



# **2011 Annual Report**

College of Chiropractors of  
British Columbia

*September 24, 2011*

# Notes

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# A Message from the Chair



**BRAD DICKSON, D.C.**  
Board Chair

This Annual General meeting brings a closure to my term as a College Board member and Chair of the Board. In my thirty-two years of practice, I have witnessed some significant changes with respect to the legislation and regulation of Chiropractic in British Columbia. We transitioned from a single organization (1934) to the BCCC and BCCA in 1991 and a further legislative change in March 2009 (Health Professions Act). The public's health insurance through the Medical Services Plan (MSP) included full payment of office fees for their necessary care from chiropractic doctors until 1987 when government introduced patient co-payment for office fees with equal reduction of payment by then MSP. Government progressively increased patient co-payment with elimination of payment for most patients in 2001.

We have always had the privilege of being a self-regulated profession. The College Board is made up of twelve individuals. Of this group, eight members are chiropractic doctors and four are appointed public members. The public members are there to provide public perspective and act as a check and balance to ensure we do not lose

sight of our mandate to serve and protect the public. The College Board is essentially an extension of the Provincial Government. We are charged with the duties of providing licensure for our profession and administering all associated activities on behalf of the Provincial Government. This mandate is carried out by five committees of approximately thirty people, six staff, accounting, legal professionals and other consultants as required. We are non-profit and are approximately 1100 strong in membership with a budget of approximately 1.2 million dollars. This has been one very significant transition from when I started in 1979 with 232 members.

The College has a comprehensive process of public information, supporting optimum health outcomes for the public that includes safety and regulation of members. This public information is essential to ensure the legal cornerstone of informed consent for patients regardless of health service they choose.

The College web site continues to be an invaluable resource for information and is continually enhanced. It is a great resource for registration information, seminars, continuing education support and chiropractic forums among topics found at [www.bcchiro.com](http://www.bcchiro.com).

As this is my last year serving the profession as a College Board member I'd like to thank the public members on our board for their enthusiasm and insight. I also like to thank our staff Susan, Aurora,

Mila and Michelle for their administration skills and commitment to our profession. I'd like to acknowledge Dr. Nixdorf for his expertise and unyielding dedication to our profession. His zeal for chiropractic has earned us a reputation as the most desired province to hang up a shingle. Dr. Blake Cameron, serving as Registrar, has been an invaluable compliment to our staff, his insight and guidance has helped make all our board related tasks more manageable.

In closing, I'd like to remind you of the College business meeting which will take place at 6 pm Saturday September 24th at the Sheraton Wall Centre in Vancouver. As has been communicated, we are sharing this venue with Parker Seminars this year to accommodate members time and cost to attend meetings.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,

Brad Dickson, D.C.

# Registrar's Report



**J. BLAKE CAMERON, D.C.**  
Registrar

The annual reports continue to be 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.

The Health Professions Review Board offers an opportunity for appeal by applicants, registrants and complainants of some Committee decisions. The College again has had several appeals related to both Registration and Inquiry Committee decisions in 2010-2011. These can be reviewed on the Health Professions Review Board website.

The College Board is composed of appointed and members, who all are dedicated volunteers, giving generously of their time. There are also several non-Board members on the Inquiry Committee and the Discipline Committee who must recognized for dedicating their

time and energy to these difficult portfolios. While the Registrar assists in the co-ordination of the Committee activities, it is these members who do the bulk of the work.

Our College office staff, comprised of Susan Wawryk, Aurora Yu, Michelle Da Roza and Mila Capina, all of whom contribute to maintaining a smoothly functioning environment, should be commended for their dedicated service. Executive Director, Dr. Don Nixdorf, and our legal advisors at Branch MacMaster also contribute to our on-going well-being.

Lastly I'd like to have you recognize departing Chair, Dr. Brad Dickson, who served many years on both College and Association Boards, ever working towards the advancement of the chiropractic profession.

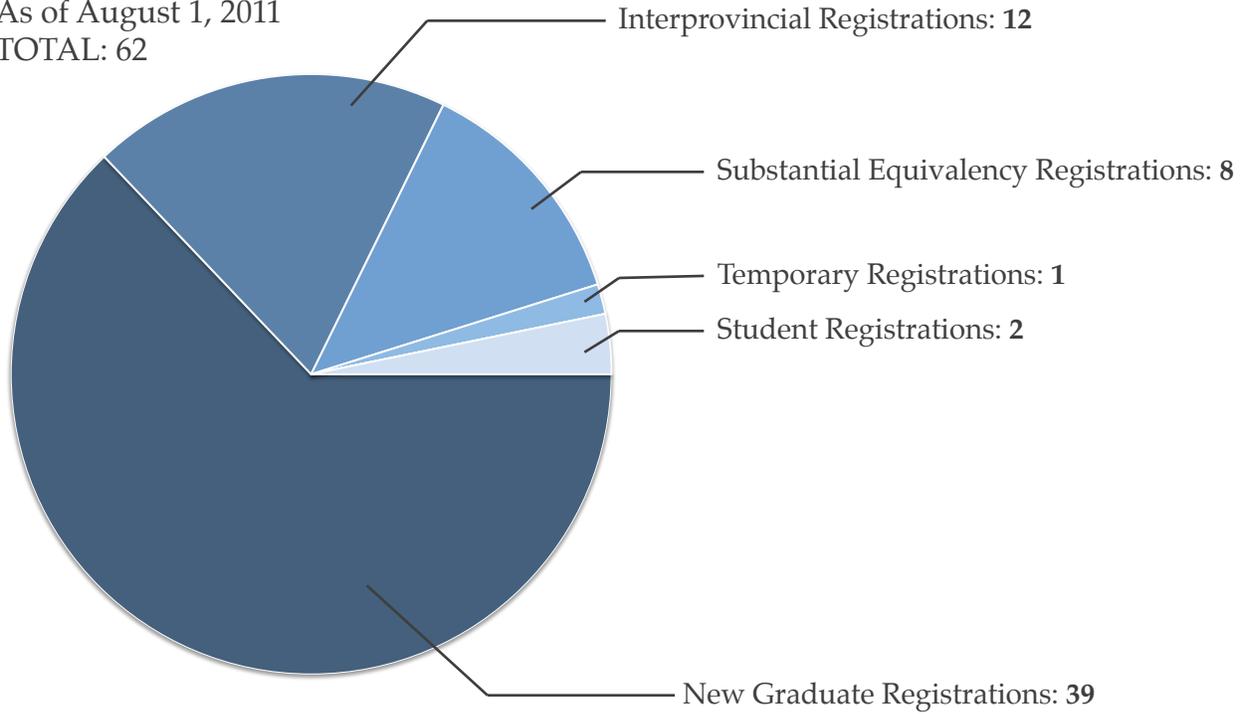
Respectfully submitted,

J. Blake Cameron, D.C.

# Registration Numbers

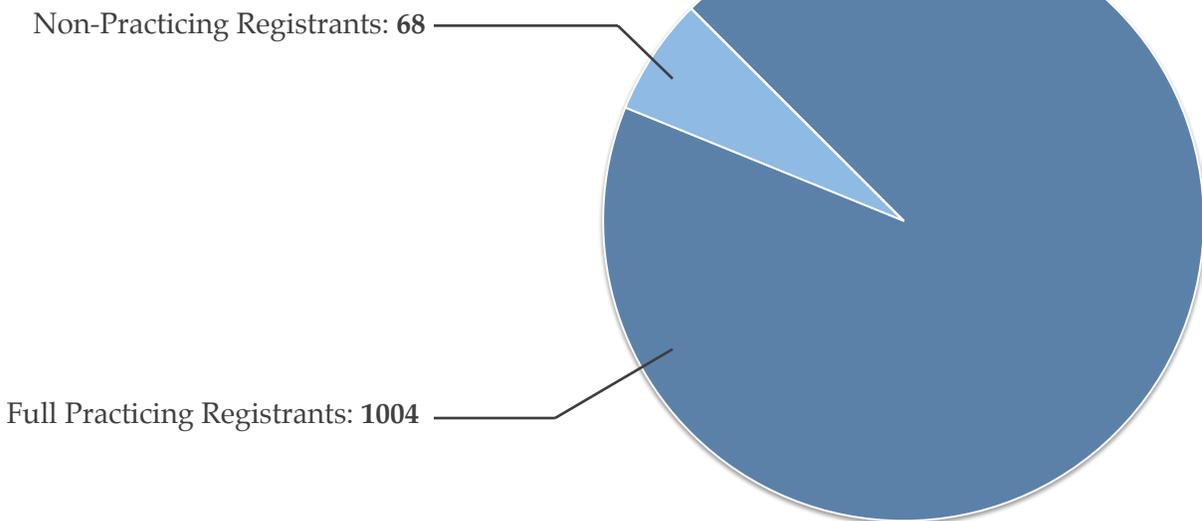
## New Registrants\*

As of August 1, 2011  
TOTAL: 62



## Registration\*\*

TOTAL: 1072



\*note there were no limited registrations to report

\*\*note there were no temporary or student registrants to report

# Inquiry Committee



**ROBERT TURNER, D.C.**  
Inquiry Committee Chair

The Inquiry Committee is comprised of Drs. Lesley Taylor-Hughes, Shannon MacNeill, Doug Wright (vice chair) and Robert Turner (chair), and two public members, Doug Kellner (appointed) and Shirley Stocker (representative).

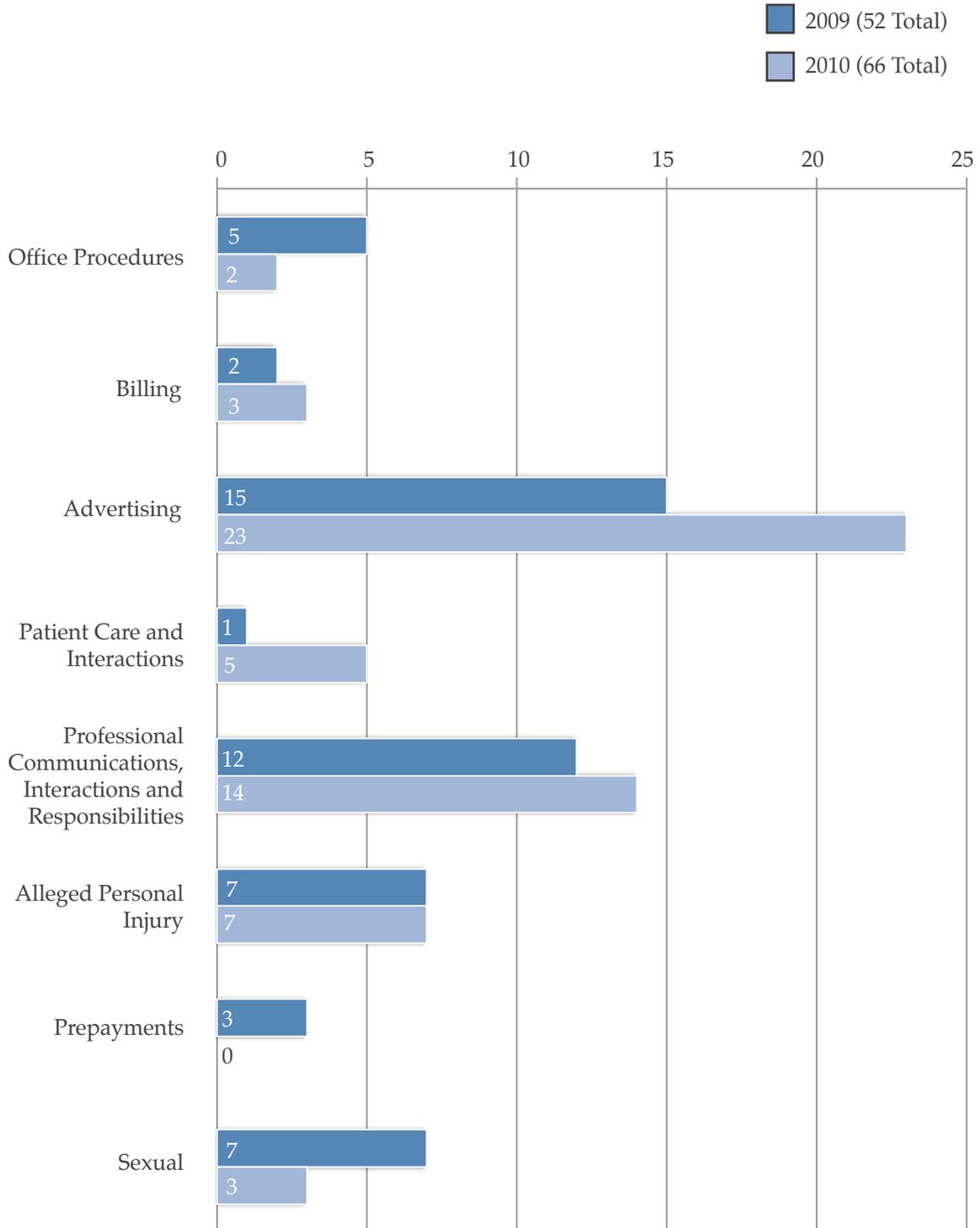
Advertising complaints have more than doubled this year, with Groupon type ads being the new invention. Please read the rules, and if in doubt, get approval of your ads BEFORE they are published.

The Committee met on one occasion to hear an appeal of a ruling. The Committee also was involved in six consent resolutions this year, resolving cases that had been sent for a hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Turner, D.C.

# Summary of Investigations



# Discipline Committee



**NATALIE WILLIAMS, D.C.**  
Discipline Committee Chair

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. 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.

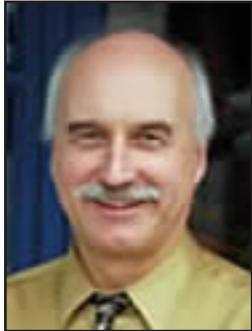
The Disciplinary Committee Members are:

Dr. Natalie A. Williams, Chair  
Dr. Danielle Morgan, Vice-Chair  
Dr. Enrique Domingo  
Mr. Derek Hall  
Ms. Pat Lawrence  
Ms. Karen Kesteloo

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalie A. Williams, D.C.

## Registration Committee



**DAVID OLSON, D.C.**  
Vice Chair & Registration  
Committee Chair

The Registration Committee consists of three board members, including one public member, that are all appointed by the College Board.

This committee is responsible for granting registration to practice chiropractic in British Columbia. The committee may grant Student, Temporary, Limited Full and Non-Practicing registration. It may grant registration for a specified period of time, impose limits on the practice of a registrant, or refuse registration. The committee is also responsible for re-instatement of chiropractic doctors to practice in BC. The Committee and its responsibilities are outlined in the Health Professions Act and By-Laws. The Committee reviews all applications as they arrive to the College office.

I would like to thank my committee members, Dr Richard Hawthorne and Mr. Bob Bucher for their time and efforts over the past year. I would also like to thank the registrar, Dr Blake Cameron and the past committee chair, Dr Brad Dickson for their help and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Olson, D.C.

## Quality Assurance Committee



**ROBERT ROWE, D.C.**  
Quality Assurance  
Committee Chair

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.

The Quality Assurance committee has been working on a number of things related to the HPA, including updating the Professional Conduct Handbook and Continuing Education. The very nature of the HPA and its interpretation necessitates a lot of consideration as well as legal interpretation and therefore time. We will inform the profession of our progress on an ongoing basis.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Rowe, D.C.

# Patient Relations Committee



**SHANNON PATTERSON,  
D.C.**

Patient Relations  
Committee Chair

The Patient Relations Committee (PRC) is in its third 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.

Please remember that clear, open and professional communication with your patients is essential. Also, always remember to document specific communication patient sensitivity and related topics in your treatment notes.

The PRC has continued its dialogue with the current complaints process through appropriate board and legal counsel channels and is reviewing relevant educational material for the membership as deemed necessary. Please watch for upcoming continuing educational programs and other material in your mailings from the CCBC.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Patterson, D.C.

# Notes