

SEPTEMBER 2020 BOARD MEETING

As recorded following the Board of Directors' regularly scheduled meeting held on September 22nd, 2020.

This meeting was held via video and teleconference in consideration of provincial directives and social distancing measures recommended by Public Health due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NEW PUBLIC MEMBER APPOINTED TO THE BOARD

The Board welcomed the newest public member, Rick Webster, to the College. Mr. Webster has been appointed to the Registration, Discipline and Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committees.

RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS

This being the last regular meeting of the Board prior to the election, the Board Chair took the opportunity to extend the College's gratitude to the departing Board members including non-returning Elected Directors and Public Directors whose Order-in-Council appointments had expired since the last meeting.

BOARD DEFERS STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Board was presented with a briefing note outlining a proposal to defer planning of the next strategic plan. The Board considered and reaffirmed the priorities expressed within the existing multi-year

strategic framework and decided to defer strategic planning activities through to 2022 or 2023. Current strategic priorities remain relevant and will continue to guide operational activities at the College as the Board also acknowledged the significant disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and carefully considered the timing of governance reform initiatives underway in making its decision.

STATUTORY AND STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Each year, the Board receives a written report from each of the Committees as per section 11.1 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*. Under the new governance framework there is a need to bolster the reporting process to ensure adequate communication between the Committees and the Board and to allow the Board's mission, vision, and philosophy to be incorporated into the Committee work. Each Committee Chair was asked to provide a brief summary of the activities over the past year while providing feedback and learnings for consideration by future Committees.

UPDATE ON THE EXPANDED SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR PHARMACISTS

The Board was informed that the Ministry has concluded the public consultation on regulatory changes to permit expanded scope for administering certain substances by injection and/or inhalation for purposes that are in addition to patient education and demonstration, renewing prescriptions in quantities of up to a year's supply, and administering the influenza vaccine to children as young as two years old. The timelines for the provincial government's approval of these elements of expanded scope of practice for pharmacists are not known at this time.

College staff provided a brief summary of the work to support the implementation of expanded scope of practice for pharmacists once approved by the government. The College is currently developing:

- A mandatory e-Learning module to help pharmacists understand the ethical, legal and professional obligations

of prescribing while meeting the established standards of the profession

- A variety of resources to support a consistent approach to prescribing for minor ailments. These include a decision-making algorithm that outlines the Standards of Practice and a Practice Resource Page on the College's website to direct registrants to recommended clinical resources that will support therapeutic decision-making
- A communications plan to provide information to the public, registrants and other partners and stakeholders on the scope changes

As well, courses and resources to assist registrants administering influenza vaccinations to young children

(ages two and up) have been developed by education providers and will be made available once the authority to do so takes effect, pending government approval.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be held Monday, December 7, 2020. Board meetings are open to the public and are held in the Board Chambers of the College at 483 Huron Street, Toronto, ON, M5R 2R4 or electronically if necessary. If you plan to attend, or for more information, please contact Ms. Sarah MacDougall, Board and Committee Liaison at boardofdirectors@ocpinfo.com. You can also follow highlights from the Board meetings via [the College's Twitter account](#).