



**Ontario College
of Pharmacists**

Putting patients first since 1871

MINUTES OF MEETING

OF COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 21, 2019

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019 – 9:00 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ONTARIO COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS

Elected Members

District H Dr. Régis Vaillancourt, Ottawa
District H Ms. Nadia Facca, London (attended via teleconference)
District K Mr. Mark Scanlon, Peterborough
District K Ms. Tracey Phillips, Westport
District L Mr. Billy Cheung, Markham
District L Mr. James Morrison, Burlington
District L Mr. Siva Sivapalan, Burlington
District M Mr. Mike Hannalah, Toronto (attended via teleconference)
District M Mr. Kyro Maseh, Toronto (attended via teleconference)
District M Ms. Laura Weyland, Toronto
District N Mr. Tom Kontio, London (attended via teleconference)
District N Ms. Leigh Smith, Cambridge
District N Dr. Karen Riley, Sarnia
District P Ms. Rachelle Rocha, Sudbury (attended via teleconference)
District T Ms. Connie Beck, Petrolia
District TH Mr. Goran Petrovic, Kitchener – **Regrets**

Dr. Lisa Dolovich, Interim Dean, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy,
University of Toronto (attended via teleconference)

Dr. David Edwards, Hallman Director, School of Pharmacy,
University of Waterloo - **Regrets**

Members Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council

Ms. Kathleen Al-Zand, Ottawa – **Regrets**
Mr. David Breukelman, Burlington (attended via teleconference)
Ms. Christine Henderson, Toronto (attended via teleconference)
Mr. Azeem Khan, Pickering (attended via teleconference)
Ms. Elnora Magboo, Brampton (attended via teleconference)
Ms. Sylvia Moustacalis, Toronto
Ms. Tammy Cotie, Brockville (attended via teleconference)
Mr. Dan Stapleton, Toronto (attended via teleconference)
Mr. Gene Szabo, Kanata (attended via teleconference)

Staff present

Ms. Nancy Lum-Wilson, CEO/Registrar
Ms. Anne Resnick, Deputy Registrar/Director, Conduct
Ms. Connie Campbell, Director, Corporate Services
Ms. Susan James, Director, Quality
Ms. Sarah MacDougall, Council & Committee Liaison
Ms. Stephenie Summerhill, Executive Assistant to the C.E.O. and Registrar

1. Noting Members Present

Member attendance was noted for those in attendance and via roll call for those participating via teleconference.

2. Declaration of Conflict

There were no conflicts declared.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the Agenda was moved and seconded. The motion CARRIED.

4. For Decision

4.1 Briefing Note – Approval to submit *General Regulation 202/94 of the Pharmacy Act with amendments to Part VII.3 (controlled acts) to expand scope of practice.*

President Weyland welcomed everyone to the special Council meeting and expressed her gratitude for the members making themselves available for this meeting. Ms. Weyland reviewed the process to be used for the meeting to ensure those calling in would have the opportunity to ask questions and participate in the discussion.

Ms. Nancy Lum-Wilson, CEO and Registrar, provided a brief introduction on the topic outlined in the briefing note sent to Council. Ms. Lum-Wilson explained that in a letter received on May 30, 2019 the Minister of Health asked the College to submit regulations to enable an expanded scope of practice for pharmacists.

The letter from the Minister of Health requested that the College make regulations that would enable pharmacists to:

1. Administer the flu vaccine to children as young as two years old;
2. Renew prescriptions in quantities of up to a 12-month supply;
3. Administer certain substances by injection and/or inhalation for purposes that are in addition to patient education and demonstration; and
4. Prescribe drugs for certain minor ailments.

The Minister asked for the first three items to be submitted by November 30, 2019 and the regulatory amendments to enable minor ailments prescribing to be submitted by June 30, 2020.

Ms. Susan James, Director of Quality, provided a summary of the work to date and explained that the public consultation on the proposed regulatory changes for the first submission to government opened August 26, 2019 and closed October 26, 2019. The College website, publications as well as social media channels were used to actively promote the consultation and the resulting engagement was high in comparison to past public consultations. The College received 201 comments through the online consultation which included feedback received from six associations, including the Ontario Pharmacist Association (OPA), the Ontario Medical Association and the Ontario Nurses Association, among others. The ability to reply to comments posted on the website resulted in multiple (44) responses posted by a few individuals, with the potential of skewing the consultation feedback and therefore, the College intends to turn off this feature in future consultations. During the 60 day consultation the proposed changes were

also considered as part of a series of online and in-person public focus groups facilitated by an independent third party to gain further input from pharmacy patients. The College also continued to work closely with the Ministry of Health to address policy considerations needed to support these changes to scope while ensuring that patient safety and quality care is not compromised.

The feedback identified three key themes:

- Staffing, workload and environment pressures;
- Access to lab test results and health records; and
- Collaboration with primary care professionals.

Ms. James provided a high level response to the common themes as listed in the briefing note and highlighted the changes that were made to the regulations as a result of the consultation and administrative review.

In response to a question, Ms. James confirmed that the Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act currently prevents the administration of point of care tests in pharmacies.. Specimen collection is therefore not permitted until that Act is changed to permit pharmacists and technicians to collect the specimens needed for these tests.

Members of Council discussed the suitability and procedure for providing the flu vaccine to children between the ages of two and five years of age by a pharmacist. Council was satisfied that the process for administration of the flu shots for children at this age would not vary from the guidelines recommended for children aged five and above. Council was in support of voluntary education programs that would equip pharmacists with techniques and strategies for the administration of flu vaccinations to this younger age group. Council was informed that the proposed regulatory changes for the flu vaccination will not apply to other vaccines for children between the ages of two and five.

Council discussed the workload and environment concerns brought forward in the consultation. Ms. James and Ms. Lum-Wilson provided additional information on this issue and the actions that the College has taken to date to engage with corporate pharmacy leaders and professional organizations to address these concerns. The College will continue to gather more information regarding the impact of work flow on practice to ensure the proposed scope changes are implemented with patient safety as a priority. Council asked to continue to be informed of the work of the College to further understand and collaborate with industry partners to address work flow and patient safety.

Council members were in support of the changes and commended the College and the Ministry in enabling the profession to optimize their knowledge and experience and take on a greater role to improve health outcomes for patients.

Following discussion, the **motion** that Council approve the following:

1. A voluntary education approach to enable administering of flu vaccinations for children aged two to five years old;
2. Replacement of the existing drug lists with drug categories referenced in the American Hospital Formulary Service to identify the authorized substances that can be administered by injection and or inhalation; and
3. The proposed amendments to Regulation 202/94 (as attached in Appendix 1) for submission to the Ministry of Health, was called to a vote.

Council members voted unanimously in favour of the motion. **The motion CARRIED.**

14. Motion of Adjournment

There being no further business, at **10:32 a.m.**, a motion to adjourn the meeting was moved and seconded. The motion **CARRIED**.

Sarah MacDougall
Council & Committee Liaison

Laura Weyland
President