

MARCH 2018

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

Council met on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 and Thursday, March 22, 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 April 2018.

## 2018-2019 Executive Committee elected

- Council elected the following members to the Executive Committee, effective Wednesday, June 6, 2018:

[Cheryl Evans](#), RN, President

[Connie Manning](#), Vice-President, RPN

[Heather Whittle](#), NP, Vice-President, RN

[Nicole Osbourne James](#), Public Member

[Cathy Ward](#), Public Member

## Approval of education programs

- The College has developed a new [Program Approval process](#) based on framework Council approved in December 2014. Council received a report on the pilot of the new process and approved the first baccalaureate, Practical Nurse and Nurse Practitioner programs that were assessed using the new process.

## By-Law amendments: Information on Find a Nurse

- Council approved changes to the Register By-law. These changes ensure that the College's public Register, Find a Nurse, aligns with current legislation. This change was required because of the *Protecting Patients Act* (Bill 87), which passed on May 30, 2017. (See [The Standard](#) for the details and rationale for the change.)
- Council approved circulation of proposed changes to the Register By-law (paragraph 7 of Article 44.1.06) to members for feedback. The proposed change relates to the language we use on the public Register, Find a Nurse, to describe the status of NPs who have not completed the education required to prescribe controlled substances. We will circulate the proposed changes for 60 days. In June, Council will review a report of the feedback and make a final decision. (See [The Standard](#) for details and rationale for the change.)

## By-Law amendments: Fees

- Council approved circulation of proposed changes to the Fees By-Law (Articles 5.04, 2.02, 8.02, 8.03) to members for feedback. The [proposed changes](#) would increase fees for individuals seeking to become a nurse (applicants) and Ontario nurses. The proposed fee changes are:
  - annual membership fee increases to \$270 in 2019
  - application fee increases to \$300
  - PN exam fee increases to \$225 in 2019, and then to \$230 in 2020
  - individuals who register to take the PN exam and cancel or do not show up within a specific timeframe be charged a cancellation fee of \$65.
- We are circulating the proposed by-law changes for 60 days. In June, Council will receive a report of the feedback and make a final decision.

## Practice standards revisions

- Council approved amendments to the [Nurse Practitioner](#) and [Decisions about Procedures and Authority](#) practice standards to address the legislative changes that allow NPs to apply ultrasound without restriction.

## RN prescribing

- Council provided direction to revise:
  - the Controlled Acts regulation to allow RNs and RPNs to dispense and administer medications on an order of an RN who is authorized to prescribe
  - the Delegation regulation to identify that prescribing and communicating diagnoses are not acts that RNs can delegate.

The College will bring draft revisions to the regulations to Council in September.