



## NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR COLLEGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

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### 2023 Annual General Meeting

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR / REGISTRAR'S REPORT

2022 to the present has continued to be an extraordinary year – I would like to start with thank you on behalf of the Council for all your work and patience not only in dealing with the COVID pandemic, but in dealing with the extensive repercussions.

Council has continued to work in a ZOOM based meeting format. This is partly to do with difficulties renewing previously used spaces, but also recognizing the format permits an easier to access meeting space, and we have found we can easily accommodate members of Council who work in a range of locations.

The AGM has historically been a face to face meeting and this year Council opted to meet again at the Innovation Centre.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Council members for their time and dedication in carrying out the business of the College. Their participation and work not only at the meetings but in various committees and tasks. In addition, the College as a whole relies on quite an extensive pool of volunteers who have dedicated time to meet on a range of committees. The attached reports related to: Competency, Governance, Legislation and Registration to name just a few, doesn't detail the level of involvement.

This year Lorne Warren submitted his resignation after a long association with the NLCP as the Office Administrative Assistant. We are grateful for all his work and expertise. Lorne recognized the subtle complexities related to licensing, data collection and graciously extended his time with us to orientate and prepare our new Administrative Assistant – Jade Tretter.

Registrants email and call daily related to a range observations, feedback and questions –we respond as quickly as possible and welcome your input.

Special thanks to Kerri Smith who continues to work as our public appointed Council member.

I would like to extend a welcome and thanks to Alex McGruer, who was appointed to the Council by the Minister of Health earlier this year as the second public member and has been attending meetings with us since the new year.

Council met monthly.

#### **Pandemic Response**

The College continued to revise our COVID approach based on Community Health direction. Several times we extended the mask requirement – thank you for your patience throughout the year. Despite the frustration with the situation all registrants continued to respectfully ask challenging questions and Council took all suggestions into consideration. I was able to

reach out to Department of Health, our provincial counterparts and our national registrars group to provide perspective.

### **CPA Membership**

The NLCP received notice in November that based on a constitutional complaint from another discipline the GovNL was preparing to repeal the mandatory requirement for membership in professional organizations. There has been no update at this time.

### **PCE Exam**

The National PCE CC is currently on hold while an Expert Panel convenes to consider the practical exam. The final report has now been submitted and I may be able to share more details at the AGM.

### **Proposed Diagnostic and Treatment Protocols**

A follow-up response was sent to GovNL to assist in their review process. I attended a meeting on line, but to date there has been no official change.

### **Regulation Change**

The Regulations are now in place and it has been up to Council to administer the criteria, which have allowed us to implement an alternative pathway to licensure. This year we initiated the Jurisprudence Exam and we have been working out details with SmarterU who administers the exam for us and communicates the results, which fulfils the final criteria.

### **Cultural Safety**

We will be reviewing with the Legislative Committee to determine any unique elements for the College in NL.

### **Ukrainian refugees and crisis**

This year I attended a meeting with Minister of Immigration and staff. I was able to explain our current pathway for licensing plus the credentialing process. CAPR has changed the language proficiency requirement - ultimately, this should make the process more accessible for all. In addition, the CAPR credentialing process has been shortened dramatically.

To date I have received two inquiries.

### **NL Health Professions Regulatory Network**

The NLHPRN is comprised of 16 regulated health professions in Newfoundland and Labrador which typically meet on a quarterly basis to discuss and share topics of mutual interest.

Through July to May the HRN met monthly via ZOOM and occasionally met for extra COVID discussions, particularly when new information was made available.

### **Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators:**

National Registrars met monthly through ZOOM meetings.

Topics discussed:

- Cross border Physiotherapy
- Pandemic issues
- PCE WR exam review
- PCE CR examination cancellation, issues and jurisdictional challenges

### **Council positions:**

There are two vacant Council positions this year.

Two individuals' terms are being completed this year and I would like to recognize the following individuals:

Raeleen Baggs  
Rachelle Ryan

### **Office Management:**

I would like to acknowledge the work done by our office support specialist Lorne Warren and Jonathan Miller our IT expert. They have been working throughout the year and especially during the registration time period. There were no issues with Pay Pal this year and by all accounts the process was efficient and straight forward. Jonathan assisted greatly in submitting data for CIHI and similarly with the Deloitte review. In summer 2022 Lorne tendered his resignation, but kindly assisted Jade Tretter in taking over the position in one of the busiest renewal times we have had. Welcome Jade.

### **Health Human Resources Plan:**

In April 2023 the GovNL embarked on a plan to analyze health care resources with Deloitte and included the College to determine data:

- Total numbers
- Dates of registration
- Inflows to province
- Number of IEPTs
- New Canadian residents

The request, like the data requirements for CIHI required an accurate and complete database. These requests reinforce the importance for registrants to ensure accurate information and updates are contained in renewal documentation.

### **Adult Protection Act:**

Thanks to Brittany Murphy for alerting Council to Government legislation changes to the Adult Protection Act (APA) and implications for physiotherapists who were working with patients in long term care and the community, for whom this may apply. The policy which Brittany took the lead on writing, was approved by Council, posted on the website and sent to all registrants.

### **Complaint Process:**

Council is in the process of preparing a formal complaint process. The process will be posted on the website and included in the Governance Manual.

## REGISTRAR'S REPORT

A considerable part of the dual position is taken up by Registrar responsibilities.

### **Registration:**

Registrants as of May 12, 2023:

- Total 350
- Active 324
- Inactive 14
- Conditional 12

Late registrations: 12

Unfortunately, late registrations occur because there is a necessary deadline. Each year - I alert Council about the possibility of late registrations, this year was particularly difficult because we were training a new person while our long time registration expert was exiting. In the interests of fairness - everyone who missed the midnight deadline, was levied a late fee.

It is important to remember Physiotherapists cannot practice without a license. This year two individuals were notified they could not work until fees were paid and license issued.

### **Inactive to Active**

While your status is Inactive you cannot practice physiotherapy, as a result you can not accumulate hours.

Should your position be in education or administration you would be required to renew your license as Active.

\*It is critical that Registrants remain vigilant about their hours. Several individuals did not complete this section for 1-2 years making it impossible to renew their license.

### **Conditional Registrants**

- 12 registrants remain Conditional Registration (P.C.E. Candidates) as of May 10,2023

### **Physiotherapy Clinics**

- 47 clinics registered as of May 2023

**Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI):** The College continues to collaborate with CIHI and provides the data collection on NL registrants' demographics in order that CIHI can develop a report on Physiotherapy across the country.

Our 2022-2023 submission was submitted, errors corrected and data added. Thanks to Jonathan, for his IT expertise assistance in preparing the data. The CIHI work could not have been completed without his knowledge.

**Overall accomplishments:**

1. Regulation changes implemented
2. Alternative pathway to Active license achieved for Conditional registrants implemented
3. Governance Manual – more additions to be included
4. Participation in National Core Standards development
5. Council approved participation in validation survey for Core Standards
6. Values Project and Code of Ethics completed, survey sent to all registrants
7. 2023 fillable CCC Portfolio on website
8. Registration Committee meeting throughout the year to review files
9. Pandemic response regularly reviewed
10. Met with EngageNL re: Diagnostics and Treatment Protocols
11. Continued Competency Portfolio submission
12. Ongoing Board representation with CAPR
13. Participation in Health Human Resources Project
14. Controlled Acts discussion and development for rostering plan
15. Review and discussion of Adult Protection Act (APA) and physiotherapy
16. Review of NL Standards document

Respectfully submitted,

***Michael Kay***

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Michael Kay  
Executive Director/Registrar