

Summer 2020

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## Council Matters

- The College held a virtual Council meeting on June 4th - 5th. Council had generative discussions on a number of topics impacting practice for registered nurses (RNs) and nurse practitioners (NPs). Detailed below are some highlights of what took place.
- Council approved By-Law amendments related to Emergency Licensure (Article II- Licensure, Section 3 and Article III-Fees, Section 3(a) and (b) and Section 4 (a)) and Unauthorized Practice Fee (Article III, Section 4) as per the Governance Committee's review and recommendation for approval. To read more about CRNNL's legislation and By-laws please visit <https://www.crnml.ca/legislation-and-laws>.
- CRNNL Council accepted the Strategic Outcome Monitoring Report as evidence of satisfactory progress in the 2019-2020 period.
- Council approved that the scope of practice of a RN who is issued an interim NP licence. For further information on this item, please review the section below.

- New Council members appointed to the CRNNL Complaints Authorization Committee, (in accordance with the terms of reference Council Policy, GP-6.11) are as follows:
  - Ms. Donna Luther, Western Region Councilor
  - Ms. Kimberley Legge, Councilor at Large
  - Ms. Tonya Ryan, Councilor at Large

## The New Chair & Vice-Chair



Outgoing College Chair Elaine Warren announced at the 66th Annual General Meeting that the new College Chair is

Ms. Tracy MacDonald (Central Region Councilor) and the new Vice-Chair is Mr. Glyn George (Public Councilor). The upcoming issues of The College Connection will profile the new leaders of the College Council!

## New Continuing Competency Program (CCP) Framework

In February 2020, Council approved a new CCP for RNs and NPs and the revised Continuing Competence Program Framework. Registrant education on the new CCP and revised CCP Framework had originally been scheduled to begin in April 2020, with the new CCP becoming effective for the licensure year of April 1, 2021.

Due to the disruption of the COVID-19 Pandemic and resultant delay in the roll-out of registrant education, the effective date of the implementation of the new CCP will now be extended to the licensure year commencing on April 1, 2022. Registrants will continue to complete the current CCP until April 2022. Education is tentatively planned to begin during the latter part of the current licensure year and throughout 2021-2022. The format of these sessions (in-person/virtual) will be contingent on the public health measures in place at that time. The revised time-frame for the new CCP will provide ample time to prepare registrants prior to the commencement date. Please stay tuned for notification of education sessions on the new CCP in the upcoming months.

## NP Interim Licence

On June 5, 2020 Council approved changes to the Interim NP licence scope of practice restrictions and licensure designation. An NP interim licence may be issued to an RN who has successfully completed an approved NP education program while waiting to write the approved NP licensure exam. Council approved the removal of the long-standing scope of practice restriction that the Interim NP licence holder be required to have all orders for diagnostic and laboratory tests or medications (permitted by the standards), co-signed by another licensed NP or physician. A new licence condition was approved that requires the establishment of a collaborating arrangement with a licensed NP or physician, or confirmation from the employer that a collaborative team is available for support as needed, for the period in between graduation and successful passing of the national exam leading to full licensure.

Council approved a new licensure designation of "**Interim NP Licence**" in addition to RN. The new designation may be used when introducing oneself and signing client documentation and will add clarity and increase transparency for the public and others.

## Quality Assurance Program

Amendments to the Registered Nurses Act, 2008 took effect November 29, 2019 that authorize the College to implement a Quality Assurance (QA) Program. These amendments strengthen our mandate to regulate RNs and NPs in the public interest. The QA Program provides a proactive mechanism to address an issue/concern regarding an RN's/NP's practice thereby supporting a nurse to meet the Standards of Practice for safe, competent and ethical care. Since implementation, 2 practice concerns have been resolved under the program. For more information regarding the QA Program click [HERE](#).

## CCP Audit - Licensure Year 2019

Due to disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 CCP Audit, which requires randomly selected Registrants to submit their CCP documentation for the 2019-20 licensure year (April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020), will now take place in Fall 2020. Registrants selected to participate in the Audit will be contacted via Registered Mail and Email in mid-September. Be sure to check your mailbox and email as **participation in the audit is a mandatory, legislated requirement outlined in the Registered Nurses Regulations (2013)**.

## Emergency Licensure

Registrants are reminded it is a condition of a licence issued under the RN Regulations (2013), Section 11 that a registrant shall notify CRNNL of a change in their name, address (including email), and employment information no later than 30 days after the effective date of the change. A change of name requires that you submit documentation (marriage certificate or legal change of name document) directly to CRNNL. A change in address and employment information can be completed online via the 'Update my profile' option within [MyCRNNL](#).

## Virtual Nursing

In June, Council approved the document Virtual Nursing Practice (VNP) (2020). This new document will allow CRNNL to archive our previous document Telephone Nursing Care: Advice and Information (2002).

The purpose of this document is to articulate the practice expectations required of RNs/NPs when providing nursing care and services through a virtual platform. This document does not provide information on licensure requirements. RNs/NPs are encouraged to connect with the CRNNL to address licensure questions and concerns.

Virtual Nursing Practice is available on CRNNL's website [www.crnml.ca](http://www.crnml.ca).

**An education session on the Virtual Nursing Practice document and practice expectations has been scheduled for July 21st, 2020, 2-3pm. Please visit the [events page](#) for further information.**

## Regulation Challenge - Standards of Practice

A revised [Standards of Practice](#) was approved by Council in October 2019 and distributed to all current practising registrants. Test your knowledge with the Regulation Challenge below:

**Standard 3: Boundaries in the Nurse-Client Relationship**

*You work and live in a small community. You know almost everyone. What should you do if you're assigned to care for someone you know personally?*

What is the best course of action? [Click HERE](#) to test your knowledge.



Please note, you cannot unsubscribe to this communication. It contains important regulatory information relevant to your practice, membership and registration/licensure.

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