

## **FACT SHEET**

### REGISTRATION AND PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION FEES CHANGES

### **Background**

Under Sections 18.04 and 25.01.1 of the College by-laws, registration fees and fees paid by Professional Corporations are adjusted annually by an amount equivalent to the change in the provincial Consumer Price Index (CPI).

These fee increases are based on the All Items – Ontario CPI for November 2023, published annually in December. The by-laws also stipulate that Registrants must be notified in advance about the change in fees resulting from this automatic adjustment.

The index considered for this year's fees change can be found <u>here</u>.

#### When do the New Fees Come into Effect?

The increased Registration fees will be in effective as of the launch of registration renewal, for the 2024-2025 registration year, at 9:00 a.m. February 14, 2024.

For the Professional Corporation fees, the changes will come into effect on January 15, 2024, meaning that any applications, issuance or renewals of certificates of authorization will be completed at the new rates.

# Why do some of the College's Fees Increase Annually?

The College came into being on July 1, 2015, and every January since that time, fee increases have been instituted based on the provisions of the bylaws, with only one major exception due to COVID-19. No fee increases other than those based on the CPI have been proposed by the College over this eight-year period, demonstrating that the automatic

indexing against the Consumer Price Index is working as it was intended. That intent was to ensure that the fees remained consistent with the value of the dollar and cost-of-living over time, offsetting the impact of currency inflation in Ontario.

The College's fees for the new year are thus based on the All Items – Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November from the previous year. In December 2023, the index indicated a 3.3% increase.

## Why Are Professional Corporation Fees Included in the Increase This Year?

In November 2023, following a 60-day consultation period, the Council approved amendments to the by-laws which included a provision applying an automatic CPI adjustment for Professional Corporation fees. The processes for administering the Professional Corporation program are very similar to the process for registration fees and therefore the Council was of the opinion that these fees should also be indexed against the CPI.

## Can the College Help Mitigate the Impact of the Increase in fees?

Yes, by enrolling in the College's Payment Plan Program, registrants can pay their registration fees in 10 monthly installments between April 2024 and January 2025. The program will automatically debit these installments from a provided bank account. This program has no fees to enroll and no upfront lump sum payment.

#### **Who Can I Contact for More Information**

All questions regarding fee increases should be directed to general@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca.

