



**Ontario College
of Pharmacists**

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MINUTES OF MEETING

OF COUNCIL

DECEMBER 12, 2016

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2016 – 9:06 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ONTARIO COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS

Elected Members

District H Dr. Regis Vaillancourt, Ottawa
District H Ms. Christine Donaldson, Windsor
District K Dr. Esmail Merani, Carleton Place
District K Ms. Tracey Phillips, Westport
District L Mr. Billy Cheung, Markham
District L Mr. James Morrison, Burlington
District L Dr. Sony Poulouse, Hamilton
District M Mr. Fayez Kosa, Toronto - **Regrets**
District M Mr. Don Organ, Toronto
District M Ms. Laura Weyland, Toronto
District N Mr. Gerry Cook, London - **Regrets**
District N Mr. Chris Leung, Windsor
District N Dr. Karen Riley, Sarnia
District P Mr. Jon MacDonald, Sault Ste. Marie - **Regrets**
District P Mr. Douglas Stewart, Sudbury
District T Ms. Michelle Filo, Sudbury
District TH Mr. Goran Petrovic, Kitchener

Dr. Heather Boon, Dean, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto
Dr. David Edwards, Hallman Director, School of Pharmacy, University of Waterloo

Members Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council

Ms. Kathleen Al-Zand, Ottawa
Ms. Linda Bracken, Marmora
Ms. Carol-Ann Cushnie, Toronto
Mr. Naj Hassam, North York - **Regrets**
Mr. Javaid Khan, Markham
Mr. John Laframboise, Ottawa
Mr. James MacLaggan, Bowmanville - **Regrets**
Ms. Sylvia Moustacalis, Toronto
Mr. Shahid Rashdi, Mississauga
Ms. Joy Sommerfreund, London
Mr. Ravil Veli, North Bay
Mr. Wes Vickers, LaSalle

Staff present

Ms. Connie Campbell, Director, Finance and Administration
Ms. Susan James, Director, Competence
Ms. Ushma Rajdev, Council and Executive Liaison
Ms. Anne Resnick, Interim Acting Registrar

Invited Guests

Dr. Zubin Austin, Murray Koffler Chair in Pharmacy and Academic Director, Centre for Practice Excellence, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto

1. Noting Members Present

Member attendance was noted.

2 Declaration of Conflict

There were no conflicts declared.

3. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be approved. CARRIED.

4. President's Opening Remarks

President Vaillancourt welcomed Council members to the meeting. He also introduced to Council Ms. Nancy Lum-Wilson, who was observing the proceedings at today's meeting. Ms. Lum-Wilson was appointed CEO and Registrar of the College on November 24 at the Special Council Meeting and will assume her role at the College on January 9, 2017.

The President advised that a new Public Member Mr. Najmudin (Naj) Hassam from North York, was appointed to College Council on October 5, 2016 for a period of 3 years. An Orientation was held on October 27 and Mr. Hassam has been appointed to the Discipline, ICRC and Registration Committees. Mr. Hassam was unable to participate in today's meeting and will be formally introduced to Council at the March 2017 Council Meeting.

The President went on to advise that Mr. Farrell, Public Member from Sundridge, tendered his resignation effective December 2, 2016, and that Ms. Al-Zand has been appointed to replace him on the Executive Committee.

President Vaillancourt also advised Council that in an effort to address concerns from staff about clean air in the workplace, and to promote a healthy work environment and reduce the potential for adverse health effects related to the use of fragrances at the College, policies have

been created to ensure a scent-free environment. These policies are similar to those in place at hospitals and other regulatory bodies.

4.1 Briefing Note - President's Report to December 2016 Council

The President referred to his report which summarized his activities since the previous Council meeting. These included attending various committee meetings at the College and various phone calls and meetings with the Acting Registrar and the Vice President. President Vaillancourt added that amended regulations under the *Pharmacy Act* that permit pharmacist administration of certain vaccines were announced by the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care on December 1, 2016 and will take effect on December 15, 2016.

The Briefing Note was received by Council for information.

4.2 Briefing Note – September 2016 Council Meeting Evaluation

Referring to the September 2016 Council Meeting Evaluation, President Vaillancourt was pleased to note the increase in the number of respondents to the survey and thanked Council for taking the time to provide feedback.

The Briefing Note was received by Council for information.

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

5.1 Minutes of Special Meeting of Council (November 24, 2016)

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on November 24, 2016 be approved. CARRIED.

5.2 Minutes of September 2016 Council Meeting

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the September 2016 Council Meeting be approved. CARRIED.

6. Notice of Motions Intended to be Introduced

There were none.

7. Motions, Notice of Which Had Previously Been Given

There were none.

8. Inquiries

There were none.

9. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

9.1 Briefing Note – Acting Registrar’s Report to December 2016 Council

President Vaillancourt asked the Acting Registrar, Ms. Resnick, to address Council.

Ms. Resnick highlighted the salient points from her report and responded to questions posed by Council. Referring to the Mandate letter provided by the Premier to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Ms. Resnick noted the various priorities outlined therein. She advised Council that on December 7, the government introduced the *Medical Assistance in Dying Statute Law Amendment Act, 2016*. The Act consists of a series of amendments that will provide more clarity on medical assistance in dying for patients, families and health care providers. It will ensure that appropriate coroner oversight of medical assistance in dying situations will continue.

Also introduced by the government was legislation to prevent sexual abuse of patients. The legislation, if passed, will strengthen and reinforce Ontario's zero tolerance policy on sexual abuse of patients by any regulated health professional. The *Protecting Patients Act, 2016* includes legislative amendments that would, among others, (1) clarify the time period after the end of a patient-provider relationship; (2) expand the list of acts of sexual abuse that will result in the mandatory revocation of a regulated health professional's license; (3) remove the ability of a regulated health professional to continue to practice on patients of a specific gender after an allegation or finding of sexual abuse; (4) increase access to patient therapy and counselling as soon as a complaint of sexual abuse by a regulated health professional is filed; (5) ensure that all relevant information about regulated health professionals' current and past conduct is available to the public in an easy-to-access and transparent way; and (6) improve colleges' complaints, investigations and discipline processes.

Council noted that in anticipation of these amendments, the College began work in some of these areas, and has already implemented changes to the public register that support the transparency initiative.

Council next noted that on October 7, Minister Hoskins released a letter he wrote to Ed Clark, the Premier's Business Advisor and Chair of the Advisory Council on Government Assets in which he requested Mr. Clark's expert advice in valuing public and private assets with respect to Ontario's digital health strategy. Currently, most family physicians in Ontario have electronic medical records in their practice and nearly all hospital-based diagnostic imaging is digital and key lab results are available through a provincial information system. Ms. Resnick advised that as part of this initiative, if/when pharmacists have access to more information, there will be a need for new policy development to help guide the profession. In anticipation, she continued, we are working with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario to develop complementary policies for continuity of care to help serve and meet patient needs. It is anticipated that signage required to be displayed in pharmacies will be amended to reflect the change in access by pharmacists and other health professionals to patients' health information.

Ms. Resnick next referred to the section in her report regarding opioid abuse, noting that in addition to Ontario's own strategy to prevent addiction and overdose, on November 19, the Federal Minister of Health and Ontario's Minister of Health and Long-Term Care released a "Joint Statement of Action to Address the Opioid Crisis". The statement reflects the combined commitment both federally and provincially to address this crisis. Council noted for information that the College is establishing a working group to provide guidance in the development of a comprehensive opioid dependence treatment (ODT) policy. This will include guidance from a regulatory perspective as well as providing input on both best practices and challenges in the delivery of addiction services. In response to a comment from the floor, Ms. Resnick advised that consideration has been given to include non-pharmacists, in particular, patients, as members of this working group, in order to assist the College in developing a comprehensive understanding of this issue.

Ms. Resnick advised that the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) had met in Saskatoon on November 8. Referring to Mr. Scanlon's (College representative on the NAPRA Board) report, she noted that on the issue of medical marijuana, NAPRA continues to support the existing evidence-based process for drug review, evaluation, and approval and does not support a separate process for this product. She added that due to the complex nature of regulation development and enforcement in this area, CPRC (the Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada) would like to consider the broader issue of distribution in greater detail and it is anticipated that this discussion will occur some time in February 2017.

Ms. Resnick added that in addition to various other discussions, a significant portion of the Board meeting was taken up with the discussion on governance. Since its inception over 20 years ago, there has been recognition that a governance review was needed to examine challenges related to structure and function of NAPRA in order to strengthen the organization to better serve its members. An Ad-hoc Committee was created in April 2016 and with the support of the Institute on Governance, at this November meeting, the Committee put forth recommendations for the Board's consideration and subsequently, for member organizations feedback.

Ms. Resnick provided an overview of the current structure and concerns which are that: member organization representatives are voting directors of the Board (14 people) of which many are past members of provincial boards/councils; the Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada (CPRC) meets separately (also comprises 14 people); meetings are infrequent due to numbers and logistics; and there is duplication of discussion by both groups.

The proposed structure/recommendation is that the Board be comprised of 17 members (14 Registrars from provincial/territorial colleges and Canadian Forces Pharmacy Services and up to three Directors-at-Large [a pharmacist to be drawn from outside provincial boards/councils, a pharmacy technician and a public member]). Among other elements, the Board is expected to continue to operate with existing consensus decision-making model and meet six times a year (four of which will be in-person). This structure will not only ensure a strong strategic focus but will remove duplication of effort between the Registrars' group and the Board. It will also enable NAPRA to be more nimble.

Council members discussed the recommendation, noting that feedback was expected by NAPRA by February 20, 2017. Comments from the floor included that lack of elected member involvement may result in loss of practice perspective (although it was explained that NAPRA

will rely on expert groups made up of practitioners when dealing with practice issues); assurance that the 3 members at large adequately represent the demographics (it was noted that implementation details, which will include by-law changes, are currently being considered to support the Board decision in April); expression of strong support for public member representation; and a question as to whether this proposed structure would result in budgetary changes (it was noted that no changes to budget were anticipated). Ms. Resnick invited members at the table to provide her with further feedback, if any, before the submission deadline.

Council also noted that NAPRA developed the draft Model Standards for Pharmacy Compounding of Non-Sterile Preparations which the College had recently posted for consultation. Responses were received from a number of stakeholder groups including pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy organizations. Ms. Resnick advised that the submissions had generally been supportive and suggestions had been provided to aid clarity. It was noted that this feedback will be submitted to NAPRA, who will review submissions from across the country and determine what changes to make, if any. When NAPRA has completed work on the standards, Council will consider their adoption as well as timing of implementation.

The Registrar's (Acting Registrar's) reporting activity also includes regular program updates/presentations from the program managers and accordingly, Ms. Judy Chong, Manager, Hospital Practice, followed by Ms. Maryan Gemus, Manager, Investigations and Resolutions, were invited to present to Council.

10. For Decision

10.1 Briefing Note – Executive Committee

A motion to receive the Briefing Note from the Executive Committee was moved and seconded. CARRIED.

Vice President Donaldson, was invited to address Council. Following a recent tragic incident linked to a compounded medication error, the College reviewed how medication incident reporting is addressed in practice and what resources are available to improve and strengthen existing measures. This review also included the protocols and reporting requirements of other provincial regulatory authorities, specifically Nova Scotia's SafetyNET-RX and Saskatchewan's COMPASS CQI programs that enable community pharmacies to anonymously report medication incidents to a third party (such as the Institute for Safe Medications Practices [ISMP] Canada). The objective of this approach, which includes analysis of factors contributing to the error, is to ensure that all practitioners learn from these incidents and review and enhance their policies and procedures to reduce the likelihood of recurrence thereby improving patient safety.

Ms. Donaldson added that although the College continuously reminds practitioners of their responsibility to appropriately manage medication incidents in their practice through broad communications, and as part of discussions during regular pharmacy practice assessments in hospitals and community pharmacies, it does not currently mandate the reporting of medication errors to an external body. Accordingly, in considering this matter, the Executive Committee made the recommendation that Council approve a motion to expand on the existing expectation for continuous quality improvement for medication safety, by requiring reporting of errors to a

third party, with the expectation that aggregate reports will be received by the College for targeted practice improvement initiatives. It was noted that a Task Force will be established to fully examine this subject and that it is anticipated that a model will be developed for consultation during January and February 2017, after which the model will be presented to Council for approval at its meeting in March 2017.

Council members expressed overwhelming support of implementing such reporting requirements. Comments and suggestions included: that reporting would increase accountability; an analysis of the systems currently in place (i.e. Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan) be conducted to determine the best model for Ontario; that this was good for the profession as it showed an openness to learn; that reporting promoted a culture of continuous improvement and that everyone can win from this; that it was important to learn from mistakes; assurance that data and outcomes would be transparent in order to learn from them; that it was important to discern the contributing factors to errors and determine trends; that a possible result could be the development of further standards and/or guidelines; assurance that anonymous reporting is protected; and encouragement of reporting by public/patients.

Following discussion, **it was moved and seconded that the College take initial steps to examine expansion of existing expectation for continuous quality improvement for medication safety, by requiring reporting of errors to a third party, with the expectation that aggregate reports will be received by the College for targeted practice improvement initiatives.** Council members voted unanimously in favour of the motion. **The motion CARRIED.**

11. For Information

There were no matters for information.

12. Other Matters

12.1 Presentation by Drs. Zubin Austin and Heather Boon, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto

Following introduction by Ms. Resnick, Dr. Austin made his presentation to Council. Council noted that in the fall of 2012, the College signed an agreement with the University of Toronto to establish a Program that will address, through extensive research, the underlying behavioral issues and characteristics of pharmacists that are inhibiting pharmacists from confidently embracing/adopting an expanded scope of practice in the health care system. Dr. Austin provided a status report to College Council on the research activities undertaken by the University over the past year, as well as their results and the plan for the upcoming year.

With Dr. Austin's appointment of the Murray B. Koffler Chair in Pharmacy Management, Dr. Boon, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, announced that Dr. Lisa Dolovich would be assigned the professorship at the faculty in January 2017 and will provide an update on the accomplishments at a future Council meeting.

13. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

Motion respecting Circulation of Minutes

A motion to approve the circulation of the draft minutes of this Council Meeting to Council members was moved and seconded. CARRIED.

President Vaillancourt encouraged Council members to continue to provide feedback which will serve to ensure efficiency and enhance Council members' participation at these meetings.

14. Motion of Adjournment

It was moved and seconded that the Council meeting be adjourned at 2:06 p.m. and to reconvene on Monday, March 20, 2017, or at the call of the President. CARRIED.

**Ushma Rajdev
Council and Executive Liaison**

**Régis Vaillancourt
President**

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