



Highlights of the February 1, 2013 Meeting of Council

The first meeting of 2013 was held on February 1, 2013. We had seven members of Council attend the meeting and welcomed a guest for the discussion on the PCP Scope Change plan.

Registration Process

National Exam

The results of the November exam were shared with Council. Saskatchewan graduates are performing well on the PCP exam. An additional exam writing occurred in January and the College was still dealing with the results but it appeared that PCP candidates continued to do well and ACP students did well but not quite as strong as the PCP candidates.

The COPR Exam Working Group, which focuses on exam writing and standard setting, had its first meeting which was chaired by the Saskatchewan Executive Director until a working group chair could be appointed. Saskatchewan is represented by an ICP and an ACP on this committee.

Jurisprudence Exam

Work is continuing on determining how the College can implement a jurisprudence test at the lowest possible cost with the goal to be as electronic as possible.

EMR Exam

Council reviewed the results of the first four sittings of the EMR exam. The average of the EMR pass rate is slowly increasing. There are very strong students who are passing with very high marks.

Member Renewal

Council reviewed the communication strategy that occurred with renewal. It included newsletter articles, website updates, and numerous generic and personal emails being sent to members. For the first time, the College was able to send both emails and personal letters to members who had not yet renewed for 2013 thanks to the electronic system.

The College continues to have members that start but do not complete the renewal application. These members received emails from the Executive Director this year encouraging them to complete their application. Further emphasis on receipt of the submission ID number will be done to help members confirm that they have fully submitted.

Council also noted that we had members use the Change of Status Form or CME Reporting Form rather than the 2013 Renewal Form. The College watched for these members and attempted to contact them if we noticed that their renewal form had not been submitted.

Scope of Practice and Protocols

PCP Scope of Practice

Council continued their review and recommendations in regards to the PCP Scope Change Plan. It was first noted that the Paramedic Association of Canada had posted an incorrect version of the NOCPs to their website. As such, the Education Committee reviewed the differences between the old and new document and made some further recommendation to Council in regards to categorization. These recommendations were accepted:

- That the Education Committee develop and approve core training requirements for the following critical categories based on the 2011 NOCP profiles for organizations to follow when developing their education modules in addition to the competencies already identified on November 1st:
 - 5.8(i) – Administer medication via the buccal route.
 - 5.8(o) – Provide patient assist according to provincial list of medications.
- That members must sign and submit to the College an approved declaration declaring how they have met all of the additionally identified competencies and that they have read and understood the 2011 NOCPs. In addition to the competencies identified on November 1st, the declaration will include:
 - 1.1(c) – Dress appropriately and maintain personal hygiene.
 - 1.2(c) – Interpret evidence in medical literature and assess relevance to practice.
 - 4.5(g) – Conduct invasive core temperature monitoring and interpret findings.
 - 5.4(d) – Provide mechanical ventilation.
 - 5.7(c) – Reduce fractures and dislocation.

A draft PCP scope change document and core training requirements have been reviewed and approved by Council. They will be shared with appropriate stakeholders for further feedback with the end goal to release them to all members once the protocol changes have received formal approval from PESPC and the College of Physicians and Surgeons (CPSS).

The Education Committee and Council also took the time to review the difference between an EMT-P and an ACP by reviewing the bridge requirements. It was determined that current EMT-P license levels will be moved up to the ACP license level through a declaration submitted by the member by September 1, 2013. If the declaration is not received by that date, the member will be licensed at the ICP level.

Council has also asked the Education Committee to make a recommendation as to EMRs and EMR/NOCPs.

Protocol Manual

As indicated last meeting, recommendations as to next steps were provided by Solvera and work was being done on determining what the College's next steps should be in relation to the technical component of the protocol manual. It was determined by Council that work should first be completed on the draft revamped protocol manual that is currently in development. From

there, Council supports on site visits to Alberta and B.C. to further investigate their current protocol systems. The Ministry of Health will be encouraged to participate in these visits. Once that visits occur, the requirement document would again be reviewed to determine if we had located a solution that would work for Saskatchewan or if we will need to go to an RFI process.

SCoP Council and Committees

SCoP Strategic Plan Update

Council reviewed the Strategic Plan that was drafted after their November 2nd planning session. The Strategic Plan has now been approved and communication of it will begin shortly.

Risk Management Plan

Council discussed the fact that the College does not have a formal risk management plan. It was agreed that some time would be set aside in the next couple of meetings to start working towards preparation of a plan.

Education Committee

Council accepted the recommendation of the Education Committee that the cardiac, trauma and pediatric modules submitted by STARS be considered equivalent to ACLS, ITLS and PALS for mandatory certificates.

Council also accepted the recommendation of the Education Committee that the HIS/EMP Canada HCP BLS program be considered the equivalent to HSPC BLS HCP for mandatory certificates.

Lastly, Council accepted the recommendation of the Education Committee that the requirement for tracking number of calls as primary and secondary provider for registration renewal be removed as it is not being utilized by the College for any purpose.

Audit Committee

Council approved the budget for 2013-2015 as recommended by the Audit Committee.

Nominations Committee

Council was advised that five College members have been nominated for the member at large positions on Council. Each of these members will be interviewed for the next newsletter.

Training

The Saskatchewan Network of Inter-Professional Regulatory Organizations (NIRO) had been granted funding from the Ministry of Health to pay for governance training. Dan Lewis and Karen Bullock attended this training on November 8th and 9th by the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School on Public Policy. Both Council members found the training to be very valuable and encouraged other Council and staff members to attend. NIRO has put another request forward to the Ministry of Health for further funding and it is anticipated that another round of training will occur in 2013.

Stakeholder Meetings

Ministry of Health

Meetings are continuing to occur with the Ministry of Health in relation to PCP Scope Change Plan, the revamping of the protocol manual, ownership of scope and the Collaborative Emergency Centers to ensure that the College can continue to move forward with its projects and assist the Ministry with their goals as well.

Fire Chiefs

The meeting previously scheduled for November 21st did not occur due to weather. It was rescheduled to January 14th and Council representatives and the Executive Director met with fire representatives from Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current and North Battleford to discuss registrations and the PCP scope change.

SIAST Program Advisory Committee Meeting

The Executive Director attended a December 19th meeting. The focus was on implementation of the expanded PCP program and the College continues to work closely with SIAST to ensure that SIAST has what they need to implement a PCP upgrade program to the 2011 NOCPs.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2013. We have booked Chris La Baudour as our keynote speaker who is an international paramedic educator, writer and speaker. He will be speaking on the top of Exploring Ethics for the EMS Provider. It was agreed that we should ask our consultant, Cheryl Solonenko, to speak to our members on the work being done on the PCP Scope Change Plan with the caveat that the protocol changes still need to be approved by CPSS. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. to allow time for members to travel in the morning rather than incurring hotel costs.