



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

of the

24 & 25 MARCH, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF SASKATCHEWAN

The Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan operates under an explicit set of governance policies. It strives to make its work as transparent as possible to the medical profession and to the general public.

Those portions of Council's deliberations that are not confidential are open to observation by any person subject to space availability in the meeting room.

At the conclusion of each Council meeting an Executive Summary of the meeting is widely distributed to the district medical associations, related organizations and the public media. This Executive Summary provides a brief overview of issues discussed, decisions made and/or actions taken by the Council. If any person wishes more detailed information about any of the issues which are not subject to confidentiality constraints, these can be obtained by contacting Ms. Sue Waddington, Executive Assistant to the Registrar, at 101 – 2174 Airport Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7L 6M6, phone (306) 244 7355, Fax (306) 244 2600, or email OfficeOfTheRegistrar@cps.sk.ca.

1. Council acknowledged that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 Territory, the traditional territory and home of the Cree, Dakota, Saulteaux and Métis Nations. We would like to affirm our relationship with one another now and for the future, and our role in guiding the profession to achieve the highest standards of care to benefit all people in this territory equally.
2. Council adopted the agenda for the Open Session as presented.
3. Council reviewed and approved the Minutes from the Friday 27 and Saturday 28 January, 2023 Open Session of the meeting of Council.
4. Council received a report from Mr. Salte on actions taken in relation to the "For Action Items" from the previous meeting. A review of the deferred items will be completed for the next Council meeting.

5. Council reviewed and approved Monitoring Reports from the Registrar with respect to:
 - (a) The Registrar's Compliance with Council's Executive Limitation Policies pertaining to:
 - (i) EL - 7 - Regulatory Functions; and
 - (ii) EL - 9 - Communication and Support to Council; and,
 - (iii) EL - 10 - Emergency Executive Succession.
6. Dr. O. Mabadeje provided an update on the work of the Diversity and Bias Committee. The committee members completed several courses including Understanding Unconscious Bias and Addressing Unconscious Bias. The committee recommends these two courses be mandatory for Councilors and members of certain committees. The committee recommends that a further detailed course on anti-racism be considered.
7. A review of the Uninsured Services policy was provided by Ms. S. Torrance on behalf of the committee. Council approved the amended policy in principle, for the purpose of stakeholder consultation.
8. Ms. S. Torrance provided a report on the stakeholder feedback received on the amended Virtual Care policy, previously approved by Council in principle. A committee was appointed by Council comprised of Dr. A. Beggs, Dr. M. Chapelski, Dr. A. Snyman, Dr. O. Igbekeyi, Dr. Y. Kasim, Dr. S. Mueller and Ms. S. Torrance. The committee will review the suggested amendments to the policy, consider the need for a guidance document and consider amendments to Bylaw 2.11. Council will have to consider a communication strategy once the work has been completed.
9. Ms. Torrance provided an update on the sunset review of the CPSS guideline "Physician Use of Electronic Communications". Council referred this matter to the committee reviewing the Virtual Care policy.
10. Council approved amendments to Administrative Bylaws 1.1 and 9.1, and Regulatory Bylaws 2.11 and 3.1(d) to change the reference from telemedicine to virtual care.
11. Council amended Regulatory Bylaw 26.1 by adding the following list of procedures under the heading (vi) Otolaryngology in paragraph 26.1(f)
 - Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty via radiofrequency ablation
 - Palatoplasty via radiofrequency ablation
 - Subcapsular tonsillectomy via radiofrequency ablation
 - Base of Tongue Ablation via radiofrequency ablation
 - Soft Palate Implants

12. After reviewing the consultation feedback, Council amended Regulatory Bylaw 8.1 Bylaws Defining Unbecoming, Improper, Unprofessional or Discreditable Conduct by adding the following paragraph to 8.1 (a) (i): "A physician does not fail to meet the standard of practice of the profession if there exists a responsible and competent body of professional opinion that supports the physician's conduct or judgement."

13. Council conducted a Penalty Hearing pertaining to Dr. Albert Albertyn who admitted a charge of unprofessional conduct. Ms. R. Wempe provided submissions on behalf of the Registrar's Office and Mr. A. Stonhouse provided submissions on behalf of Dr. Albertyn. A joint recommendation was presented and Council imposed penalty consisting of a written reprimand and payment of costs.

The penalty will be posted on the College website.

14. Mr. Salte provided a report on the consultation feedback to the draft bylaw addressing a Hearing Administrator position with the College. Council adopted the bylaw amendments as proposed.

15. Ms. S. Torrance provided an update report on the sunset review of the Medical Practice Coverage policy. Council appointed a committee comprised of Dr. O. Mabadeje, Dr. O. Igbekoyi, Dr. S. Mueller, Mr. J. Howlett, Ms. C. Hlady, Dr. B. Adeboye, Dr. C. Mircea, Dr. Y. Kasim, Dr. W. Oberholzer, Mr. E. Thompson and Ms. S. Torrance. The committee will review the policy and bring recommendations back to a future meeting of Council.

16. Mr. Evan Thompson provided a report on the sunset reviews of the Standards for Primary Care policy and Clinics that Provide Care to Patients who are not Regular Patients of the Clinic policy. Council accepted the recommendation to have the same committee that is reviewing the Medical Practice Coverage policy review these two policies and consider whether it may be appropriate to amalgamate these policies.

17. Mr. Salte provided an update on the consultation feedback on the proposed amendment of Regulatory Bylaw 9.1 Conflict of interest. Council adopted the amended Bylaw 9.1 Conflict of Interest.

18. Council approved in principle Regulatory Bylaw amendments that permit licensure of physician assistants by adding bylaw 2.13.1 Physician Assistants.

19. Council considered amendments to Administrative Bylaw 9.1 with respect to licensing fees for physician assistants. Council approved the amendments.

20. Council was provided an update on the implementation of its strategic plan goals. A focused report on goal #4 Optimizing Opioid Prescribing was provided by Ms. Bootsman.

Council also considered whether the physician snapshot should be distributed to all physicians at this time.

21. Council received a report from Mr. Salte on possible amendments to Regulatory Bylaw 2.4 pertaining to Canadian trained physicians who lose eligibility to challenge the examinations of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the College of Family Physicians of Canada. Council approved the amendments in principle for the purpose of stakeholder consultation.
22. Ms. Rochelle Wempe provided information on the sunset review of the Patients Who Threaten to Harm Themselves or Others guideline. Council approved the amended guideline with a sunset date of 5 years.
23. Council decided to no longer award the Dr. Dennis Kendel Distinguished Service Award. Council approved the amendment of the Administrative Bylaws to reflect this change.
The committee will meet to consider other ways of providing positive feedback to physicians.
24. Council appointed Ms. K. Kulbida to the Advisory Committee on Medical Imaging.
25. Council approved that the College publish the form of the charges (synoptic or full) when the matter is concluded by ADR, that is consistent with the Council and/or Executive Committee's original decision on which form of charges to publish.
26. Council authorizes the College staff to move away from the Cisco Email spam filter that eHealth will be decommissioning July 1, 2023. Council approved funding to support the project as outlined by Mr. Tim Edwards to establish a setup between our current environment and a move to Office 365 to manage the security issues.
27. Council provided its support and approval to continue with the website refresh as presented.
28. Council approved the extension of the deadline to complete a retraining program for a physician.
29. Council received a report from Ms. B. Wills and Dr. J. Maslany, the Chair of the Finance and Audit committee, on a proposed policy pertaining to the appointment of external auditors. Council approved the External Auditors policy as presented.
30. Council approved late fees to be applied for late renewal of physician licensure and corporations. Consequent amendments to the Administrative Bylaws will be considered at the June Council meeting.

31. Council discussed the trend of physicians who fail to meet the terms of an undertaking.
32. Council accepted the annual reports of the standing committees of Council.
33. Mr. Salte provided a report on the Status of Bylaws.
34. Council approved the Minutes of the Closed Session of Council for the 28 January, 2023.
35. The President Dr. Beggs reported on the actions taken by the Executive Committee since the January meeting.
36. Council approved the reasons for its decision pertaining to Dr. M. Horri. The reasons will be provided to Dr. Horri and his legal counsel.
37. Council declined to charge two physicians pertaining to a matter of conflict of interest and directed the matter be resolved by a letter from the President.
38. Council considered information as to whether a physician had inappropriately compounded medication and determined it would take no further action.
39. Council considered a Preliminary Inquiry Committee report and charged a physician with unprofessional conduct for sending an inappropriate fax message to a pharmacy, using unprofessional tone and language in a message, and improperly steering a patient from using a particular pharmacy. The full charges will be posted on the College website.
40. Council considered a Preliminary Inquiry Committee report and charged a physician with unprofessional conduct pertaining to failing to know and/or follow the policy on Complementary and Alternative Therapies when he prescribed Ivermectin for COVID-19. The synoptic charge will be posted on the College website.
41. Council considered a Preliminary Inquiry Committee report and charged a physician with unprofessional conduct relating to altering medical records that had been requested by the Joint Medical Professional Review Committee (JMPRC), providing dishonest information to the JMPRC in relation to the altered records, and inappropriate billings between November 1, 2015 and May 24, 2017. The synoptic charges will be posted on the College website.
42. Council requested a discussion document be prepared for the June meeting to discuss options for the College to require a physician to appear in person for a penalty hearing.

43. Council received a report from Mr. Salte as to whether The Dental Disciplines Act authorizes dentists to inject neuromodulators for a cosmetic purpose. Council directed legal counsel to provide information back to the College of Dental Surgeons with the CPSS's opinion.
44. Council received an update on the project pertaining to the National Registry of Physicians. Council agreed to provide to the Federal Government the contact information pertaining to Councilors, if requested.
45. Ms. Torrance gave a report on the status of discipline files. The legal department has adopted some key performance indicators to contribute to continuous quality improvement.
46. Council received an update on the status of Quality of Care cases from the Deputy Registrar, Dr. Werner Oberholzer.
47. Mr. Salte provided the list of the For Action Items pertaining to the work of Council.