

Highlights of the April 1, 2015 Meeting of Council



The April 1, 2015 Council Meeting was held at the SCoP office with a teleconference option also made available. Seven members of Council attended in person and one sent their regrets.

Registration Process

National Exam

- Exam results were circulated to Council.
- Pass rates match the national pass rate.
- Sask Polytech wants SCoP to clarify the deadlines for the exams.
 - Canadian Organization for Paramedic Regulators (COPR) establishes the deadlines.
 - SCoP has sent this information in writing, but students are not getting this information. The SCoP website has the deadlines and all of the information. Will include info about completing the program and the necessity of completing practicum before registering for the exam.
- Students are hearing a rumour that everyone fails the first time, which is not true.

EMR Exam

- Exam results were circulated to Council.
- Pass rates continue to improve as training institutions implement changes.

SCoP Council and Committees

SCoP Strategic Plan Update

- Planning Meeting scheduled for April 2, 2015.
- Risk Management Framework: Council reviewed the document presented at last meeting, and agreed to continue its development.

Executive Committee

- Council approved several extensions to restricted licences.
 - Why so many extensions for ITLS?

- Training is usually held at the beginning of the year, and often only every 2 years.
- ITLS isn't a requirement in other jurisdictions so when members come over through AIT, they need it for renewal in the fall.

Education Committee

- PESPC Terms of Reference: deferred to the June Council meeting.

Audit Committee

- Minutes of the last meeting were circulated to Council.
- Auditor's Report is an unqualified report (which is good). It was accepted by Council.
- Budget Discussion:
 - Surplus this year is due to the following factors: move was far less than budgeted for, consultants weren't used as much this year, medical advisor wasn't used, committee expenses were low.
 - Reserve fund contributions have now reached targets.
 - Proration of fees and non-practicing licences decreased the budget for next year.
 - 2014 actuals reflect 1,900 members, but over the year the College will probably register around 2,200 or 2,300 members with an increase in non-practicing members. Revenue projection has declined by \$100,000.
 - 2015 reserve fund analysis: we have met all targets for reserve fund contributions.
 - R&D fund is new. Includes a scholarship for students to do some research in collaboration with the College. A number of regulators do this. A great way to engage with students.
 - We would also like to develop individuals on Council or staff over a longer period of time (may have a return of service agreement). A percentage of surplus funding arising from committees will go into R&D fund. Audit committee approved this.
 - Capital reserve: did a server upgrade in January and will do two system upgrades in the next two years. Also anticipating a project moving the EMR exam to an online application.
 - Council moved to increase the capital reserve fund target to \$160,000 and the project reserve fund target to \$150,000.

- Council moved to approve the 2015 recommended contributions to all reserve funds.
- Council motioned to establish a research and development reserve fund that incorporates a scholarship component with an initial contribution of \$85,000 and a maximum fund target of \$100,000.
- Council approved the budget.

Professional Conduct Committee

- One active file is in the Court of Appeals: hearing took place on March 19 in Regina. Waiting for a decision.
- No current active investigations.

Legislation and Bylaws Committee

- AGM resolution regarding restricted licences requires a new policy in place.
- Policy, developed based on consultation with provincial and inter-jurisdictional regulatory bodies, was circulated to Council for review.
- Employers were asking if members who were previously licenced as a PCP could work as a full PCP while they have a restricted ACP licence.
- The policy that Council approved:
 - Members holding an active licence in good standing with the Saskatchewan College of Paramedics, who are waiting to successfully complete the licencing examination may:
 - Apply for a (full) practicing licence at the member's current active licencing level; plus,
 - Request a licence condition/restriction (terminology TBD) that permits practice at a higher level while supervised.
 - Example: PCP licenced member is waiting to write the ACP national licencing exam; the member may work at the PCP level with full scope of practice and also work as an ACP restricted when supervision is available.
- Full draft of the policy to be voted on at the 2016 SCoP AGM.

Nominations Committee

- Public Representatives:
 - Betty Hoffart has received confirmation of her term extension
 - The Ministry has been sent a formal request for a replacement public rep and is in the process of seeking approval for an appointment.

- Committee Roster recommendations were presented to Council.
 - Three people that were interested in committees were not appointed to a committee due to the number of available positions.
 - Too much turnover creates issues with continuity and experience. Terms that expire in the same year may cause too much turnover at one time.
 - Decision on the Education Committee members will be deferred until June at which time Council will be confirmed.

Stakeholder Meetings and Conferences

SCoP Annual General Meeting

- Minister Greg Ottenbreit is confirmed to bring greetings at the Saskatchewan College of Paramedics 2015 Annual General Meeting at the Sheraton Cavalier Hotel in Saskatoon at 10:05am on Monday, May 11, 2015.
- Minister Ottenbreit's time will be limited as he will have to head directly back to Regina to attend the sitting of the Legislative Assembly that afternoon.
- 2016 location of AGM
 - Depends on meeting facility and hotel rooms.
 - Will take recommendations at the meeting. Council would prefer to host in the south. Considering pairing with SEMSA again (potentially Moose Jaw). Will survey members at the AGM.

Protective Services Medals

- Met to discuss eligibility, reviewing the selection criteria for who is eligible for these medals.
- Ministry of Justice submitted a proposal to include victim services workers, mobile crisis units, and crisis shelters. Decision will happen later.
- This committee meets once a year in June, to review nominations.

Association of Saskatchewan Paramedics

- A group called the Association of Saskatchewan Paramedics has appeared. It is only on Facebook so far. Certification of Incorporation has been registered.
- Page description reads:

“This page is dedicated to the discussion of creating an organization that represents the boots on the ground in Saskatchewan EMS.

The Saskatchewan College of Paramedics represents the public interest.

The Saskatchewan Emergency Medical Services Association represents the management.

There is no organized representation for the paramedic. When SCoP was created, we lost our voice and representation. It's time we got it back.”

- Came out of a situation in Alberta where two paramedics have had their licences suspended, allegedly relating to PTSD.
- They have asked SCoP to announce their first AGM on our website or in our newsletter.

Administrative Tribunal Training

- Meeting was held in the boardroom and was well attended by SCoP staff and Council members. Members from Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (SAMRT) and the Saskatchewan College of Respiratory Therapists (SCRT) attended as well.