

COLLEGE

Briefings

Winter 2014

Annual Report and Recognition

Annual Report 2013

The College has posted the Annual Report for 2013/2014. You may access the report online by clicking [on this link](#) (under Resources).

Recognition Awards

The Preceptor Recognition Award was created to recognize excellence and dedication in preceptoring and mentoring in Alberta. The College is pleased to present the Preceptor Recognition Award for 2014 to Donald Barker, RD from Calgary.



The award was presented at an award recipient luncheon at the College's September Council meeting.

New Council for 2014/2015

The College of Dietitians of Alberta is pleased to introduce the 2014/2015 Council. The College welcomes one new member to Council, Jody Brudler, RD. Council biographies can be found on the Member's section of the College Website under Resources.

Michael Seibel, President
Gwen Bentley, President-Elect
Carole Micholuk, Past-President
Diana Mager, Councilor
Karen Rout, Councilor
Lorna Driedger, Councilor

Leslie Slubik, Councilor
Carmen Olson, Councilor
Jody Brudler, Councilor
Robert Audette, Public Member
Gerri Nakonechny, Public Member
Craig Hrynychuk, Public Member

Practice Permit Fees for 2015/2016

On November 28, you received an email message from the President of the College regarding an increase to Practice Permit Fees for 2015/16. To read the message, please access the members section.

Professional Practice Services

The College's Director of Professional Practice, Shannon Mackenzie has been very busy over the past year meeting with RD members and employers to discuss a variety of professional practice issues.

Shannon has met with groups by teleconference and in person in both Edmonton and Calgary and surrounding areas to discuss such topics as dysphagia in dietetic practice, continuing competence programs, restricted psychosocial interventions, diabetes medication management, and RD vs other health professionals' scopes of practice.

Groups that Shannon has met with include RDs working in PCNs, rural, continuing care, acute and community based direct client care settings. Shannon has also met with allied health professionals to discuss both dietetic and collaborative practice.

If you or your group would like to meet with Shannon on any professional practice topics, please [contact the College office](#).

Resources on the College Website

The College has posted the following resources on the College website:

- **Professional Practice Handbook for Dietitians in Alberta:** The College has updated the handbook to reflect current policy and procedure as well as including a new chapter on "Social Media and Electronic Practice". Updated pages of the handbook will have the year 2014 in the top corner.
- **Events & Employment Information:** The College posts current events and job postings on the members section of the College website. Please logon to the members section and click on the **Events & Employment Information** page on the left side to view current opportunities. The College encourages you to check back frequently for any updates.
- **Learning Centre:** The College posts Nutrition Resources for Dietitians on the members section of the College website. Please logon to the members section and click on the **Learning Centre** page on the left side to view current resources.

Holiday Hours



The Council and staff of the College of Dietitians of Alberta wishes all members and their families a safe and happy holiday season.

The College office will be closed from December 24, 2014 to January 2, 2015. The office will reopen on January 5, 2015.

Restricted Psychosocial Intervention Update

Many of you may be aware that the government has been undertaking a review of the following restricted activity:

(p) to perform a psychosocial intervention with an expectation of treating a substantial disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation or memory that grossly impairs

- (i) judgment,
- (ii) behaviour,
- (iii) capacity to recognize reality, or
- (iv) ability to meet the ordinary demands of life

This restricted activity and its update applies to all members of the College, and in particular to those who have the following authorization: **To perform a psychosocial intervention when providing psychonutrition therapy in the treatment of disordered eating.**

The government has updated its definition to clarify the two components required for a psychosocial intervention to be restricted: **practitioner intent** (the intention to treat the underlying disorder with psychotherapy, CBT or specialized intervention designed to alter thought, perceptions, moods); and **patient condition** (the patient must have a substantial disorder that grossly impairs judgment, behavior, capacity to recognize reality, or the ability to meet the ordinary demands of life).

How does this update relate to RD practice?

The College is currently in the process of reviewing the competencies for this restricted activity, updating its definition of a restricted psychosocial intervention related to eating disorders, and updating the Restricted Activities chapter of the *Professional Practice Handbook*, including providing more direction and clarity to members in this area.

The College is seeking input from members with an interest and/or expertise in psychosocial interventions as it pertains to the dietitian's role in eating disorders. If you would like to assist in the review of competencies or provide other input, please contact the College office no later than December 15, 2014.

Please note that maintaining authorization to perform this restricted activity is not a requirement to participate in the various aspects of this working group(s).

The College will select a working group from the submissions received and will contact those selected.

Please [contact the College office](#) for more information.

Renewal and CCP Update

Online Registration Renewal for the upcoming year will begin on March 1, 2015 and close on March 31, 2015. Additional information will be emailed to members prior to renewal. To assist you in preparing for renewal, please refer to the FAQ page in the Members section of the College website under Registration.

The College completed its annual CCP reviews and audits in July of this year: 315 members had their online reflections reviewed and 37 had their entire program for the 2013/2014 year audited by the Continuing Competence Committee.

Each member is randomly selected for review and/or audit, but should expect to be reviewed once every three years.

The College has been using its online format for CCP for several years now and we have noticed a few trends in member reflections. Because of the less structured format for reporting completed activities and the 1,000 character limit to the reflection section, many members are not providing enough detail for the College to understand:

1. What your learning goal was related to the performance indicator you chose,
2. What the activities were that you undertook (specifically),
3. What you learned from those activities, and
4. How practice or competence was enhanced as a result of your learning.

As a result, the College chose to provide feedback to all members whose reflections were reviewed this year. The following feedback and suggestions are offered to all members to use as a guide when completing the Continuing Competence Program for the 2014/15 year and when submitting reflections in March 2015.

Your reflection should:

1. Clearly identify your learning goal relative to the performance indicator chosen.

For example, if you chose performance indicator **1.2 Practices in compliance with professional standards, practice guidelines and codes**, a learning goal would be written like this at the beginning of your reflection:

Goal: to learn more about the code of ethics and boundary crossings.

2. Briefly summarize your learning activities.

Following with the above example, a summary of learning activities could be written like this:

Activities: Reviewed Professional Practice Handbook, made notes on boundary crossing; completed jurisprudence module; reviewed Code of Ethics, made notes, identified examples of ethical issues related to boundary crossing; lead lunch and learn to discuss code of ethics in practice.

3. Briefly summarize what you learned from your activities.

I learned that I am responsible for managing client-professional relationships as I am in a position of power with clients. Talking with colleagues helped identify examples of ethical challenges we face as professionals.

4. Briefly state how you are more competent in your practice as a result of your learning, or how your practice as a professional has been enhanced:

I know I'm more competent because I used my learning to advise a colleague - her sister asked if her husband could see her regarding weight loss and lipid profile management. I suggested that it would constitute a "dual-relationship" and it would be safest to ask her brother-in-law to see another Dietitian, rather than risk the personal relationship, especially related to confidentiality of information.

The College asks members to consider that although we have made it easier to submit reflections through an online platform, members must continue to track continuing competence activities, track verification of those activities and overall maintain good records in order to write a specific reflection, and for submission to the College in the case of an audit. We encourage members to utilize the CCP workbook/worksheets available online and to keep these in the case of an audit.

If at any time you have questions about completing the online aspects of the CCP, about verifying completed activities, or any other questions about the Continuing Competence Program of the College, please do not hesitate to contact Shannon Mackenzie, RD, Director of Professional Practice.

Events and Opportunities for Dietitians

The College of Dietitians of Alberta posts any employment opportunities, volunteer opportunities and events for Dietitians in Alberta on the members section of the College website. Please logon to the members section and click on the **Events & Employment Information** page on the left side to view current opportunities. The College encourages you to check back frequently for current postings.

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