

Sept 2017

Vol. 5, Fall 2017

Message from the NLCHP Chair

It's been nearly a year since we changed leadership at the NLCHP. In that time period the renewal registrations for all seven health professions and the NLCHP Audit 2017 have been completed successfully.

By the end of June we had held three governing Council meetings and each of the NLCHP committees had met, some twice.

We have conducted two orientations for new graduates and held a strategic planning session before the summer to envision the next phase of growth for the NLCHP.

We are pleased to have registered our first midwife with the NLCHP. This builds on the release of Midwives Regulations which came into effective September 30, 2016.

The NLCHP was also fortunate to receive some available funding through the provincial Foreign Qualification and Recognition program to develop and carry out a survey that evaluates the work experiences of professionals following registration. This will commence in the Fall.

Colin Power, MLT BSc

It's been busy and fulfilling year and we are pleased to say that it's business as usual for the NLCHP governance and administration.

In this Issue:

Message from the NLCHP Chair

Privacy and Confidentiality for NLCHP Registrants

Professional Obligation and Duty to Report

Meet new Council members

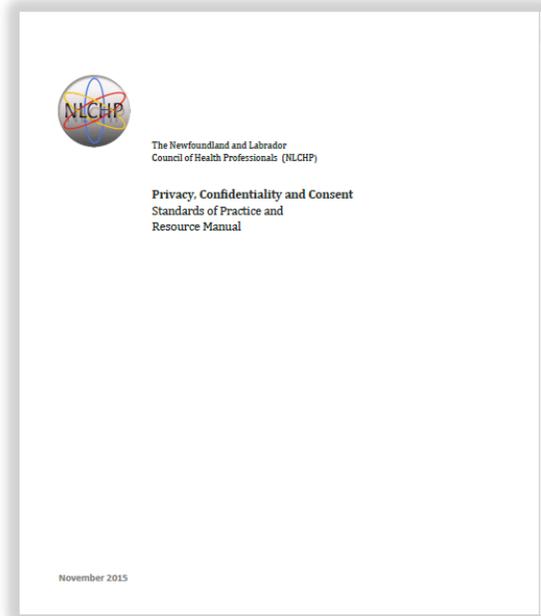
NLCHP Meetings and Events

Policy Update

Privacy and Confidentiality, New Requirement for NLCHP Registrants

Over the past few months colleges designated with the NLCHP have been conducting education with their membership on a new privacy and confidentiality document developed through the NLCHP QA Committee. The document is a result of Focus #2 of the NLCHP-QA Program Framework April 2015 which identifies common standards for health professionals. The NLCHP *Privacy, Confidentiality and Consent Standards of Practice and Resource Manual* contains relevant resources for NLCHP practitioners including legislation, policy and position statements along with self-assessments for health professionals to use as a guide.

Although the assessments are used by the health professionals to guide them through the requirements for privacy and confidentiality in their practice, the NLCHP is requiring proof of the assessment activity **beginning in the fall 2017 renewal registrations**. Registrants of the NLCHP will be required to complete and submit their input in the online Privacy and Confidentiality Assessment Tools, available on the NLCHP website. The integrated document used for verification will only be available through the NLCHP website www.nlchp.ca under the tab Education and Resources. This mandatory registration requirement has also been assigned two (2) Continuing education (CE) credits by the Colleges. **Please Note:** A separate notification was sent out to registrants on **September 22, 2017**.



CE documentation Retention:

Remember to keep all CE/PD and portfolio documentation for at least five (5) years. Though the NLCHP up to now has requested one year's documentation for the calendar year prior to registration renewal, an Audit can request information from more than one year.

Professional Obligation and Duty to Report

Legislation of the NLCHP prescribes a condition for Duty to Report. Part III, Section 27. (1-3) makes reference to this condition which simply states that if a health professional observes or has direct knowledge of another practitioner in conduct deserving of sanction, it must be reported. This section of the *Health Professions Act* also provides that no action will be brought against those who report. The NLCHP legislation is progressive including this in its mandate. Typically, regulators and health authorities represent this idea in policy, but the obligation of public protection and accountability among professionals to uphold established standards of practice is clear when this aspect of professionalism is legislated. Other regulators provide interpretive documentation and policy to apply this ethical and legal responsibility.¹

¹ College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta-Interpretive Document: Duty to Report <http://clpna.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/doc-Interpretive-Documents-Duty-to-Report.pdf>

Meet new Council Members

Earlier this year the NLCHP governing Council introduced 4 new members. The governing Council is currently legislated to have two (2) representatives from each of the health professions designated under the *Health Professions Act*. The two representatives are the elected Chair of the health profession and another health professional member elected to sit on Council. The Council also has six (6) public members appointed by the Dept. of Health and Community Services. The new members are as follows:

Ms Judy Davidson R. S-LP

Mr. Scott LeMessurier RRT

Mr. Kenny Clarke R. Ac

Patty Murphy RDH

In anticipation of future growth of the professions regulated under the *Health Professions Act* (HPA) and to enable more efficient and effective operations, the Council worked with the Department of Health and Community Services (DHCS) to address some amendments to the HPA. These amendments were approved in March 2017 and will result in a reduction of College Council representatives from two (2) to one (1) and provide for the Registrar to perform duties assigned by the Registration Committee.

NLCHP Meetings and Events

Feb.22, 2017-Quality Assurance (QA) Committee

April 3, 2017-Finance/HR Committee

April 12, 2017-NLCHP Council

May 31, 2017-Complaints Authorization Committee

June 7, 2017-NLCHP Bylaws Committee

June 19, 2017-Finance/HR Committee

June 21, 2017-NLCHP Council

July 5, 2017-NLCHP Bylaws Committee

NLCHP Strategic Planning-
was held on June 17, 2017

NLCHP AGM-
was held on Sept. 20, 2017

NLCHP Policy Updates: NLCHP Fees and QA Audit Confirmation

Found on the NLCHP website www.nlchp.ca under the Tab-Members, then Policies.

If you require additional information or clarification of the content of this communication please feel free to contact staff at the NLCHP office.

Your feedback is important.

We would like to hear your feedback as well as what suggestions you have for future editions of *Making Connections*. The survey will take just a few minutes to complete. Please click on the following link to access the survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JT6N6Z5>

Contact Information

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Completion of Privacy and Confidentiality Assessment Tools Required for Renewal Registration beginning Fall 2017

Registrants are required to note that beginning renewal registration fall 2017, there will be mandatory completion and submitting of online documents pertaining to the NLCHP Privacy and Confidentiality Resource Manual. Available now through the NLCHP website, located under the Education/Resources tab, there is a registration and login tab for the purposes of completing this online document.

Upon creating login information using email and a generated password, registrants will find the full NLCHP Privacy and Confidentiality document along with two, separate Assessment Tool work sheets. Work sheets for both Custodian practitioners and non-custodian health professionals are made available on the site.

NLCHP registrants who are custodians will be required to complete the pink/coral coloured Assessment Tool, and those health professionals who are not custodians are required to complete the Assessment Tool for health professionals in blue.

Registrants will be able to save incomplete work and return multiple times to complete. When the form is completed and submitted the NLCHP will receive notification by email that their work has been submitted for review.

It's important to note that these Assessment Tools are not tests or evaluations but once completed will offer NLCHP health practitioners a means of evaluating their own privacy and confidentiality protocols in their practice and work environments. It will also be useful for health practitioners to develop a learning plan if they identify any gaps.

The Colleges:

College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists Newfoundland and Labrador

47 Leslie Street St. John's NL
A1E 2V7
www.ctcmanl.ca
Ethne Munden, Chair

College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists Newfoundland and Labrador

Suite 435, Unit 50 Hamlyn Road Plaza
St. John's, NL
A1E 5X7
www.caslpnl.ca
Chris Murphy, Chair

Newfoundland and Labrador College of Dental Hygienists Inc

390 Topsail Road
P.O. Box 39008
St. John's NL
A1E 5Y7
www.nlcdh.com
Dan Mercer, Chair

Newfoundland & Labrador College of Respiratory Therapists

Suite # 133
Unit 50 Hamlyn Road Plaza
St. John's, NL
A1E 5X7
www.nlcrt.ca
Scott LeMessurier, Chair

Newfoundland & Labrador College of Medical Laboratory Sciences

P.O. Box 39057
St. John's, NL
A1E 5Y7
www.nlcmls.ca
Curtis Martin, Chair

College of Midwives Newfoundland and Labrador

c/o P.O Box 39
Cook's Harbour, NL
AOK 1Z0
www.cmnl.ca
Tracy Pittman, Chair

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 2010

Mandate of the NLCHP

- Support the quality and safety of Health Services;
- Enhance public protection;
- Improve patient safety;
- Strengthen the regulatory system;
- Facilitate patient-centered, interprofessional collaboration and care.