



## **Highlights of the July 7, 2010 Meeting of Council**

The regular meeting of Council held July 7, 2010 in Regina featured a meeting with officials from Saskatchewan Health and a decision on replacement of the registry system. Brent Stewart, Bob Fenner, Jon Antal, Cari Evenson, Karen Todd, Karen Wallace and Jamie Struthers attended the meeting.

### **Fire Representative Appointed to Council**

Council received a report from the Nominations Committee. Four nominations were received for the interim appointment to the position of Member-at-Large on Council Representing the Fire Sector. This position became vacant in May when Council responded to members request to remove an inactive member from Council. Steve Winik has been appointed to the position until it can be filled by election next March. Steve is a Platoon Chief at 17 Wing Detachment Fire Hall, Canadian Forces Base, Dundurn. Mr. Winik will be invited to attend the next Council meeting in September.

### **Meeting with Saskatchewan Health**

At Council's invitation, Deb Jordan, Executive Director, Acute and Emergency Services, led a team of officials from Saskatchewan Health to meet formally with Council. The team included Dr. Thorpe, Provincial EMS Medical Advisor, Dorothea Warren, Director, EMS, and Darcy McKay, Project Manager, EMS. Ms. Jordan provided an overview of Health Strategic Directions focusing on the EMS Review. She noted the Ministry's intent to better utilize paramedic skills by considering mobile health services in the context of primary care. Council was invited to comment on draft terms of reference for the Mobile Health Services Advisory Council. Ms. Jordan complimented the Council on the significant accomplishments of the past two years. She expressed satisfaction that Council has established a very strong basis in our primary responsibility to the public. She noted that now that the organization is up and running the next challenges will be to ensure depth and successor planning in the organization for strong leadership, and participation in the broader health system planning. The Ministry committed to ensure SCoP was invited to participate in these forums. Ms. Jordan explained that membership support, financial stewardship, strong working relations with other regulators and key employer groups were also important measures of maturity for a health profession regulator.

Dr. Thorpe provided an overview of the role of the Provincial EMS Advisor. Dr. Thorpe advises the Ministry on EMS and particularly on protocol development and interpretation. He also responds to questions from regional medical advisors respecting interpretation of the emergency treatment protocols. The position is a consultant to the government, not a decision making role. The ensuing discussion centered on the relationship between SCoP and the Provincial EMS Advisor as well as the role and composition of the Provincial Emergency Services Practice Committee. Council and the Ministry agreed to continue working together to address issues respecting scope of practice and protocol development in support of mobile health services.

Ms. Jordan invited regular meetings with Council to discuss strategic issues.

### **Registry System Replacement**

The College has initiated a two year project to implement a new registry system which will allow a fully web-based service to members including online registration and tracking of CME activities. Council received and approved an extensive report from the Registration Committee and the Registry Replacement Team which included representatives from 5 College committees as well as staff of the College. The team undertook a thorough review of College requirements and conducted a public procurement process which identified three possible vendors. In addition to careful evaluation of proposals from the vendors, day long demonstrations by each vendor allowed the team to carefully assess fit with the College's needs. We have selected the vendor with the software that best addresses the College requirements and provides the most flexibility for the College to evolve.

The first phase of the project is to clarify with the vendor the configuration of the software necessary to meet the College's needs, and negotiate a fixed price for implementation. We expect to be in a position by early 2011 to make a final commitment to the vendor and begin implementation. If all goes as planned, the members could expect to register online in the fall of 2011 for the 2012 licence and be tracking their CME online in 2012. The voting for the election of our 2012 Council may also be conducted online.

The selected software has a number of features to improve efficiency such as automatic notification of members of upcoming deadlines such as the expiry of a Restricted Licence, and tracking and alerts for staff to stay on top of such issues as professional conduct investigations and criminal record reviews.

The College has been planning for this project since 2008-09 and we have been building a reserve fund to help pay the cost of the new system. There will be **no** increase in member fees to fund the project.

Council expressed appreciation for the long hours of work by the members of the Registry Replacement Team which has conducted a comprehensive review process. Council also commended the Registration Committee for the excellent risk management assessment which accompanied the proposal.

### **Executive Director Recruitment**

Council received a report from the Executive Director Search Team indicating over 30 applications had been received and a long list of candidates had been approved for further assessment by the Executive Search firm. It is expected that interviews will be conducted in mid August.

### **Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR)**

Derek Dagenais and Cheryl Solonenko attended the first meeting of the COPR Labour Mobility Project in June and reported progress to Council. A working group will be finalizing a proposed

common practice standard and competencies for PCP and ACP classifications over the summer in time for consideration by COPR at a meeting in late September.

### **Continuing Medical Education Requirements for 2012 Licensure**

Council received a report from the Education Committee regarding proposed changes to the CME Requirements for the 2012 licensure. Council made some revisions to the proposal and asked the College to consult with SCoP Coordinators and employer representatives prior to confirming the changes in time for the October 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

### **Committee Appointments**

The Nominations Committee asked for guidance respecting four committee positions which come up for appointment in 2010. The positions are currently filled by active members who have served only one year. Council chose to re-appoint these members for a three year term. The members are: Lennie Davies, Legislation and Bylaws Committee; and Jen Larre, Tim Hillier and Donna Dohms on the Education Committee. There are two vacant committee positions both requiring a representative from the Fire Sector and Council urged the Nominations Committee to recruit fire medics to those positions. Council also decided that members of the public could be appointed to select committees and approved the Nominations Committee's plan for recruitment.

### **Financial Matters**

The Audit Committee provided an expenditure forecast which showed how the College could manage the unbudgeted expense of recruitment for a new executive director. In addition, the Audit Committee brought forward a recommendation, which Council approved, regarding investment of the reserve funds in compliance with advice provided by the College auditor.

### **CMA Accreditation – Provincial Requirements**

Council approved provincial requirements to be used by the Canadian Medical Association in its accreditation survey of provincial training programs at the PCP and ACP level. The *Regulatory Bylaws* establish that a CMA accredited training program meets the entry requirements for registration with the College. Provincial requirements identify the specific legislative framework (the Act and bylaws) and the Emergency Treatment Protocols as well as the competencies unique to Saskatchewan which must be studied in addition to the National Occupational Competencies for paramedicine.

If you have any questions about these highlights, please contact [lily.stonehouse@collegeofparamedics.sk.ca](mailto:lily.stonehouse@collegeofparamedics.sk.ca)