 business plan and budget in support of its recently refreshed Strategic Plan. The annual physician fee of \$1,960 remains unchanged for the sixth year. The College is on-track for a modest budget surplus in 2017, largely because new expenses budgeted on an annual basis were incurred for only a portion of the year.

The College's new approach to continuing competence continues to take centre stage, focused on providing all physicians with more and better information for self-reflection and quality improvement.

Other budget highlights include:

- New applicants to the Provisional Register will pay a fee for the Therapeutics Decision Making (TDM) examination, a new national prerequisite for International Medical Graduates.
- Revised fees were approved for the Sleep Medicine facility accreditation program.
- Building fund (member contribution ended in 2016) remains in place as a separate account for a future College building as the College explores options for a new lease in advance of its current lease expiring in 2019.

Direction & Control of a Medical Practice, Sexual Boundary Violations standards out for consultation this fall

Council released the following standards of practice for consultation with members, stakeholders and the public:

- Direction and Control of a Medical Practice (draft amendment)
- Sexual Boundary Violations (draft amendment)
- Practice in Association (recommendation to rescind)

Members will be notified by email when Consultation 013 opens on October 2, and will be invited to comment until December 1, 2017. Feedback and recommended amendments will be presented to Council for approval in March 2018.

Opioid Update

Council formally endorsed the 2017 Canadian Guideline for Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain following confirmation of the scientific rigour of the development process.

Council also...

- agreed to pilot through 2018 the role of Past President of Council, a non-voting position currently occupied by Dr. Jim Stone;
- incorporated the Vision and Mission adopted earlier this year into Council Policies; and
- tasked the Governance Committee and College staff with exploring ways of better recognizing exemplary members of the profession.

The next Council meeting will be November 30 – December 1, 2017.