

Highlights of the January 30, 2015 Meeting of Council



The January 30, 2015 Council Meeting was held at the SCoP office. Seven members of Council attended in person and one sent their regrets.

Registration Process

National Exam

- Overall the results are improving.
- The 2001 NOCP PCP exam is winding down its useful life as the last graduates of the program finished almost than two years ago. After two years, if a student hasn't written the exam, they would have to take a refresher course which would be at the 2011 NOCP level.

EMR Exam

- Pass rates are improving. Students are being advised to contact their training institution for assistance with exam preparation.

Criminal Record Report

- No new criminal records surfaced during renewal.
- Received one call inquiring about licensure with regards to criminal charges.

Mandatory Certificates

- Council approved an Education Committee recommendation to change the licence renewal process with regards to issue dates of mandatory certifications such as BLS "C" – HCP and ITLS.
- The new policy will accept mandatory certifications that are current on the date of renewal. That is, if a mandatory certification has not expired, it can be used to maintain licensure.
 - BLC "C" – HCP expires annually, which is a change from previous requirement to recertify every other year. Annual certification for BLS has been shown to have tangible benefits. There is evidence saying that CPR skills decline unless recertified annually.
 - The onus of proof will shift to the member. The renewal form will ask for the expiry date of the course and require a declaration that the information is true.
 - Members are still required to upload the card. If they do not have a card, they must upload it as soon as they receive it.
 - Validating expiry dates will be verified through member audits.

- Members who have falsified their renewal information will be reported to the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC).
- The College will work on an implementation plan to ensure sufficient “lead time” for members to comply.

Scope of Practice and Protocols

Appeal to Court of Queen’s Bench

- An appeal will be heard in the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal on March 19, 2015 at 10am in Regina. A decision has not been provided to date.

SCoP Council and Committees

SCoP Strategic Plan Update

- The Strategic Plan, containing key milestones from the last 2 quarters, was circulated to Council.
- Under stakeholder goals: continue to have regular face-to-face meetings with a number of Ministries, including the Ministry of Health.
- The College continues to participate in NOCP redevelopment and liability insurance initiatives with PAC.
- Staff are meeting with the Ministry of Economy to discuss AIT and changes to scope of PCP level. 2011 NOCP doesn’t necessarily translate directly to scope of practice. How does the College assess a potential member’s scope of practice? The College will meet with COPR as well.
- Media interviews: CBC Marketplace called to talk about ambulance fees.
- Regulatory goals: participated in an Advanced Care Paramedic program evaluation curriculum review. Sask Polytechnic is working on developing a bridge and upgrade program together (will greatly benefit EMTs).
- Licencing processes: Staff attended process mapping training and made improvements to process. Renewal backlog was almost non-existent this year. Direct support and office workstations (for members to access) helped. Temporary help assisted to send all licences and cards out within a week of approval. Renewal response was significantly better. 75% renewed by the deadline, compared to 48% last year. Solutions flipchart captured anomalies for staff. More physical space made a huge difference, and it was quieter. Comments from members about how smoothly things went; this year was easier.
- New server was installed in January. Increased security.
- Financial stability: continue to operate within budget. Continue to seek out opportunities to share costs. Offering eTransfer saved charges on credit card fees.

Continue to look for opportunities with NIRO to share on policy development and legal opinions.

- Working with the Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists to share a co-op student from Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy to address outstanding policy work.

Risk Management Framework

- Council was given more time to review the framework.
- The framework will be reviewed, and policy developed for approval by a sub-committee.

Executive Committee

- Approved 4 extensions for exam purposes.

Education Committee

- Medications pertinent to scope of practice: core training requirements document has been drafted and was circulated to Council.
- Council accepted a motion that the medication review licence no longer include having to submit a certificate of completion as evidence of meeting the requirement (vote: 6 for; 1 against). Instead the renewal form will include a declaration check box indicating the member has completed a self-review of medications pertinent to their scope of practice which includes a detailed explanation of what is required with the self-review.
 - Council discussed the risk associated with this change. The Education Committee has assessed the risk and determined it to be low.

Audit Committee

- Minutes of the last meeting were circulated.
- Draft budget will be ready for the next Council meeting.
- Audit committee reviews the budget and variance reporting before each Council meeting.

Professional Conduct Committee

- One active investigation is ongoing.

Legislation & Bylaws Committee

- Final amendment to the new prorated fee bylaw was circulated.

Nominations Committee

- Deadline to submit an Indication of Interest is February 3. Five forms have been received so far.
- Open positions:

- Jason Trask's position was backfilled by Bill Fischer. Bill must stand for nomination and election again. Cari Evenson-Carleton's position is not filled.
- Summary: 2 positions on Council are open, 5 positions on committees are open: Education (4), Nominations (1).
- One public representative is needed on Council as well.

Stakeholder Meetings and Conferences

Administrative tribunal training

- Date set for February 11, 2015

SCoP Stakeholder Linkage (Open House Event)

- Having an Open House on Feb 10 in the afternoon. The day before the Administrative Tribunal Training. Invitations have gone out to members of NIRO, Ministry of Health, former Executive Directors, Council, Committees, Etc.

SCoP Annual General Meeting

- Draft of the agenda and biography of the keynote speaker was circulated to Council. The AGM is scheduled to take place at the Saskatoon Sheraton Cavalier on May 11, 2015.