

I wanted to update you all on our latest discussion with Meghan Thorneloe and her Ministerial Colleagues, regarding the new College. We are making progress!

Meghan indicated that they [the Ministry] have received the first "draft" of the Ministerial Regulation [the Regs.] from the Legal folks over in Victoria. This is what we have been waiting for.

I stress it is a "first draft" of the Regs. with some questions highlighted by the drafting lawyers that the Ministry needs to respond to. According to Meghan, nothing that can't be dealt with in a timely fashion. For example, they need to clarify the definition of "substance" within our regulation so that it is consistent with other Colleges. There appears to be different definitions from one college to another. This seems to be the most significant question, the others can be dealt with. So, we are not far away from having a final draft regulation ready for posting. Progress!

Meghan suggested that we [the Professions Working Group] start planning on having meetings with the Ministry to review the draft regs. from two perspectives 1. to offer any feedback that the 4 professions may want to provide on the regs. themselves and 2. to start the work that we need to do on finishing the draft bylaws for presentation to the first College Board.

This review would take place after signing a "Confidentiality Agreement" as it may occur shortly before the regs are posted.

I would stress however, that a lot has changed since we submitted the original proposal to government some time ago and the information may be totally different than what we expect to see in the draft regs. For example, the draft regs address the entry to practice requirements for the four initial professions only and do not include advance practice of any kind. We need to keep this in mind as we review the regs.

Meghan has asked that we patiently await confirmation from her about the timing of the suggested 2 meetings. They have some work to do in the meantime. She is hoping that they [the meetings] will take place before Christmas. She has suggested two days of meetings in Victoria, one day with two professions and one day with the other two [it is too much to accomplish

4 in one day]. Unfortunately, this might mean George and Mardi, or at least Mardi, being there for two days to gather information we may need to finish the bylaws. We will cover all costs. The meetings need to be in Victoria for document surveillance. Meghan will keep us informed about timing.

This may not be easy to plan and schedule but we are so close to major progress now [posting of the regs], I think we need to make it work somehow.

I would suggest each group [4 professions] determine who they want to have attend these meetings and put them on notice of "the plan". It may be the same folks that were involved all along, it may be some new folks. Or both. For the new folks, if any, Meghan has offered to provide some information "Regulation 101" so that they understand regulation before going into the consult. E.g. The HPA Practice Leads and the CNOs all had different understandings of regulation when they were consulted on our regs.

The good news is that we are getting there. Meghan got the first draft of the regs. from the lawyers sooner than expected so this confirms it is a priority for the Ministry.

So, what happens from here on in:

Once the Ministerial Regs are finalized, before Christmas, they will be posted for 90 days of public consultation. At this point anyone can comment back to the Ministry.

Once the 90-day consultation period is complete, the Ministry will consider all feedback on the regs. and revise accordingly, if necessary. If there are major concerns with the Regs., for whatever reason, they would need to be revised and re-posted for another 90 days. If the concerns are minor, if any, a reposting will not be necessary. We hope

this is the case. The Ministry has done such a good job of internal consultation to date that we don't anticipate any major issues. The Regs are pretty straightforward.

Once the consultation period is over and the Regs. are approved by the Minister [they do not require Cabinet approval at this stage , we are past that] the College is an official reality at that point. These Regs. are the last legal step in the whole process.

While the Regs. are out for consultation, the Minister's office will be reviewing nominations for the first Board of the new College and will have the first Board ready to go once the Regs are finally approved.

When the Regs. are approved by the Minister, that will actually approve the official name of the new College and at that point the new Board members can be officially appointed to the Board of that specific College. They have to be appointed to a specific named College, according to the Health Professions Act. [HPA]

Once the new Board is in place it will meet to consider the Draft bylaws that our Professions Working Group has prepared for their consideration.

They can amend the draft bylaws how they see fit and then would approve them for consultation [another 90 days] . During the consultation period the College Board would approve a Business Plan and a Financing Plan. They would then hire a Registrar / CEO of the new College and the CEO would then hire staff. Once the staff are hired and the College office has been established , the grandfathering process of current professionals would begin, likely late 2019.

The new College will be phased in [two phases] because if the Regulation were to take immediate effect then nobody could work until they are registered with the College and the system would shut down. The full regulation will kick in when all existing employees are grandfathered / registered with the College and thus able to work.

The College will also only register the four initial professions at the outset: [Med Lab Technologist, Perfusionist, Respiratory Therapist and Radiation Therapist.] The College will not deal with advanced practice initially. Advanced Practice is defined as someone who has taken additional training over and above the entry to practice requirements of the four professions , not someone who has completed a completely separate and unique educational pathway. Consequently, in lab medicine, Diagnostic Cytology and Clinical Genetics would not be considered Advance Practice and would need to make separate application for regulation to the Ministry and College Board.

It is hoped that Graduates of a Med Lab Science Degree [e.g. UBC] program, who specialize in a specific discipline, can be dealt with in the bylaws of the new College rather than making separate application for regulation. This may be a limited registration category of the new College, based upon substantial equivalency.

We should be well underway with the above described processes early in 2019.

Any questions , please contact me at the coordinates below.

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