

CPSA Council met in Edmonton on Nov. 29 and 30, 2018, to discuss College activities and vote on policy matters affecting physicians and the public. Here are some highlights from the meeting:

## New faces on Council

### The College welcomes two new public members to Council in 2019:

- Ms. Linda McFarlane
- Ms. Stacey Strilchuk

### A new physician member and a student observer start their Council positions in 2019:

- Dr. Jaelene Mannerfeldt
- Mr. Ryan Chee joins Council as a student observer from the University of Alberta.

### Three Councillors return for another term:

- Dr. John Bradley returns to CPSA Council in 2019 and will replace Kate Wood as President.
- Dr. Louis Hugo Francescutti will serve another term as Vice-President.
- Dr. James Stone, past-president non-voting, will return as a voting member in 2019.

## In honour of Dr. Richard Fedorak

Council held a moment of silence for late Councillor and University of Alberta dean of Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Dr. Richard Fedorak. Dr. Fedorak was recognized for his extraordinary contributions to medicine in Alberta and CPSA Council. He passed away on Nov. 8, 2018. The College will make a donation in his honour through the University of Alberta in 2019.

## Continuous Quality Improvement is top of mind at every level of the CPSA

**Council enhanced the performance evaluation process** for the role of CPSA Registrar. Recommendations around the new KPI-centric process will be applied to the Registrar's annual evaluation in 2019. The Governance Committee also motioned a **new annual self-evaluation process for CPSA Council**. The proposed evaluation will be based on skills and behavioural competencies of Council members, with results to be reviewed and analyzed by an independent third party. The motion was approved in principle, with details to be fleshed out in 2019.

## Digital medicine continues to be a priority for the College

In his report on telemedicine, Dr. McLeod noted that the College continues to research the emerging opportunities and challenges facing medical regulation in the digital age. Interprovincial registration is a significant barrier in the digital health environment and the CPSA is involved with early discussions with the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada, looking at opportunities to develop a consistent approach to registration between provinces.

### Self-regulation after Bill 21

Mr. David Kay updated Council on the work of the College as it relates to Bill 21: *An Act to Protect Patients*. The College is supportive of the Bill—earlier this year, the College endorsed action to seek higher penalties in cases of serious sexual abuse and misconduct, including cancellation of a member’s permit. The College is working with Field Law to fully understand the scope of the legislation, to ensure the College leads the work in this important area and our rules exceed expectations. Some things we expect to come out of this work are a new standard of practice, a patient relations program, supplementary training for CPSA members, staff and Councillors, and the development of an inter-regulatory victim treatment and counselling fund.

### Update on the opioid crisis

While data from MD Snapshot indicates that prescribing practices are improving in Alberta, the opioid crisis as a public health issue continues to be a concern for the College. Council discussed how the College can support provincial and federal harm reduction strategies in the province to protect Albertans.

**The next Council meeting will take place February 28 and March 1, 2019 in Edmonton.** Details will be posted at [cpsa.ca/about/council](http://cpsa.ca/about/council).