

College Objects: Opportunity for Innovation

Introduction

The Regulated Health Professional Act sets out eleven objects or purposes that shape the outer structure of the roles of a health regulatory College. They form the foundation upon which the College’s Council provides stewardship for their implementation and accepts accountability for their performance on behalf of the profession. The establishment of a vision for each object is critical to setting clear direction for the College, the public, physiotherapists, and all stakeholders.

Background

In concert with the College’s vision of “Leading in Regulation”, the objects are viewed as empowering the profession to develop and set a course for a self regulatory environment in physiotherapy that makes a significant impact on practice and the health system. The objects speak to a regulatory environment that interprets self regulation as pertaining to both the individual and the collective, emphasizing accountability for our own performance. Our success is ultimately possible through our influence, not our administration of the legislation nor our authority. Key to our impact is a focus on demonstrating the notions of engagement, collaboration, education, professional development, and on leveraging technology and communication.

Position

Object		Vision
1	To regulate the practice of the profession and to govern the members in accordance with the health profession Act, this Code and the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 and the regulations and by-laws.	The objects of the College are defined, articulated and shared publicly. They emphasize the public interest mandate and embrace the demonstrated accountability of the profession for self regulation. The objects promote the desire of the profession to positively influence the health system in Ontario.
2	To develop, establish and maintain standards of qualification for persons to be issued certificates of registration.	Through developing fair and transparent standards for entry to practice, the College actively partners in human resource strategies which promote access to physiotherapy services in Ontario. This includes programs to facilitate and support the integration of new registrants, including internationally educated physiotherapists, and Canadian physiotherapists reentering practice.

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3	To develop, establish and maintain programs and standards of practice to assure the quality of the practice of the profession.	The College develops and defines the standards of practice for the profession with the profession. It establishes relevant programs and resources to support and enhance the integration of the standards in professional practice. The profession implements and encourages assessment strategies that assure the public of quality physiotherapy services.
4	To develop, establish and maintain standards of knowledge and skill and programs to promote continuing evaluation, competence and improvement among the members.	The College utilizes a variety of methods to foster life long reflective learning within the profession. The College is a health system leader on behalf of the public and the profession on knowledge transfer, competence enhancement and evidence informed progress.
5	To develop, establish and maintain standards of professional ethics for the members.	Ethical principles are a cornerstone to professional practice. The College integrates ethical factors into all standards and resources to assist the profession in ensuring safe, quality practice.
6	To develop, establish and maintain programs to assist individuals to exercise their rights under this Code and the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991.	Procedural fairness and transparency are key to College operations. Assisting all stakeholders to realize a superior experience when interfacing with the College is paramount. This includes two way communication, clarity, and stated and measured expectations.
7	To administer the health profession Act, this Code and the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 as it relates to the profession and to perform the other duties and exercise the other powers that are imposed or conferred on the College.	Excellence in governance is a goal of the Council of the College. Ongoing evaluation and reflective practice is paramount to improvement. The College Council and staff are strategic and plan objectives based on the future environment. Reporting publicly on progress is a priority.
8	To promote and enhance relations between the College and its members, other health profession colleges, key stakeholders, and the public.	The College actively engages the profession, the public and key stakeholders in the self regulation of physiotherapy. Its communications are effective, multifaceted, and message driven. The profession has a clear understanding of its partnership in relation to health system outcomes.
9	To promote inter-professional collaboration with other health profession colleges.	The Council is proactive in identifying key partnerships in influencing health care outcomes for consumers of physiotherapy services. Key influentials participate in decision development. Policy is evidence informed and outcomes based.

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10	To develop, establish, and maintain standards and programs to promote the ability of members to respond to changes in practice environments, advances in technology and other emerging issues.	The College creates and supports an environment that is responsive to patient needs, physiotherapy practice, and the system. Current and future needs drive program development and innovation. The strategic framework is responsive to the broader community.
11	Any other objects relating to human health care that the Council considers desirable.	Open to innovation, change, and positive contribution.

Embracing the Objects

In articulating its vision for the objects, the Council aims to ensure alignment with the strategic framework and College operations. Through consultation and education the objects will be understood and fortified by agreement within the profession on behalf of the public. Through innovation and responsiveness to opportunity the Council will hold itself accountable for collaborating with registrants and other stakeholders to achieve meaningful progress.

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