

College of Naturopaths of Ontario

# News Bulletin

August 21, 2019

### News



#### Are your website and advertising compliant?

Our Registrar emailed all College Members on July 18 urging them to review their websites and promotional materials as soon as possible to ensure the wording used is consistent with the College's Standards of Practice for <u>Advertising</u> and for <u>Scope of Practice</u>. If you haven't had a chance to read the message, we encourage you to do so and make any necessary changes.

The College does not actively monitor Members' websites or social media profiles. However, concerns about ND marketing and advertising may be brought to our attention by various sources, including other health professionals, media, the public, and others. This can result in the filing of complaints or the launching of Registrar's Investigations which in turn consumes College resources.

Recent concerns raised with us have included ND usage of words such as "family medicine", "a medical practice", "medical testing", "primary care physician", "specializes in", and more.

It is important to note that the practice of medicine is restricted to Members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. NDs cannot refer to their practices as medical practices or family medicine (a specialty within the practice of medicine), nor can they refer to themselves as physicians (at any time) or as doctors without an appropriate qualifier.

Second, a specialty is not permitted within the practice of naturopathy and Members of the College are prohibited by the <u>Professional Misconduct Regulation</u> from referring to an area of specialization.

Read the Registrar's July 18 email for information about the terms NDs can use, including how to use "medicine" and the title "doctor" in ways that align with the Standards.

For more information, email us.

#### **Update: Scheduled Substances & Labs Review**

Council voted at its July 31 meeting to submit proposed additions to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for the drugs and substances and the laboratory tests that naturopaths may access through the regulations and legislation that govern the profession. The proposed changes are based on extensive work led by the College's Scheduled Substances Review Committee (SSRC).

Specifically, the College will be asking the Ministry to approve proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 168/15 for the addition of 22 drugs and substances, and to the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act* for the addition of 37 laboratory tests (based on the first priorities confirmed by the College Council). We will continue to keep Members informed about this topic as we move forward through the submission process.

#### Revised College by-laws

Also at its July meeting, the College Council approved a series by-law changes. Revisions range from housekeeping and modernization updates such as the use of gender-inclusive language, to changes focused on serving and protecting the public interest. One such change includes enabling Council to appoint members of the public (who are non-Council members) to serve on College committees. This change will enhance self-regulation and public trust, and enable greater flexibility in the appointments process.

This change will augment the public voice but is no way intended to reduce involvement of the profession in self-regulation. The composition of College Committees will continue to be at the discretion of the Council.

Read the revised by-laws.

#### New Law: Missing Persons & Requests for Records

There is a new law, effective July 1st, that applies to everyone but may have special application to health care practitioners. The <u>Missing Persons Act</u> enables police to make an "urgent demand for records" where the "missing person" has not been in contact with people they would expect to have been in contact with and there is reasonable grounds to believe their safety is at risk.

While this demand can be made of anyone, it is anticipated that health care practitioners, cell phone providers and financial institutions are most likely to receive these requests. The request from the police will specify the type of information sought, which information is intended to assist the police in locating the individual. This new power is designed to assist in cases where no criminal activity is suspected (where search warrants would be available). Likely the exceptions in the *Personal Health Information Protection Act* (PHIPA) already permits this disclosure, but now cooperation is mandatory.





This News Bulletin highlights a practice-related FAQ and response from our Regulatory Education

### Specialist.

#### Can I submit my CE reporting log before the required deadline?

Yes. The College highly recommends that Members in Group II who are required to submit their CE Reporting logs do so before the September 30, 2019 reporting deadline. This allows staff to review the logs and contact Members if there are any issues, thereby allowing them to address any outstanding items before the deadline. Find your CE group.

## **Deadlines & Reminders**



Ontario Clinical Exams (Practical) - Registration for the September 29 sitting opens August 20 and closes on September 10, 2019.

CE reporting deadline for Group II Members is September 30, 2019.

#### **Upcoming Discipline Hearings**

Hearing Date/Time: 9:30 a.m., Thursday, August 22, 2019

Member Name: Anthony James YORES

Registration #: 1250

Hearing Date/Time: 9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 12, 2019

Member Name: Taras RODAK

Registration #: 0741

### Practice Resources



#### Check out these and other resources online

Advertising, Websites and Social Media Do's and Don'ts

Patient Rights handout (customizable and available in English and French)

Mandatory Reporting Requirements

<u>Telemedicine – Providing Naturopathic Care at a Distance</u>

Can naturopaths delegate a controlled act to a nurse or nurse practitioner? (Read the full article in INformeD - Summer 2019, page 5.)

#### Read our recent blog posts

The Registrar's blog is open to the public and Members to comment on and engage with.

7 Tips for Using Electronic Records in Your Practice

**Medical Devices** 

Patients Want to Know Their Rights

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If members unsubscribe, they will be contacted by staff to re-subscribe as the

College primarily communicates to members via email. We strive to keep communications
relevant and to a minimum. Information regarding registration matters (annual renewal deadline,
quality assurance requirements etc.), and important news and updates are communicated via email.

The College works on the assumption that all members receive and review all of our emails.

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