

SEPTEMBER 2018

Council Decides provides an overview of the decisions Council makes. These decisions shape nursing regulation in Ontario, and establish the goals, objectives and policies of the College.

Council met on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018 and Thursday, Sept. 13, 2018. These are highlights of its decisions. We are committed to providing information about these decisions as quickly as possible after Council meetings. We will post the full minutes of the meeting by the end of October.

Expectations of Nurses: A code of conduct

- Council provided direction on a preliminary draft of the [code of conduct](#)
- Council decided that the [public advisory group](#) should review the draft next.

Controlled act of psychotherapy

- The College presented Council with an analysis of the level of risk associated with RNs and RPNs performing the controlled act of psychotherapy without an order
- Council requested that the College write a draft regulation to allow RNs and RPNs to perform the controlled act of psychotherapy without an order.

Governance

- Council approved the profile of the future Board of Directors
- Council identified opportunities for integrating elements of the profile into current Council and committee activities
- Council recommended changes to a draft profile of the future board's Chair and Vice-Chair.

Nurse Practitioner prescribing of methadone and diacetylmorphine

- Due to recent changes in federal legislation, NPs can now prescribe methadone and diacetylmorphine. Council assessed the level of risk posed by this change and decided that current regulatory mechanisms, including the College's practice standards, provide sufficient guidance for NPs who prescribe these medications.

Practical Nurse examination

- Council supported the College's work developing a state-of-the-art [entry-to-practice examination](#) for individuals seeking to be an RPN in Ontario. The College is collaborating with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals, the regulator for all nurses in B.C.

Risk-based regulation

- David Collie, President and CEO of Ontario's Electrical Safety Authority, joined Council to highlight how a risk-based approach, focused on reducing harm, can enhance public safety
- The College informed Council about their risk-based regulation project, aimed at reducing sexual abuse of patients. The project is in the data collection phase. The College has updated the Patient Relations Committee about research so far and the committee will be consulted as the College develops interventions to reduce sexual abuse of patients by nurses.

RN prescribing

- Council decided that the College include the following smoking-cessation drugs, Bupropion (Zyban) and Varenicline (Champix), in the draft regulation enabling RNs to prescribe
- Council decided to include any over-the-counter medications in the draft regulation enabling RNs to prescribe. Council had previously supported approving only

over-the-counter medications in the following areas: immunization, contraception, travel health (preventive), smoking cessation and wound care (topical).

2019 Council meetings

- Council approved its meeting dates for 2019. They are:
 - Wednesday, March 20, 2019 and Thursday, March 21, 2019
 - Wednesday, June 5, 2019 and Thursday, June 6, 2019
 - Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2019 and Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019
 - Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019 and Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019



David Collie, President and CEO of Ontario's Electrical Safety Authority



David Collie with the Patient Relations Committee



David Collie addresses Council