



November 3, 2020

Governance News



By-law Consultation: we need your feedback!

The College is launching a consultation on proposed by-law changes. Here's what is happening and why.

Mandating Change in Governance

In the September edition of the News Bulletin, the College alerted readers to the changes that the Council had proposed to the way in which this College, and potentially other health regulatory Colleges, should be governed and govern their respective professions.

The final report, *Governance Report: A Mandate for Change* included 22 recommendations for change covering our approach to regulation, the size and composition of the Council, removal of disciplinary functions from the College, and moving to competency-based appointments for the Council and the Committees.

The companion report, *Governance Report Implementation Plan*, included 41 recommendations relating to the steps to be taken to put in place the recommendations contained in the Council's report.

These reports can be found on the [Governance page](#) on the College's website. We encourage all Registrants and stakeholders to review these important reports. On this page, you will also find the *letter to the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health* setting out the Council's recommendations on which we are seeking Government action.

Change in Terminology

In addition to the letter to the Minister, the College has also implemented some of the Council's decisions relating to the terminology used by the College. The Council directed that several important references be altered in order to begin to reduce confusion among the

public and professions of the different role the regulatory authorities, professional association and educational institutions play.

In line with that, the Council President and Council Vice-President are being referred to as the Council Chair and Council Vice-Chair respectively. The naturopathic doctors who are registered to practise in Ontario are now being referred to as Registrants (as opposed to Members) and the senior staff person appointed by the Council is being referred to as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) as opposed to the Registrar.

The College has also implemented important descriptions to be included on various communications that will remind readers that the “College” is a regulatory authority with a very clear public interest mandate.

Next step: Proposed by-law changes

The next step in implementing the Council’s decisions will be to update the College by-laws. Over the past few weeks, College staff and Legal Council have been engrossed in the by-laws and setting out proposed changes to align with the Council’s decisions.

Today, we are very happy to release those proposed changes for a 60-day consultation period. The by-laws package has been uploaded to the [Consultation page](#) on the College’s website. Your feedback is welcome **by December 10, 2020**.

[Give us your feedback](#)

Any questions about the by-laws package and proposed changes should be directed to ceo@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca.

What you will find in these proposed changes goes well beyond merely entrenching the nomenclature changes referred to above. You will also find key changes and new provisions surrounding:

- a clear enunciation of the role of the Council;
- delegation of standard setting by the Council to a new Standards Committee;
- a redistribution of Registrants in electoral District 5 to other districts and the elimination of District 5 to establish parity between professional and public representation on Council;
- broadening the role of the Nominations and Elections Committee and changing its name to the Governance Committee so that the new Volunteer Program (see below) becomes a part of their responsibilities;
- changes to Committee composition to reduce the number of Council members required to sit on Committees;
- qualification for appointment as a Public Representative; and
- reduction of the role of the Executive Committee to urgent issues only in order to increase accountability through reliance solely on Council for policy decisions.

Of course, you will also find that some housekeeping measures have also been incorporated to adjust for numbering issues, typographical and grammatical errors, and aligning the by-laws

with Council policy.

Of special note, Schedule 3 to the by-laws which governs the fees the College charges is also being amended; however, the proposed changes relate **only** to the Prior Learning and Recognition (PLAR) Program and not to fees paid by Registrants or Examination fees.

Volunteer Program

As noted above, work is progressing on the College's new Volunteer Program which once finalised will set out the processes for the recruitment, assessment, training and management of Council and Committee members. The program will be a joint program of the new Governance Committee (presently the Nominations and Elections Committee) and the CEO. Key to this program will be the establishment of competencies for Council and Committee members which will then be the basis for assessing qualifications.

It is hoped that the Volunteer Program will be ready later in October or in early November to allow for a brief consultation of stakeholders.

Changes in Council members

The Council is pleased to formally announce the appointment of three new Public members to the Council by the Minister of Health. Council Chair Dr. Kim Bretz, ND, welcomed Dean Catherwood of Toronto (appointed January 31, 2020), Asifa Baig of Mississauga (appointed June 18, 2020) and Sarah Griffiths-Salvolaine of Toronto (appointed August 13, 2020). All Council members and staff welcome you and look forward to working with you.

Regretfully, the Council will also be losing a valued Public member in Samuel Laldin of Kingston. Sam was first appointed in October 2017 and his three-year term will be completed later this month. Sam has served most recently on the Inspections Committee, Patient Relations Committee and was an Officer-at-Large elected to the Executive Committee as a Public member. Sam brought considerable experience, as well as a calm and highly professional demeanor to the Council and its Committees and his valuable input will be missed at the Council table.

Have you ever wondered who has served on the Council since proclamation in July 2015? Watch for the 5th Anniversary Edition of iNformeD coming out later this winter.

Volunteers wanted

Examiners

The College is searching for ND volunteers who share a passion for regulating the profession and protecting the public. We are currently recruiting several **examiners**.

Interested examiners will be required to complete a training session (conducted remotely via Zoom) for their particular exam. In exchange, volunteer examiners will receive an honorarium of \$150 for the exam day, will be provided with lunch, will be reimbursed for travel/parking expenses and will be provided with a confirmation of participation letter that may be used towards their CE credits.

Volunteering with the College is much more than just a contribution! Read [5 reasons to volunteer with the College](#) for more information and apply on the [Volunteer Opportunities web page](#).

Website Usability Testing

The last edition of *iNformeD* included a brief article about the preparations being made to launch a new website and Registrant portal later this fall. The launch is scheduled for mid-November.

As part of the process, the College is looking for 3 or 4 Registrants interested in testing the new site before it goes live and willing to share 30 to 45 minutes of their time.

Interested? Please contact Victoria in Communications at Victoria.calozet@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca. Please note that this is an unpaid volunteer opportunity, but we will be very grateful for your help.

FAQ



Stay up to date! Find the answers to your **COVID-19-related questions** [here](#).

I have seen that the College is celebrating its 5th Year Anniversary, congratulations. But hasn't the College been around a lot longer than that? I know that I've been receiving e-mails from the College for a very long time.

In some respects, the "College" has been around for a long time. In November 2009, the first meeting was held; however, at that time it was the "transitional Council of the College of Naturopaths of Ontario". In fact, from November 2009 to June 30, 2015, the transitional Council and many of the staff you know today began working with the College. During this period, the role was to prepare the College to perform the regulatory functions that would be required following proclamation. By-laws were written, policies and standards created, regulations developed and submitted to government. All operational activities were developed, including a communications process to update NDs about changes in the regulatory processes.

On July 1, 2015, the transitional nature of the organisation was removed because the *Naturopathy Act, 2007* was fully proclaimed. At that time, our first elections for the Council (i.e. no longer transitional) were held and the new Council took its place in January 2016. So, while it may seem like we've been around longer, they were two legally different entities with the College officially taking over regulatory duties on July 1, 2015.

What we are celebrating, is five years of regulation under the *Naturopathy Act, 2007* and the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*. We are also celebrating just how far the profession has come under the new model. Many of the fears did not come to fruition and the profession has adopted quite well to the new regulatory framework. In our view, we celebrate this milestone together.

Deadlines & Reminders



- **Ontario Clinical (Practical) Exams—November 1, 2020 sitting:** registration closes on Friday, October 9, 2020
- **Ontario Biomedical Exam—November 19, 2020 On-line sitting:** registration closes on Tuesday, October 13, 2020
- **IVIT Examination—December 6, 2020 sitting:** registration opens October 19, 2020.

Please note that some examinations are subject to cancellation. Please see the [Examination Cancellation Watch](#) issued by the College. If exam cancellations occur or are certain, the “Watch” will be upgraded to a “Warning”.

- Coming soon: The **2019-2020 Annual Report**.

Practice Resources



[Telepractice Guideline](#)

[Standard of Practice for Infection Control](#)

[COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines](#)

Latest Blog Post

- [New Graduates Working for a College Member](#)
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