

Highlights of the November 1, 2013 Meeting of Council



The November 1, 2013 Council meeting was held in Regina at the SCoP office. Seven members attended, one was absent, and one teleconferenced in during a presentation from guest Graham Fast, Health Quality Council, titled "Emergency Department Waits and Patient Flow Initiative."

Registration Process

National Exam

- Results of the Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) and Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP) exams were shared. Currently there appears to be a gap in performance between the Saskatchewan students and other provinces. The College is working closely with SIAST, who are developing additional student supports and continuing to monitor the situation.
- Discussions have occurred regarding a revision to the current COPR funding model.
- ACP Refresher Course: SCoP's policy states that ACP students who fail the COPR exam three times must take a refresher course before being allowed to take the exam again. However, there is currently no ACP refresher course available in Saskatchewan. The College is working with SIAST to address this issue. SCoP would like the Education committee to look at the policy regarding this issue, at least until the refresher course is implemented.

EMR Exam

- Exam results were provided to Council for information purposes.

Scope of Practice and Protocols

PCP Scope of Practice

- The scope change will be implemented using mandatory Continuing Medical Education (CME). Although the bylaws call for a restriction, it may not be the best approach for members and employers. Members could also be identified based on their practice level: PCP 2001 NOCP, PCP 2011 NOCP, ACP 2001 NOCP and ACP 2011 NOCP. Council endorsed the College taking this recommendation to the Education Committee, who meets next on November 13, 2013.

Protocol Manual

- The manual is complete in terms of content and just a few technical issues are being addressed. SCoP has permission from the Ministry of Health to post the manual on the

College website. The new protocol manual will be released with the PCP scope changes and some communications around both issues.

SCoP Council and Committees

SCoP Strategic Plan Update

- Space and location research: The current office space lease will be expiring shortly. As such, the College has been researching options for an economical, functional space that meets our needs within the budget allocation.
- SCoP's Communications Coordinator presented an analysis of SCoP's potential active involvement in social media. An implementation plan was included which recommends identifying desired outcomes, writing and implementing a social media policy, developing a planning calendar for content, and tracking results. Council endorsed the idea and would like staff to move forward.

Executive Committee

- 5 extensions were granted on restricted licenses, to allow for completion of the national exam and results to have been received.
- The College plans to revisit the policy regarding exams and extensions. Six months is enough time to write twice, but it's not enough to get results from the second exam. If students fail the second exam, they usually request another extension.

Audit Committee

- The Audit Committee proposed a draft budget, which was accepted by Council.

Professional Conduct Committee

- To date, 11 complaints have been received by the College in 2013 (mixture of public and employer complaints).

Discipline Committee

- Waiting for a decision from Council on the appeal heard Oct. 31, 2013. Should be finalized in the next two or three weeks.
- Fine structure: Council would like to ensure the "fine" decisions are consistently applied to each case. A guideline matrix was discussed.

Legislation and Bylaws Committee

- No requirement to meet at this time; will be meeting in the new year.

Stakeholder Meetings and Conferences

Provincial Emergency Services Practice Committee (PESPC)

- October 8, 2013 meeting was rescheduled for December 3, 2013 in Saskatoon to maximize attendance and agenda discussion items.

SCoP Annual General Meeting

- Date of AGM: May 2, 2014; The College is investigating speakers and is working on a proposal.

Ministry of Health (MOH)

- The Ministry of Health with the Health Quality Council hosted a “Connecting the Dots event” to update stakeholders regarding the system. Community paramedicine and Collaborative Emergency Centers were discussed at length. The meeting also included a review of the health system visibility wall, which SCoP employees would like to implement at the office.

Johnson Shoyama Board Governance Training (Sept. 30-Oct 1, 2013)

- Included most of the Network of Inter-professional Regulatory Organizations (NIRO) members, giving the new Executive Director the opportunity to meet her counterparts.

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

- Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR) appointed SCoP’s Executive Director as a representative on this committee. At the first meeting they discussed the strategic direction for the NOCPs; PAC wants to develop a more standardized approach across the country in general regarding NOCPs. Meetings occur every 6 to 8 weeks.

Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association Lunch – November 6, 2013

- Three members of Council planning to attend.

Health Quality Council (HQC):

- Graham Fast presented to Council and extended an invitation to participate in a system “scoping” activity. His presentation was titled, “Emergency Department Waits and Patient Flow Initiative”; Goal: no patient will wait for care in the Emergency department by March 2017.