



Related Reports

September 2021

Report of the Chair
Report of the Registrar

Report of the Chair

My first year as Chair of the Board of the Nova Scotia Chiropractors certainly flew by. As with nearly everything in our current world there have been novel challenges and situations that we've had to deal with, from carrying out board meetings online to changing CE policies to allow for distance learning, but I'm happy to say that not only were they handled but in many situations made us, as a board, stronger.

The following is a summary of highlights of actions taken since we met this time last year:

- We launched a new website that not only looks better, it's more user friendly and allows for members to access online renewals and CE credit management.
- We partnered with CMCC to provide an externship program here in Nova Scotia for fourth year CMCC students. I believe all four of our new graduates took part in this and from the feedback I received at the new members' dinner last week, it sounds like it was a great success. Thank you to those chiropractors who took part as preceptors.
- We updated and developed regulation concerning the sexual abuse of patients.
- We reviewed existing guidelines and regulations, renaming and editing.
- Changes were made to the new applicant administrative process and guidelines to adhere to the Fair Registration Practices Act.
- Updated return to work directives and maintained timely communication with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, ensuring the members have access to the most up-to-date practices.
- Held our annual strategic planning session. This year we held it solely as Board as opposed to in conjunction with council, as has been the custom for several years. Feedback from both groups was that it was much more productive this way.

In conclusion it's been yet another interesting year for us as a Board, but happy to say it's been productive and we've got great people who work very well together. Thank you all my fellow board members for making it such a joy to serve. Of course, we also owe a great deal of thanks to The Pathfinder Group, who continue to help and guide us beyond measure. I look forward to catching up with many of you and look forward to meeting those I've not met before.

Cordially,

Dr. Lauren Cormier DC
Chair, Board of the NSCC

Report of the Registrar

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as the NSCC Registrar this past year. I am pleased to share with you some of the highlights that have taken place since September 2020.

Much like 2020, 2021 has brought its fair share of challenges. There were countless virtual meetings and email discussions with the NS Department of Health and Wellness, Public Health, partners in health regulation both provincially and nationally, and more. Doctor of Chiropractic programs were required to rethink their approach to educating chiropractic interns, and the Board of the NSCC voted to allow CMCC interns to complete an externship in private clinics under the supervision of a licensed chiropractor. Since the Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board Component C exam was again postponed in February, and due to travel restrictions, the Board of the NSCC voted to waive the special sitting fee for the Jurisprudence and Ethics exam in 2021 to allow students to write the JE exam when they are able.

Despite the challenges, chiropractors and other community health care providers have been permitted to remain open, even during the May 2021 lockdown. The Pandemic Practice Directive that was first developed last year continues to be the guide to the expectations from Public Health as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been minor amendments to the document; however, since the NSCC takes its direction from Public Health, members should make the respective changes in their practices as new updates become available. Once NS enters Phase 5 of its reopening plan, members can expect to see further updates to the document. Any member who has a specific question regarding a Public Health procedure or protocol that has not been outlined in the NSCC pandemic directive is strongly encouraged to contact Public Health directly.

The NSCC has not seen a change in membership numbers in 2021. This was mostly due to the movement of chiropractors out of the province. We did, however, welcome five new members.

Please refer to the statistics below for an overview of the past 14 years:

Membership as of September 16, 2021:

- 178 Active members
- 0 Out of Province, 1 Non-Practicing, 1 Honourary, 1 Suspended, 1 Deceased, 1 Maternity
- 101 HRM (Halifax/Dartmouth/Bedford/Lr Sackville/Fall River/Hammonds Plains), 77 Outside HRM
- 2 New members for 2007
- 9 New members for 2008
- 3 New members for 2009
- 4 New members for 2010
- 8 New members for 2011
- 8 New members for 2012
- 11 New members for 2013
- 7 New members for 2014

- 11 New members for 2015
- 7 New members for 2016
- 8 New members for 2017
- 11 New members for 2018
- 10 New members for 2019
- 5 New members for 2020
- 4 New members for 2021

I am pleased to note that the number of complaints has remained low. As a point of general interest, the history of complaints over the past 14 years is as follows:

- 2007 - 17 complaints, 1 hearing
- 2008 - 5 complaints, 1 hearing
- 2009 - 2 complaints
- 2010 - 3 complaints
- 2011 – 6 complaints
- 2012 – 4 complaints
- 2013 – 3 complaints
- 2014 – 5 complaints
- 2015 – 4 complaint
- 2016 – 1 complaint
- 2017 – 1 complaint
- 2018 – 3 complaints
- 2019 - 23 complaints, 1 hearing
- 2020 – 2 complaints
- 2021 – 3 complaints

Pathfinder continues to field inquiries about advertising and whether the advertisement falls outside the regulations. If you are unsure whether your advertising falls within the parameters of this regulation, please forward it to the Advertising Approval Committee. This will remove the guesswork from your advertising and may also save the NSCC money by reducing the number of inquiries to Pathfinder administrative staff. As such, I encourage members to review the NSCC Board Regulations regarding Advertising. The link can be found here:

<https://www.chiropractors.ns.ca/document/6190/NSCC%20Advertising%20Policy%20August%202019.pdf>

There have certainly been several ongoing and ever-changing challenges since I was first elected to the position of Registrar in September 2015, and I have addressed these challenges to the best of my ability through three two-year terms. I will be offering to serve one last two-year term as Registrar at this year's AGM, and I truly appreciate the confidence and support my colleagues have shown to me in this role.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to the continuing support received this year from my fellow Board members, Council members and from Pathfinder Group. Our Executive Director, Mr. John Sutherland, and his team have continued to be invaluable in assisting me, as well as the rest of the NSCC, effectively navigate the College during the COVID-19 pandemic. I encourage my fellow NSCC members to extend their gratitude for the important work these groups have accomplished in ensuring our profession continues to be a leader in health care.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Janis Noseworthy
Registrar, NSCC