



**COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTORS
of
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

ANNUAL REPORTS

**VANCOUVER, BC
SEPTEMBER 25, 2010**

REMINDER: Please bring this copy to the Annual Meeting

NOTES

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
FOR THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE
COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTORS OF BC
SEPTEMBER 25, 2010**

		Page
Chair	Dr. Patrick Bickert	5
Registrar	Dr. J. Blake Cameron	6
Inquiry Committee Chair	Dr. Robert Turner	7
Discipline Committee Chair	Dr. David Olson	9
Registration Committee Vice-Chair	Dr. Brad Dickson	10
Quality Assurance Committee Chair	Dr. Terrence Knight	11
Patient Relations Committee Chair	Dr. Shannon Patterson	11

NOTES



REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The CCBC has completed its first full year functioning as the College under the Health Professions Act. The chiropractic doctors, public members appointed by government, and public representatives appointed by the Board, all who volunteer to serve, are to be congratulated for focusing and working hard to fill the College role and responsibilities.

Information on College activities are increasingly found through the website www.bcchiro.com. The public and members are urged to visit the site periodically where the bylaws, professional conduct handbook, and committee information can be found.

The College assists the public with information on safety, practice information, and when patients find necessary, information on forwarding complaints or concerns about members of the College. Among the College's activities and programs that provide public information on necessary health care, an important priority is to support British Columbians' informed choice and informed consent. Informed consent is a legal requirement and is the first critical element to ensure safety and improved outcomes for the public when attending health professionals.

With this annual report I will conclude my term as chair effective July 28, 2010*. I wish to extend my thanks to the new Registrar, Dr. Blake Cameron for coordinating the work of the committees under the new bylaw structure of the Health Professions Act. The Board's directors need be thanked and acknowledged for their extra commitment as the new bylaws establish more committees whose work must be distributed among the existing Board directors. Bylaws also require the CCBC committees to include practicing members of the BC profession as well as public representatives that are sought and appointed by the College Board. All these individuals are acknowledged and thanked for their role in working on behalf of the public and profession. Conducting activities and programs that constantly seek to improve public outcomes and safety for necessary health care benefiting both patient and doctor.

The College Board has reviewed and will continue to plan for future discussions with the Ministry of Health that impact the public on topics that include the reserved act of acupuncture and regulation and policies regarding referral to public and private diagnostic imaging facilities. The CCBC has also reviewed and modified information associated with application procedures for foreign practicing applicants and monitors the activities of the CCBC recognized accreditation agencies for chiropractic programs and education standards and opportunities.

I appreciate the opportunity to having been able to represent the CCBC in it's service to the public and members. Lastly, my thanks and appreciation to the College staff for their constant support to the Board and Committees.

Respectively submitted
Dr. Patrick Bickert,
*Chair, CCBC



REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Registration

Number of Registrants as of August 01, 2010:

- Full practising registrants	971
- Non-practising registrants	84
- Temporary	<u>1</u>
Total:	1,056

New Registrants

- New graduate registrations	20
- Interprovincial registrations	20
- Basis of Equivalency registrations	1
- Temporary registrations	11
- Limited registrations	2
- Student registrations	<u>2</u>
Total:	56

The annual reports are a measure of the accountability, transparency and fairness of the College's activities as related to the public, the government, the registrants and other stakeholders. They provide summaries of the actions of the Health Professions Act ("HPA") enacted Registration Committee, Inquiry Committee, Quality Assurance Committee, Discipline Committee and the Patient Relations Committee for the past year.

Related to the HPA, the Health Professions Review Board offers an opportunity for appeal by applicants, registrants and complainants of some Committee decisions. The College has had several appeals related to both Registration and Inquiry Committee decisions. These can be reviewed on the Health Professions Review Board website.

It is important to remember that while they have put their names forward, either to the government for Board appointment or to the registrants for election, all of the Board members are dedicated volunteers who give generously of their time. There are several non-Board members on the Inquiry Committee and the Discipline Committee who also must be thanked for dedicating their time and energy to these difficult portfolios. These include public representatives appointed by the CCBC Board as well as BC chiropractic doctors. While the Registrar assists in the co-ordination of the Committee activities, it is their members who do the work.

The Board office would not function smoothly without the outstanding commitment of our staff comprised of Susan Wawryk, Aurora Yu and Mila Capina who must all be applauded for their devoted service.

Lastly I'd like to recognize Past Chair Dr. Pat Bickert who gave many years of service towards advancing the chiropractic profession, our legal advisors at Branch MacMaster and Dr. Don Nixdorf for his invaluable guidance.

Respectfully submitted,
J. Blake Cameron, D.C., Registrar



INQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Inquiry Committee is established consisting of six persons appointed by the CCBC Board. The Inquiry Committee members are Dr. Robert Turner, Chair, Dr. Doug Wright, Vice-Chair, Dr. Lesley Taylor-Hughes, Dr. Shannon MacNeil, Mr. Doug Kellner, public appointee, and Ms. Shirley Stocker, public representative.

This Committee investigates complaints and where necessary determines discipline including consent orders and referral to the Discipline Committee.

Thoughtful and proper communication with the patient may have avoided some complaints to the College. It is always the doctor's duty to ensure informed consent in matters of examination as well as treatment. The CCPA has provided a resource to support doctor patient communication skills. This is generally recommended for all registrants.

The following is a summary by category of investigations concluding with registrant discipline for the CCBC year August 2009 through July 2010.

Summary of Investigations

Category	2009
Office Procedures	5
Billing	2
Advertising*** (see comment below)	15
Patient Care	1
Communications	2
Personal Injury	7
Prepayments	3
Professional Interactions	7
Professional Responsibilities	3
Sexual	7
Total	52

The Inquiry Committee implements Health Professions Act (HPA) section 36.1 which includes the assessment of fines in association with discipline. Members should also note that it is required under the provisions of HPA Section 39.3, Public Notification, that the results of an investigation are posted on the CCBC website available to public and registrants.

*** NB re: Advertising: The Professional Conduct Handbook, section 14.3 states: "Marketing activity referencing the use of any diagnostic or treatment techniques, tests, methods, devices or appliances (other than x-ray studies) must include a notice informing recipients that effectiveness varies from patient to patient."

Some situations occurred where a member did not apply these rules to their advertising and marketing campaigns, (as defined in the CCBC Bylaws section 85) which includes yellow pages, printed matter and web sites for naming techniques, supplements, orthotics and other supplies. In addition members are responsible to be aware of Health Canada and use those natural health products and equipment for patient examination or treatment that are approved by Health Canada. When purchasing these items the registrant is responsible to determine that the seller has the necessary Health Canada designation.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert D. Turner, D.C. Chair



DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Discipline Committee consists of six persons appointed by the CCBC Board. A minimum of two members of the committee must be public representatives, at least one of whom must be an appointed Board member.

The members of the Discipline Committee work in panels of three to hear complaints against registrants that have been referred for hearing following investigation by the Inquiry Committee. After a hearing of the evidence, the committee makes decisions about the propriety of the registrant's professional conduct and any disciplinary action required to address that conduct.

Under the Health Professions Act, the College is required to provide public notice of discipline decisions rendered by the Discipline Committee, as well as, a registrant's consent to discipline after a citation to a hearing has been issued, or a consent or undertaking given in relation to a serious matter. The College is providing this notice by posting summaries of discipline on the College website (www.bcchiro.com). To provide the public with a complete discipline history, these postings will include equivalent level disciplinary decisions made prior to transition to the Health Professions Act.

No matters have been referred to the Discipline Committee since transition to the Health Professions Act and, therefore, no meetings or hearings by the Committee were required.

The Disciplinary Committee Members are:

Dr. David Olson, Chair
Dr. Dean Greenwood, Vice-Chair
Ms. Patricia Lawrence
Mr. Derek Hall
Dr. Danielle Morgan
Dr. Natalie Williams

Respectfully submitted,
David Olson, DC, Chair



REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Registration Committee consists of three persons appointed by the Board, one of whom is an appointed public member. This Committee is charged with managing all applications for registration to the College. The Committee has the discretion to grant **Student, Temporary, Limited, Full** and **Non-practicing** registration. The Committee is also responsible for the annual licence renewal or reinstatement of BC's chiropractic doctors.

The Committee considered and rendered decisions on seventy-eight requests for registration. Fifty-seven applicants were eligible to complete the CCBC *Jurisprudence Examination*. The Examination reflects the Health Professions Act regulations, bylaws and professional conduct handbook. The Committee highly recommends all members review the new Health Professions Act, Regulations, Bylaws, and Professional Conduct Handbook as it pertains to their annual licence renewal.

The Committee also reviewed registration policies and made recommendations to the Board for revisions to the bylaws. Applicants for registration who are not successful have the opportunity to appeal the decision of the Registration Committee to the Health Professions Review Board.

The Health Professions Act requires each registrant to **renew or reinstate** each year effective July 31. This requires completion of CCBC Form 4 each year by July 31. The CCBC has facilitated this for convenience online at www.bcchiro.com. In addition, the CCBC has facilitated for registrants convenience, options for annual licence fee payment. These include online, internet banking, post dated cheques, authorized bank pre-payment and credit card. The Registration Committee thanks those members who have taken advantage of these payment options as it allows processing of members payment and registration without delay prior to July 31.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Dickson, D.C., Vice-Chair



QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Quality Assurance Committee works to promote high standards of practice amongst the members of the College.

The committee is composed of four members. Two members are chiropractic Board members and two are members from the public. Of the two public members; one is a public Board member and the other is a public representative appointed by the CCBC Board.

The Quality Assurance Committee conducts office inspections, office self reviews, and oversee continuing education credits of College members.

Respectfully submitted,
Terrence Knight, D.C., Chair



PATIENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Patient Relations Committee (“PRC”) is in its second year of operation as a committee mandated under the HPA. This committee is composed of 3 members which currently are all CCBC Board members. The mandate of this committee is as follows (taken from Part 1, section 19 of the By-laws of the HPA):

- establish and maintain procedures by which the college deals with complaints of professional misconduct of a sexual nature;
- monitor and periodically evaluate the operation of procedures established under paragraph (a);
- develop and coordinate, for the college, educational programs on professional misconduct of a sexual nature for members and the public as required;
- establish a patient relations program to prevent professional misconduct, including professional misconduct of a sexual nature;
- develop guidelines for the conduct of registrants with their patients; and
- provide information to the public regarding the college’s complaint and disciplinary process.

In order to maintain the highest levels of public transparency, the summarized protocol for handling sexual misconduct complaints is available on the website for both the public and the registrants. Please remember to review the CCBC Professional Conduct Handbook which outlines what constitutes sexual harassment and inappropriate conduct with patients. The committee in association with the Quality Assurance committee considers subject matter for continuing education purpose. A professional conduct continuing education series is under review for the CE period August 2011 through July 2013. Information on this will be forthcoming in the first quarter of 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Patterson, D.C., Chair

Be sure to register soon for the BCCA AGM, September 23 – 26, 2010

Please bring this copy with you to the Annual General Meeting.