



The College of Naturopaths of Ontario

**Council Meeting
March 25, 2026**

**Video Conference
APPROVED MINUTES**

Council	
Present	Regrets
Dr. Amy Armstrong, ND (5:6)	Ms. Sarah Griffiths-Savolaine (0:6)
Dr. Felicia Assenza, ND (6:6)	
Ms. Naomi Bussin (3:3)	
Mr. Dean Catherwood (6:6)	
Ms. Lisa Fenton (6:6)	
Dr. Brenda Lessard-Rhead, ND (Inactive) (6:6)	
Dr. Denis Marier, ND (6:6)	
Ms. Marjia Pajdakovska (4:6)	
Mr. Paul Philion (6:6)	
Dr. Erin Walsh, ND (6:6)	
Dr. Jacob Scheer, ND (5:6)	
Staff Support	
Ms. Agnes Kupny, Director, Operations	
Mr. Andrew Parr, CAE, CEO	
Ms. Erica Laugalys, Deputy CEO, Registrant and Corporate Services	
Mr. Jeremy Quesnelle, Deputy CEO, Regulation	
Ms. Monika Zingaro, Human Resources Coordinator	
Guests	
Ms. Rebecca Durcan, Legal Counsel	
Mr. Barry Sullivan, Governance Committee, Vice-Chair	

1. Call to Order and Welcome

1.01 Call to Order

The Chair, Dr. Brenda Lessard-Rhead, ND (Inactive), called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and she welcomed everyone to the meeting, as well as acknowledging those attending the meeting via live stream. With that, the Chair noted that the meeting was now being live streamed via YouTube to the College's website.

1.02 Land Acknowledgement

The Chair reviewed the College's Land Acknowledgement, developed by the Governance Committee, and encouraged Council members to review it as an affirmation of the College Council's commitment to peace, friendship, and respect for Indigenous peoples.

1.03 Meeting Norms

The Chair directed Council's attention to the video meeting norms included in their meeting package and invited questions or concerns. There were none.

1.04 "High-Five" – process for consensus

The Chair reviewed the "High Five" process adopted by Council to indicate consensus on a proposed direction, whereby a show of five fingers indicates strong support, and one finger indicates strong opposition.

2. Consent Agenda

2.01 Review of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was circulated to members of Council in advance of the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any items to move from the consent agenda to the main agenda for discussion. There were none.

MOTION:	To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
MOVED:	Paul Phillion
SECOND:	Jacob Scheer
CARRIED.	

3. Main Agenda

3.01 Review of the Main Agenda

A draft of the Main Agenda, along with the documentation in support of the meeting had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any items to be added to the agenda. There were none.

MOTION:	To adopt the Main Agenda as presented.
MOVED:	Dean Catherwood
SECOND:	Amy Armstrong
CARRIED.	

3.02 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair reminded Council members of the updated Conflict-of-Interest declaration process. A summary of the Annual Conflict of Interest Questionnaires completed by Council members have been included in the Council package to increase transparency and accountability initiatives, and to align with the College Performance Measure Framework Report (CPMF) launched by the Ministry of Health.

4. Monitoring Reports

4.01 Report of the Council Chair

The Report of the Council Chair was circulated in advance of the meeting. The Chair reviewed the report with Council. She welcomed and responded to questions from the Council.

MOTION:	To accept the Report of the Council Chair as presented.
MOVED:	Lisa Fenton
SECOND:	Denis Marier
CARRIED.	

4.02 Report on Regulatory Operations from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

The Report on Regulatory Operations at February 28, 2026, from the CEO was circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr. Andrew Parr, CEO, provided highlights of the report and responded to questions that arose during the discussion that followed.

MOTION:	To accept the Report on Regulatory Operations at February 28, 2026, from the CEO.
MOVED:	Erin Walsh
SECOND:	Jacob Scheer
CARRIED.	

4.03 Variance Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for Q3

The Variance Report and the Unaudited Financial statements ending December 31, 2025 (Q3) were included in the materials circulated in advance of the meeting. Ms. Erica Laugalys, Deputy CEO, Registrant and Corporate Services, provided a review of the Variance Report and the Unaudited Statements and highlighted the changes in the report from the previous quarter. She responded to questions that arose during the discussion that followed.

MOTION:	To accept the Variance Report and Unaudited Financial statements for the third quarter ending at December 31, 2025, as presented.
MOVED:	Paul Phillion
SECOND:	Dean Catherwood
CARRIED.	

5. Council Governance Policy Confirmation

5.01 Review/Issues Arising

5.01(i) Executive Limitation Policies

Council members were asked if they had any questions or matters to note with respect to the Executive Limitations policies based on the reports received. No issues were noted at this time.

5.01(ii) Ends Policies

Council members were asked if they had any questions or matters to note with respect to the Ends policies based on the reports received. No issues were noted.

5.01(iii) Council-CEO Linkage Policies

Council members were asked if they had any questions or matters to note with respect to the Council-CEO Linkage policies based on the reports received. No issues were noted.

5.02 Detailed Review (as per GP08) – Governance Process Policies (Part 2 – GP19-GP36)

Mr. Barry Sullivan, Governance Committee (GC) Vice-Chair, provided the Council with a detailed presentation reviewing the responses and comments submitted by Council members in relation to the Governance Process policies detail review, and highlighted proposed amendments.

Council members were also asked if there were any members who wished to discuss the grouping of the policies, and Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Parr responded to questions that arose during the discussion.

MOTION:	To adopt the recommended policy changes.
MOVED:	Denis Marier
SECOND:	Dean Catherwood
CARRIED.	

6. Business

6.01 Annual Operational Plan

A comprehensive Briefing Note and the updated Operational Plan for fiscal year 2026-2027 were circulated to Council members before the meeting. Mr. Parr provided a review of the operational plan and highlighted some projects and activities continuing into the coming fiscal year 2026-2027. He also responded to any questions or concerns that arose during the discussion that followed.

MOTION:	To approve the updated Annual Operational Plan 2026-2027 as presented.
MOVED:	Paul Phillion
SECOND:	Amy Armstrong
CARRIED.	

6.02 Annual Capital and Operating Budgets 2026-2027 Fiscal Year

A detailed Briefing Note and the draft Capital and Operating budgets were included in the Council materials circulated before the meeting. Ms. Laugalys highlighted the main components within each program area, i.e., Operations, Volunteer Program and Examinations, during a detailed presentation and responded to any questions or concerns that arose during the discussion that followed.

MOTION:	To accept the Capital and Operating budgets for fiscal year 2026-2027 as presented.			
MOVED:	Dean Catherwood			
SECOND:	Erin Walsh			
CARRIED.				

6.03 Proposed Amendment to Table 3 – OMP

Mr. Jeremy Quesnelle, Deputy CEO, Regulation, provided Council with an overview of the two consultations undertaken and highlighted the feedback received at the close of the consultation periods. He also referenced the presentation delivered to Council at its December 2025 meeting by Dr. Jamie Kellar, Associate Dean, Academic, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto.

Mr. Quesnelle further outlined the steps that would be undertaken by College staff should Council approve the proposed amendment to Table 3 of the General Regulation, including the submission of required information and documentation to the Ministry of Health for review and consideration.

He responded to questions and addressed concerns raised by Council during the ensuing discussion.

MOTION:	To approve the proposed amendment to Table 3 of the General Regulation by adding Oral Micronized Progesterone with no limitations identified.			
MOVED:	Paul Phillion			
SECOND:	Amy Armstrong			
IN FAVOUR	Public Members	5 (out of 5)	Professional Members	6 (out of 6)
OPPOSED	Public Members	0 (out of 6)	Professional Members	0 (out of 5)
CARRIED.				

7. Council Education

7.01 Program Briefing – Inspection Program

The Council received an educational program briefing and presentation by Mr. Quesnelle about the Inspection Program. He highlighted the information provided in the briefing, for instance, the difference between an inspector’s preliminary decision and the final decision given to a premise that underwent an inspection. He responded to questions asked by Council.

7.02 Program Briefing – Registration Program

The Council received an educational program briefing and presentation by Ms. Laugalys about the Registration Program. She highlighted the information provided in the briefing and responded to questions asked by Council.

8. In-camera Session (Pursuant to paragraph (d) of section 7(2) of the HPPC)

8.01 Motion to Begin In-camera Session

The Chair called the meeting to move to an in-camera session at 11:35 a.m.

MOTION:	That the Council moves to an in-camera session pursuant to paragraph (d) of section 7(2) of the Health Professions Procedural Code in order to discuss operational and personnel matters.
MOVED:	Denis Marier
SECOND:	Dean Catherwood
CARRIED.	

9. Other Business

The Chair asked if there was any other business to be brought before the meeting ended. There was none.

10. Meeting Evaluation and Next Meeting

10.01 Meeting Evaluation

The Chair advised Council members that the newly adopted method to complete the meeting evaluation via a Zoom survey will take place again and that the survey will appear on each Council member's screen.

The Chair asked each Council member to take a few moments to complete the survey. The Chair reviewed the results of the survey, and there was one area of concern raised relating to time management. The Chair spoke to this and asked if the person is comfortable in doing so, to reach out to her and provide more details to ensure their concern can be addressed and improved upon for the meeting.

10.02 Next Meeting

The Chair noted for Council that the next regularly scheduled meeting is being held in-person over a two-day period. The first day on May 26, 2026, will be a full-day training session and the second day on May 27, 2026, will be a half-day business meeting.

11. Adjournment

11.01 Motion to Adjourn

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

MOTION:	To adjourn the meeting.
MOVED:	Paul Phillion
SECOND:	Naomi Bussin

Recorded by: Monika Zingaro
Human Resources Coordinator
March 25, 2026

Approved: May 27, 2026