



Monday August 2, 2022

## HRPA PROFESSIONAL REGULATION SECTOR WATCH

Below is the August 2022 issue of the monthly *Professional Regulation Sector Watch*, capturing regulatory news hand-searched by the HRPA's Policy Development Team.

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### Ontario

#### **College of Midwives of Ontario: Public consultation on new record keeping standard**

<https://www.cmo.on.ca/public-consultation-clinical-education-and-student-supervision-and-second-birth-attendant-standards-2/>

The College has drafted a new Record Keeping Standard and is seeking anonymous feedback on proposed changes from midwives, midwifery and regulatory organizations, and the public.

#### **College of Occupational Therapists of Ontario: New refreshed website + new bilingual prep e-learning module**

<https://www.coto.org/news/news-details/2022/07/19/new-refreshed-website>

<https://www.coto.org/news/news-details/2022/06/30/now-available-2022-prep---national-elearning-module>

The College has launched a new, refreshed website with updated navigation depending on who you are, and new sections for: public and clients, registrants, applicants, and employers.

The College's 2022 PREP-National eLearning module is now available in French and English for the first time.

#### **College of Physiotherapists of Ontario: Third-party governance review + by-law consultation on changes to registration-related fees**

<https://www.collegept.org/news/2022/07/21/request-for-proposal-conducting-a-third-party-governance-review>

The College of Physiotherapists of Ontario is inviting submissions to conduct a third-party governance review. The goal of the third-party governance review is to assess the College's current governance practices and policies and benchmark against our regulatory peers and industry common practices, both within Canada and internationally. The scope of the review should include governance practices and policies for Council and Committees, and where appropriate, the role of staff.

The results of the third-party governance review will inform a plan for implementing governance changes that will help the College develop effective governance systems.

Additionally, the College is inviting feedback on proposed changes to its bylaws to update registration-related fees. Due to the consistent increase in the demand for services, and an increase in other costs in line with the cost of living, Council is proposing an increase of the Independent Practice Certificate registration fee to \$635 and all other registration-related fees by 10.5% effective April 1, 2023. Learn more about the proposed changes on the [consultations page](#).

### **College of Massage Therapists of Ontario: Feedback on massage therapy sought**

<https://www.cmta.com/share-your-feedback-on-massage-therapy/>

The College of Massage Therapists of Ontario (CMTA) is inviting the public, Registered Massage Therapists, and others to share their views and experiences with Massage Therapy in Ontario. Responses will help inform the development of CMTA's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan.

### **Law Society of Ontario: Update on investigation into cheating on lawyer licensing examinations**

<https://lso.ca/news-events/news/latest-news-2022/update-on-investigation-into-cheating-on-lawyer-li>

The ongoing investigation into cheating on the November 2021 barrister and solicitor licensing examinations reached an important milestone this week.

Based on information and evidence obtained through the investigative process, and the results and recommendations of a forensic analysis of the November 2021 barrister and solicitor licensing examinations conducted by testing security experts, a number of candidates have been notified that evidence obtained to date strongly supports the conclusion that they breached the Law Society's rules and regulations regarding licensing examinations. Further investigation is ongoing in relation to other individuals. At the same time, candidates against whom the current evidence does not support a continuing investigation are being notified.

## **Ontario College of Teachers: An update regarding the service timelines, clarification regarding application process and how we're addressing Ontario's teacher shortages**

<https://www.oct.ca/public/media/announcements/an-update>

The College has been working steadily to alleviate the extended timelines experienced by applicants and Ontario Certified Teachers (OCTs). The College recognizes the frustration and appreciates everyone's ongoing patience in this matter.

The College's commitment to improvement is ongoing, and have already achieved demonstrable success by:

- restructuring the approach to evaluating applications
- leveraging the use of technology, and
- increasing staff and redeploying existing staff resources.

In regards to Ontario's teacher shortages, the College notes the need for a collective solution from all stakeholders. The College is committed to being part of the solution. Certification of new teachers is one component. Data from OCT's report, [Transition to Teaching 2021](#), a survey of early-career Ontario Certified Teachers, also indicates that newly licensed IETs report the highest rate of unemployment at 37 per cent. Meanwhile, first-year Ontario graduates reported finding employment very easily, with only four per cent being unemployed.

## **Ascend Magazine: Could a new family services license for paralegals help increase access to justice in Ontario?**

[https://ascend.thentia.com/insight/could-a-new-family-services-license-for-paralegals-help-increase-access-to-justice-in-ontario/?utm\\_campaign=Regulatory%20Week%20in%20Brief&utm\\_medium=email&\\_hsmi=219441702&\\_hsenc=p2ANqtz--Fa5KITMtJCglt\\_inxvIJ-dFuR39TQO2iMrkdfmHr6QH5lmhGhC18ENjZ-mNgvTOfyu98eGN0WWuSci3sMg-GJQk7\\_JA&utm\\_content=219441702&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://ascend.thentia.com/insight/could-a-new-family-services-license-for-paralegals-help-increase-access-to-justice-in-ontario/?utm_campaign=Regulatory%20Week%20in%20Brief&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=219441702&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--Fa5KITMtJCglt_inxvIJ-dFuR39TQO2iMrkdfmHr6QH5lmhGhC18ENjZ-mNgvTOfyu98eGN0WWuSci3sMg-GJQk7_JA&utm_content=219441702&utm_source=hs_email)

Fifteen years after the introduction of licensing for paralegals, Ontario still faces a troubling access to justice problem, and this is especially being felt in family law, where paralegals can't currently provide services. The Law Society of Ontario is pursuing the implementation of a Family Legal Services Provider License for paralegals to help increase access to justice, but not everyone thinks it's a good idea. In this article, a deeper look at this important issue is taken.

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## National:

### British Columbia

#### **BC Society of Landscape Architects: Designation intentions report published by the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance**

<https://lso.ca/news-events/news/latest-news-2022/update-on-investigation-into-cheating-on-lawyer-li>

The Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance (OSPG) has completed its investigation (assessment) of the landscape architecture profession following a designation application from the BC Society of Landscape Architects (BCSLA) to consider inclusion of landscape architecture under the Professional Governance Act (PGA).

The intentions report provides a summary of OSPG's investigation process, including engagement completed to date, provides background information on the profession and the BCSLA, and provides high-level findings of the investigation. It includes a preliminary indication of the direction being considered by the Superintendent and gives an opportunity for interested parties to provide feedback regarding any impacts that may result from this direction.

#### **Professional regulation in BC: Amendments to the Professional Governance Act**

<https://www.ahbl.ca/professional-regulation-in-bc-amendments-to-the-professional-governance-act/>

The [\*Professional Governance Act\*](#) ("PGA") came into force on February 5, 2021, codifying professional governance requirements and establishing the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance ("OSPG").<sup>1</sup> The PGA was amended by the [\*Professional Governance Amendment Act\*](#) (the "Amendment"), which came into force on June 2, 2022.<sup>2</sup> Although the Amendment received royal assent, some sections will only come in to force by regulation.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Some of the key updates and additions in the Amendment include:**

- Changes to the disciplinary process for certain administrative matters;
- An annual fee;
- The incorporation of traditional Indigenous knowledge; and
- Change to the conflict of interest declaration process.

In addition to these changes, the Architectural Institute of British Columbia ("AIBC") is transitioning to the PGA.

The Amendment is intended to provide more flexibility and appropriate regulation for different professions depending on their specific needs; however, many of the details are yet to be stipulated by regulation.