

Highlights of the January 24, 2014 Meeting of Council



The January 24, 2014 Council Meeting was held at the SCoP office and by teleconference. Five members of Council attended in person, two by phone, and two sent their regrets.

Registration Process

National Exam

- Exam results are improved. SIAST has implemented study help.
- Accommodations: COPR does not have a *duty to accommodate* policy, but SCoP is writing one that they will share with COPR.

EMR Exam

- The most recent EMR exam results were not as expected. SCoP continues to work with the training organization to identify concerns and mitigation strategies.

Member Renewal

- By Friday, November 29, only 1100 members (~50%) had completed their renewal and had their 2014 licence approved. Hundreds submitted their renewal on the weekend of the deadline (the deadline was Sunday, December 1), and many were incomplete which incurred late fees. The rest renewed after the deadline, also incurring late fees. The College received many calls regarding these late fees. Some members submitted the wrong form and were unhappy with being charged late fees. Next year, the College will develop common speaking points for late fees. Disrespectful member interactions with SCoP were documented in the iMIS database; members could be subject to professional conduct investigation if behaviour continues to be an issue. Council suggested staff write an article in the newsletter regarding the debrief. Suggestion to do a presentation at the AGM.

Criminal Record Report

- One licence was issued after a positive criminal record check (CRC). Used the decision tree and based on no previous history the licence was granted.

Scope of Practice and Protocols

PCP Scope of Practice

- Scope declaration forms: The College will be reviewing them soon, but has not had the resources to complete this yet. The students who took the course were in a pilot program. Plan to email all members and SIAST so that they understand this is a licence change, and put a message on the website. Members cannot work as a PCP 2011 NOCP until their licence is changed.

Protocol Manual

- It has been released and it is now being hosted on the College website. General feedback is positive.

Lloydminster

- Provided drafts of a Letter of Understanding and a Joint Services Policy Agreement to Council, which has been sent to Alberta. Alberta has responded and SCoP will re-work the letter based on that information.

SCoP Council and Committees

SCoP Strategic Plan Update

- The Strategic Plan document was provided to Council. The College is on track for most things. There are a few optional items that will be worked on this spring.

Executive Committee

- Approved five extensions on restricted licences in order to allow for exams to be written. Two appeals to Executive regarding late fees were denied. One appeal to Executive regarding the removal of a restriction was denied. One reinstatement was approved.

Education Committee

- Had two meetings last year.
- The Provincial Emergency Services Practice Committee (PESPC), did not have a fall meeting because of a lack of agenda items and availability of members. Will have a

conference call in the spring. PESPC will be looking at the terms of reference of that committee to align with the current capacity of the College.

- Exam Committee: students who have failed the national exam three times are required to take a refresher program, but it is currently not available within Saskatchewan or the neighbouring provinces. The College has been allowing students to write a fourth time, with the recommendation to acquire a tutor.
- Medications Pertinent to Scope: relating to licence renewals, this was meant to be a review, not a course that members have to take. The committee would like to move to a declaration.
- CME Course Approval: the committee is working on improving the process so that course approvals happen more quickly.
- Expiry dates on cards: the College's requirement for program completion cards is related to the date of issue. Very difficult to track because the training agencies issue cards with expiry dates only. Committee working on making this easier.

Audit Committee

- Waiting for final numbers from 2013 to come in before setting a new meeting date. No red flags are apparent.

Professional Conduct Committee

- 12 complaints are on file and being investigated. None have gone to a disciplinary hearing. No hearings are scheduled.

Discipline Committee

- Hearing results have been circulated to Council. The College will be going to court.

Nominations Committee

- The Nominations Committee would like to bring new faces to committees so that members who want to join committees have the opportunity, but where it made sense to renew, they recommended renewal. The Executive Director has provided a recommendation roster based on the discussion from the committee.
- Call for nominations generated 15 responses. Letters will be sent out to everyone who has been appointed and to those who are not renewing.
- Discipline had few people interested. Education had the most members interested. Professional Conduct Committee was second most popular.
- The Ministry of Health might have a list of people who have indicated an interest in being a public representative. The College will inquire.

Stakeholder Meetings and Conferences

Saskatchewan Emergency Medical Services Association (SEMSA)

- The College was contacted by SEMSA to have a meeting with Council. Waiting for March 27 to be confirmed.

SCoP Annual General Meeting

- Have made contact with some potential speakers, including Ron Bowles, President of the Society for Prehospital Educators in Canada and Associate Dean for the Centre of Research at the Justice Institute of British Columbia. He is interested in doing a presentation on professionalism. A second speaker is also being researched. Logistical details are being confirmed.

Ministry of Health (MOH) January 7, 2014

- Good discussion regarding the timeline to SCoP's full autonomy. Discussed operational costs, fee rate increases, regulatory capacity and effectiveness.
- Plan to talk to Workforce Planning about COPR regarding support. Was referred to the FPT Health Advisory Committee, chaired by Health Minister Dustin Duncan.
- Provincial Ambulance Information System: patient care reports (PCRs) and billing information are stored here. The Ministry is looking at options regarding these records.

Paramedic Association of Canada (PAC) – the National Occupational Competency Profiles (NOCP) Steering Committee meeting update

- SCoP's Executive Director sits on a committee to revamp the NOCPs. Next meeting is scheduled for early March. The working groups have not yet been established. The terms of reference for this committee were circulated to Council.

EHealth Saskatchewan

- Provider Registry System: eHealth is exploring the option to have SCoP members access this system, which will eventually be the link to the electronic health record. Will be more important with the growth of community paramedicine. Health Information Protection Act (HIPA) training will be needed to mitigate liability. SCoP needs to ensure there is continuing medical education (CME) information to members regarding HIPA.

Physician Recruitment Agency of Saskatchewan (PRAS) aka “SaskDocs”

- Erin Brady (Director, Corporate Operations) recently contacted SCoP as they have recently taken over the “Managing Health Careers” program.
- CECs are a priority for the province. Spoke about recruiting and future opportunities in the province. Spoke about SCoP assisting at front end with recruiting drives in providing information to prospective members – they will stay in touch and keep the College updated.

SIAST

- Some College staff and members of Council attended an event in Saskatoon to announce ACP program expansion.