

# JUNE 2014 COUNCIL MEETING

*As recorded following Council's regularly scheduled meeting held at the College offices on June 16th, 2014.*

## TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE

In keeping with its objective to enhance the transparency of information, both about pharmacists and the effectiveness of self-regulation, Council agreed to move forward with the presented phased-approach as the next step to this ongoing initiative.

The first phase focuses primarily on enhancing the consistency and clarity of existing information including notices of discipline committee hearings, publicly available criminal findings of guilt, certain bail conditions, and the identity of non-members who are practicing illegally. This will necessitate making amendments to the by-laws which will be drafted this summer and circulated to the membership.

The second phase will focus on the potential provision of information relating to outcomes of the College's Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee. Further discussion with committees, legal analysis and evaluation of process changes will need to occur prior to this phase being implemented.

These decisions of Council reflect recognition of the College's mandate of public protection and serving the public interest, and are consistent with decisions made by councils of the other AGRE

– Advisory Group on Regulatory Excellence – colleges jointly engaged in leading this initiative.

## THREE PRACTICE POLICIES AND ONE GUIDELINE APPROVED

### *Medical Directives and the Delegation of Controlled Acts (Policy – Revised)*

The introduction of an expanded scope of practice has increased the prevalence and opportunity for the use of delegation by members, for example the administration of injections other than through the UIIP or for demonstration and education. Delegation has historically been used in hospital and non-traditional settings (e.g. Family Health Teams), and in recent years there has been heightened awareness of the possible use of delegation in community practice.

### *Methadone Maintenance Treatment (MMT) and Dispensing (Policy – Revised)*

This revised policy outlines a number of changes for the appropriate dispensing of methadone maintenance treatment for opioid addiction and pain, and supports the recent introduction of a manufactured product and provides direction for the exceptions for dispensing a compounded product.

### *Treating Self and Family Members (Policy – New) / Preventing Sexual Abuse and Harassment (Guideline – Revised)*

The new policy on Treating Self and Family Members and the updated guideline on Preventing Sexual Abuse and Harassment support the College's opinion that pharmacists and technicians should not be permitted to routinely treat spouses or other family members. The policy reiterates that it is generally considered to be inappropriate and a conflict of interest to treat self and/or closely related family members. The policy informs members to use their professional judgment on a case-by-case basis and to document the circumstances of the care. The related guideline is meant to be read in conjunction with the policy.

All the above-noted documents can be found on the College website at [www.ocpinfo.com](http://www.ocpinfo.com).

## NEW RESOURCE PUBLICATIONS APPROVED

As required under the *Drug and Pharmacies Regulations Act* (DPRA), Council approved three resources to be included in the College-approved Required Reference Guide for Ontario Pharmacies. The new resources will provide comprehensive, updated, online



Photos by DW Dorken

drug interaction, pharmacotherapy, and patient counselling tools for pharmacists.

**COUNCIL APPROVES STRUCTURED PRACTICAL TRAINING (SPT) PROGRAM REDESIGN**

Following an evaluation of the SPT Program to determine its relevance and effectiveness, it was established that there were aspects of the program that could be improved to ensure fairness and objectivity. The current structure does not adequately take into consideration the diversity in education, practice experience and background of preceptees (pharmacy student, intern or pharmacy technician applicant) and consequently, the Registration Committee has proposed a redesign of the SPT program. The proposed redesign will streamline the process, allowing for applicants to demonstrate their competence earlier, and with support/guidance of their preceptor and the College, be able to formulate and enact a development plan to address the identified gaps.

The operational details necessary for implementation of the redesign will be developed through engagement with various stakeholders and the new program will be brought back to Council at a future date for final approval.

**GOVERNANCE**

In early 2013, Council supported the initiative to undertake a governance review, which included producing a Council Policy Manual and a Handbook that would consolidate existing governance documents to help guide Council in fulfilling its role. Since then, with facilitation by Mr. Richard Steinecke, the Task Force on Governance has met regularly and reported its progress at each Council meeting.

The Governance Manual, which gives a comprehensive introduction to governance related issues for new Council members and will serve as an ongoing resource for current Council, committee members and College staff about their roles and recurring issues, was approved.

Flowing from the governance discussions and the preparation of the Manual, a number of proposed changes to the by-laws were identified. Council deferred the approval of these by-laws to their next meeting pending the outcome of a further legal opinion pertaining to one of the proposed provisions in the by-law. **P**

**FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATE**

Monday 15 and Tuesday 16  
September 2014

For more information respecting Council meetings, please contact Ms. Ushma Rajdev, Council and Executive Liaison at [urajdev@ocpinfo.com](mailto:urajdev@ocpinfo.com)