

# Council Meeting Highlights November 24, 2016

At its meeting on November 24, 2016, Council adopted a new Professional Practice Standard, considered matters of Council/committee governance, was presented with information about upcoming changes to professional regulation by Assistant Deputy Minister Denise Cole, and approved the hiring of a new Registrar.

#### **Professional Practice Standard**

Following stakeholder consultation, Council adopted a new Professional Practice Standard - Affirming Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. The Standard directs that Members refrain from providing services such as conversion or reparative therapy, which seek to change or direct a person's sexual orientation or gender identity. An updated version of the *Professional Practice Standards for Registered Psychotherapists* will be published online shortly.

Council also considered amendments to Standard 3.1: Confidentiality, following stakeholder consultation. After careful consideration and thorough discussion, Council agreed to have the Inquiries, Complaints, and Reports Committee undertake further review of the proposed wording of the Standard to address disclosure of client information in team-based settings, to ensure clarity when interpreting the Standard.

#### **Council Governance**

Council considered a number of governance-related matters, including how items are brought forward for the agenda, voting options and when policy questions may be addressed by individual committees or must be brought to Council for final consideration. Upcoming committee appointments were also discussed.

Council designated that Executive Committee elections take place at the next Council meeting, scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017.

### **Modernization in Professional Regulation**

Denise Cole, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Health Workforce Planning and Regulatory Affairs Division of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, presented Council with information about modernization and changes to professional regulation, including:

- an overview of the Division's strategic focus as part of the Ministry's *Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care*;
- expected changes to the regulatory framework in Ontario;
- plans to make health regulatory college information "open by default";
- upcoming amendments to the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 based on recommendations from the Sexual Abuse Task Force: and
- the Ministry's expectations for proclamation of the controlled act of psychotherapy.

## **Registrar Hiring**

Council approved the hiring of a new Registrar, following the search overseen by the Executive Committee through the summer and fall. The new Registrar is expected to begin in early January. Further details will be posted on CRPO's website.

The next Council meeting will take place Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017.