

COLLEGE

Briefings

Spring 2019

NEW Recognition Award for 2019

The College of Dietitians of Alberta is pleased to introduce its inaugural Citizenship Award. The award will be presented to a College member who embodies the CDA Values and Vision, and has demonstrated exemplary professionalism, leadership and citizenship in the areas of cultural humility and citizen and/or social engagement.

With a population growing in diversity, the emphasis on evidence-based practice within healthcare has sparked dialogues regarding cultural competence and cultural humility among health professionals. Given the complexity of diversity, it is beneficial to understand cultural competency as a process rather than an end product. From this perspective, competency involves more than gaining factual knowledge, it also includes our ongoing attitudes toward both our clients and ourselves.

Further information on the Citizenship Award can be found on our website under [For Dietitians – Awards](#).

In addition to the new Citizenship Award, each year, the College continues to offer awards to dietetic professionals recognizing the dedication and hard work that it takes to become a Registered Dietitian and recognizing the dedicated and passionate professionals that make up our profession.

- **Dietetic Intern Bursary Award** in support of current dietetic interns who have demonstrated exceptional professional practice while studying dietetics at the University of Alberta with the intention of becoming a Registered Dietitian.

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- **Preceptor Recognition Award** recognizes excellence and dedication in precepting and mentoring.

Information and the application/nomination forms for all awards can be found on the College website, on the [Awards](#) page under the For Dietitians section.

The deadline for applications for all three awards is on or before **July 1, 2019**; the awards are presented at an Award Luncheon for recipients in September.

Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients

The College of Dietitians of Alberta provided an update to all members on *Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients*, by email on April 9.

New Standards of Practice Available

The College of Dietitians of Alberta has posted the [Standards of Practice: Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Prevention](#) on our website under [About Us – Regulatory Documents](#). All members should familiarize themselves with the Standards of Practice which came into effect April 1, 2019.

Patient Relations Program

Within Bill 21 amendments to the *Health Professions Act (HPA)*, all colleges must:

- increase transparency by posting health professionals' discipline history on their public website.
- establish a patient relations program to include measures for preventing and addressing sexual abuse of and sexual misconduct towards patients by regulated members through education, training and public information.
- provide funding for patients who have alleged unprofessional conduct in the forms of sexual abuse and/or sexual misconduct against a regulated member.

Over the coming weeks and months, you will continue to see new information on the College website as we work toward implementing the newly legislated requirements for the Patient Relations Program.

Mandatory Reporting under Bill 21

Under Bill 21 s.22, any finding of unprofessional conduct made in another jurisdiction must be reported by the regulated member to any other regulator(s). This also includes findings of professional negligence.

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Additionally, a regulated member must report any conduct believed to be sexual abuse or sexual misconduct to the Complaints Director, even if the conduct occurs by a member of another regulatory college.

Under the *Health Professions Act*, employers have a legal obligation to inform the Complaints Director as soon as reasonably possible if the employment of a regulated member is terminated, suspended, or if the member has resigned for reasons related to unprofessional conduct. Additionally, a mandatory report must be submitted to the College as soon as possible where an employer suspects sexual abuse or sexual misconduct.

Further information on the [Complaints](#) Process can be found on the College website.

Questions?

If you have any questions regarding Bill 21, please contact Doug Cook, Registrar & Executive Director at the College office.

Jurisprudence Learning Module

Jurisprudence is defined as the science or philosophy of law. In the context of dietetics, it is the provincial legislation in combination with the College of Dietitians of Alberta's regulations and standards of practice that govern practice in Alberta.

All members are required to successfully complete the Jurisprudence Learning Module within their first year of registration with the College; thereafter, every general member is required to complete the learning module every five years to maintain registration with the College.

For those College members who are due to complete the Jurisprudence Learning Module within the coming year, you should have received an email indicating this requirement on April 9. If you have not received an email from the College office, you may not be required to complete the learning module during the upcoming registration year.

Further information on the [Jurisprudence Learning Module](#) can be found on the College website under the For Dietitians section.

Registration Renewal 2019/2020 is Complete

The College thanks all members for submitting their online registration renewal and CCP on time. Practice permits and official tax receipts are available on the [Member Login](#) under "Permits & Receipts". The College archives previous year's permits and receipts.

- Members are encouraged to have their practice permit available for inspection when requested by employers and the public, as required under the *Health Professions Act*.
- Official tax receipts include the breakdown of practice permit fees to include GST paid.

As we enter a new registration year, the College had 1,268 members renew their registration. The College also had 7 members on the Temporary Register for a total of 1,275 registered members as of April 1, 2019.

CCP Review & Audit

The College is in the process of undertaking the annual Continuing Competence Program (CCP) review and audit process. As a reminder for members:

- A **review** is an internal College process of ensuring members' reflections match and are appropriate to their set learning goals. Every year, the College randomly selects one third of the membership for program review.
- An **audit** includes a request from the College to submit CCP Workbook materials in addition to documentation/verification of completed learning activities. The College randomly selects 10% of all reviewed programs for an audit. Should you be selected, you will be required to submit these materials to the College for review, which will also include a review of your online CCP submissions. It is therefore essential that you keep accurate records.

Under the *Health Professions Act*, all regulated health colleges are required to have a Continuing Competence Program in place. It is the legislated mandate of the College to ensure members maintain their professional competence related to practice. It is the professional responsibility of every member to ensure that they are completing their CCP each year and are maintaining complete and accurate records.

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Outcomes from the CCP review and audit process range from feedback for future submissions, re-submission of CCP, selection for review and/or audit in the following year and in the event of non-compliance, suspension of a practice permit.

Those members selected for CCP audit for 2018/2019 will be contacted by mail in April. The review and audit process will be completed over the summer months; those who have been selected for both a review or an audit can expect to receive feedback from the College by the end of August 2019.

Further information on the [Continuing Competence Program](#), including information to assist you in completing the program requirements throughout the year, can be found on the College website under the For Dietitians section.

Dietitians can now direct bill through Alberta Blue Cross

Effective April 2019, Alberta Registered Dietitians/Nutritionists have the ability to register with Alberta Blue Cross for online claim submission for eligible services. For more information or to register for online claim submission, please [click here](#) to view the notice provided by Alberta Blue Cross. Alberta Blue Cross will be verifying registration status for all providers.

If you have any questions, please contact Alberta Blue Cross directly.
(<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/diet-nutr-home.php>)

Important Reminder for Temporary Members regarding the May 2019 Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE)

This is a reminder for all Temporary members who are intending to write the May 2019 sitting of the CDRE: please note, upon registration with the College, you should have received information on scheduling your exam with Pearson Vue. Seats for the May 13-18 CDRE are based on a first-come first-serve basis and therefore it is very important that if you have not already contacted Pearson Vue to schedule your exam at any location in Canada, that you do so as soon as possible. You will be required to provide a voucher number to cover the scheduling fee for the CDRE, which the College provided to you in a separate letter after you were approved to the Temporary Register. Please DO NOT provide your credit card when scheduling your exam.

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If you need to reschedule your exam to a different location, please contact the College office before contacting Pearson Vue, as we may need to re-issue the voucher for scheduling the CDRE.

If you have any questions regarding the CDRE, please check out our website [here](#) or [contact Lisa Omerzu](#), Executive Assistant & Registration Coordinator at the College office.

News & Events

The College has posted Spring 2019 events on the website, under [News & Events](#). Please check back often for new postings and any updates.

- 8th Annual Food Matters Conference (April 26-27)
- Healthy Celiac Kids (May 16)
- 30th Annual Canadian Bioethics Society Conference (May 22-24)

Important Notice for Members:

The College reminds members that as regulated professionals, RDs have a duty to update their profile **within 30 days** of any change in the information required for the College's Register. This includes changes to your contact information (phone and email), mailing address, employment information or name changes. You may update your profile information online by logging onto the [Member Login](#). Please contact the College office for information on legally changing your name with the College.

If any information found on the [public register](#) is inaccurate or incomplete, please contact the College office to request a correction.