

CPSA Statement: Council Composition

Date: July 6, 2020

Today, Health Minister Tyler Shandro announced amendments to the *Health Professions Act*, requiring all medical regulatory bodies in Alberta to increase public member representation on their councils, hearing tribunals and complaint review committees to 50 per cent of the total members. This change will take effect on April 1, 2021.

“Moving towards greater public representation is a trend we’re seeing amongst regulatory bodies across Canada and around the world” said CPSA Registrar Dr. Scott McLeod. “This change gives CPSA the opportunity to give Albertans a stronger voice through the public members of our Council, who provide meaningful insight to our regulation of physicians. We look forward to working with more public members on Council”

In addition, CPSA actively engages Albertans through focus groups, surveys and community visits to ensure we’re guiding physicians in a way that allows them to feel safe and confident in the care they receive.

“CPSA’s Council has been fortunate to have knowledgeable and informed Albertans who’ve stepped forward to participate in Council,” said CPSA President Dr. John Bradley. “The balanced representation of public and physician members will allow CPSA to continue protecting Albertans while understanding the unique experiences their physicians encounter in the delivery of frontline care.”

Currently under the *Health Profession Act*, only 25 per cent of CPSA’s Council members are required to be public members, with the remaining 75 per cent as physicians. This new composition will create an even split between public and physician members. Whether the council member is a physician or public member, they’re obligated to uphold CPSA’s mandate to protect Albertans when making decisions.

“Working with the physicians on Council to help bring Albertans quality health care is a rewarding experience and I’m glad more members of the public will have this opportunity,” said past President and former public member Ms. Kate Wood.

CPSA will work with our Council and Alberta Health in the coming months to modify our Council, hearing tribunal and complaint review committee composition in preparation for April 1, 2021.

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