

Perspectives



December 2023 | www.collegept.org | info@collegept.org



Welcome to the December edition of Perspectives.

In this newsletter you'll find information about our December Council meeting, the upcoming Council elections, a new checklist that we created to help support physiotherapists in understanding written policies and procedures, and the second edition of my Registrar's blog where I'll recap the last year and take a sneak peek at what's to come in 2024.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank you for the care you provided to people across the province in the past year. Physiotherapy is an integral part of the health system and your shared commitment to ensuring that all Ontarians have access to high-quality care contributes immeasurably to everyone's overall health and wellbeing. I appreciate how hard you've worked this year, and I hope you get to enjoy some downtime in the next few weeks.

As a friendly reminder, the College will be closed from noon on Friday, December 22 until Tuesday, January 2.

Have a safe and happy holiday season, and we look forward to connecting with you in 2024.

All the best,



Craig Roxborough
Registrar and CEO

New Registrar's Blog by Craig Roxborough

In this edition of the Registrar's Blog, Registrar and CEO Craig Roxborough reflects on some of the College's accomplishments in 2023 and previews some things that are already planned for 2024.

Be sure to check out the blog to learn more about the Ontario Clinical Exam, next steps for the national standards, information about new learning modules, and more. Plus, stay tuned for further updates from Craig in the new year.

[Read the Blog](#)

2024 Council Elections - Nominations Open in January

Get ready for the 2024 Council elections! Three districts are up for election this year, and we're also conducting a by-election to fill a vacancy.

Districts up for election in 2024:

- District 3 (Central Eastern)
- District 6 (Toronto West)
- District 7 (Toronto East)

By-election:

- District 5 (Northern)

We're excited to hear from candidates who can bring diverse perspectives to the Council table. As a professional member of Council, you have the opportunity to shape impactful decisions with fresh ideas, contribute to self-regulation, and promote high-quality physiotherapy care for all Ontarians.

If you are eligible to run for election or by-election, you will receive an email in mid-January with information to nominate a fellow PT.

You can verify your district by checking your postal code on the [College website](#).

[More About Elections](#)

And, if you're looking for more reasons to run for Council, check out this short video:



Canada Launches 988 Suicide and Crisis Helpline

988 is now the three-digit number that sends callers to the Suicide and Crisis Helpline.

This is a free texting and calling service, available to all Canadians 24 hours a day, seven days a week. 988 offers trauma-informed and culturally appropriate services from trained crisis responders in both English and French.

Remember, if a patient discloses abuse, self-harm, or suicidal thoughts, it's important to stop your assessment or treatment and address the comments.

988 has been added to our list of resources available to physiotherapists to help support patients at risk. Be sure to review the full list on our website.

Strategies to Support Patients at Risk

Practice Advice Question

What should a physiotherapist consider when deciding if an in-person or virtual appointment is more suitable for a patient?

[Get the Answer](#)

Myth vs Fact

Physiotherapists do not need to take a formal course approved by the College to roster for a controlled act.

Is this a myth or a fact?

[Find Out](#)

**Privacy Reminders -
Sharing Personal Health**

Information



Physiotherapists are responsible for safeguarding all personal health information.

Ontarians have the right to privacy. Patients should understand how their personal health information will be collected, used, and disclosed. Physiotherapists must follow all privacy requirements and get consent to share personal health information.

Advice from the Practice Advisors when it comes to privacy and sharing personal health information:

Stop: Sharing personal health information with others without consent or authorization from the patient.

Start: During intake, ask the patient what personal health information can be shared and who it can be shared with. Document the patient's consent.

Physiotherapists can assume that they have a person's consent to collect, use or disclose personal health information for the provisions of health care use if the following conditions are met:

- The information was received from the patient (or substitute decision-maker) or another Health Information Custodian (HIC).
- The information is collected, used or disclosed for the purpose of providing health care to the patient.
- The information disclosed will only be shared with another Health Information Custodian (HIC).
- The patient has not withheld or withdrawn consent.

Be sure to review the privacy information and resources on the College website, and call the Practice Advisors at 1-800-583-5885 (extension 241) if you have questions.

Privacy

New Resource: Policies and Procedures Checklist

Physiotherapists are required to have certain written policies and procedures in place to help manage things like adverse events, fees, and communication with physiotherapist assistants (PTAs).

We've heard from some PTs recently that they're unsure which policies and procedures are required, or what needs to be included. To help, we created a checklist that you can download to make sure you're meeting the requirements.

The checklist provides examples of what should be included in each policy and links to helpful resources.

Download the Checklist

December Council Meeting This Week

Are you planning to join us for the December Council meeting? The last meeting of the year takes place this week on Thursday, December 14 and Friday, December 15.

Council meetings are open to the public and anyone can join on the College YouTube channel. The meeting materials, schedule and livestream links to join the meeting are available on the Council page.

Council Information

Welcome

New Registrants

The College would like to welcome our newly registered physiotherapists.

[View the List](#)

Questions? Ask the Advisor

Free, Confidential Advice Available for the Public and
Practice Advice for Physiotherapists

Call 1-800-583-5885 ext. 241 or 647-484-8800
or email advice@collegept.org

Comments or questions related to Perspectives?
Get in touch at communications@collegept.org or 1-800-583-5885 ext. 234.

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