

COLLEGE

Briefings

Spring 2018

Nutrition Month 2018

This March, the College of Dietitians of Alberta celebrated Nutrition Month by continuing to raise awareness on the role Registered Dietitians and Registered Nutritionists play in the lives of Albertans.

During Nutrition Month, the Minister of Health invited the College to meet. On March 14th, College President, Jody Brudler and the College's Registrar, Doug Cook met with Associate Minister of Health, the Honourable Brandy Payne, where they were able to discuss issues facing Dietitians and dietetic practice, prior to being introduced in the Legislature for National Dietitian's Day, along with Karen Boyd and Colinda Hunter from Dietitians of Canada.

The College invited the Honourable Sarah Hoffman, Minister of Health, to tour the Human Nutrition Research Unit at the University of Alberta. On March 28th, the Minister took in a tour and presentation where she spoke with students about their research and experiences in the Dietetics Program.

Continuing with the College's successful awareness campaign from 2017, the College is committed to raising public awareness on Registered Dietitians and Registered Nutritionists as experts and the best source of science-based nutrition information.

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We encourage all members to continue promoting the importance of Registered Dietitians and Registered Nutritionists as Food Experts you can Trust! More information on how to do so can be found in a previous newsletter on the [College website](#).

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 module within their first year of registration with the College; every general member is then required to complete the learning module every five years to maintain registration with the College. For the majority of College members, the Jurisprudence Learning Module will need to be completed over the upcoming year (prior to March 2019). Members will have access beginning May 1; once the module has opened, the College will email all members required to complete the learning module. Once you have accessed the Member Login, you will see Jurisprudence along the top header if it is a requirement for the upcoming year.

Registration Renewal 2018/2019 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 1,232 members renew their registration. The College also had 25 members on the Temporary Register for a total of 1,257 registered members as of April 1, 2018.

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.

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. 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 2017/2018 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 2018.

Complaint Summary

The College of Dietitians of Alberta received a complaint with regards to regulated member, practice permit 1856, in July 2017. The complaint was investigated by the College and proceeded to a Hearing Tribunal in January 2018. The member consented to an Admission of Guilt and a Joint Submission penalty whereby the member admitted to the following charges of unprofessional conduct: the member accessed via the electronic charting system health information from their own record, of their immediate family, of their friends / coworkers and their family members, and of other children, on one or more occasions without proper authority or reason to do so; the member failed to report improper accesses to health information to appropriate authorities prior to the employer's investigation of such improper accesses; and, the member failed to accurately or truthfully disclose the extent of improper accesses to health information during a meeting with the employer, including when asked directly by the employer about the extent of improper accesses.

Following the Hearing Tribunal, a written decision was rendered in February 2018. Member #1856 was found guilty of unprofessional conduct concerning the five charges outlined in the Statement of Allegations.

In the Hearing Tribunal's Penalty Decision rendered in February 2018, the Tribunal ordered the Hearing Tribunal's written decision serve as a reprimand; the member's practice permit be suspended until four (4) months have elapsed from the hearing date and the member successfully completes a boundaries and professional ethics course; for a period of eighteen (18) months from reinstatement, the member must provide the Complaints Director of the College with written confirmation from the employer that the member has provided the employer with a copy of the Hearing Tribunal's written decision; and, the member shall be responsible for paying 75% of the costs of the investigation and hearing in this matter.

Recognition Awards for 2018

Each year, the College is pleased to offer two 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.
- **Preceptor Recognition Award** recognizes excellence and dedication in precepting and mentoring.

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

The deadline for applications is on or before **July 1, 2018**; the awards are presented at an Award Luncheon for recipients in September.

Important Reminder for Temporary Members regarding the May 2018 Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE)

This is a reminder for all Temporary members who are intending to write the May 2018 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 14-19 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.

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.

New College Resources

The College has developed a number of new resources for members, which have been posted on the College website.

- **Updated Continuing Competence Program Resources** – includes the new CCP Workbook (2018/2019), Workbook Examples, and resources from the webinar on CCP (under [Important Resources](#)).
 - **Resources for Private Practice** - Registered Dietitians benefit from support and guidance to start and build a successful business. The posted document lists workshops, resources, websites and online supports that may be useful to Registered Dietitians in private practice (under [Member Resources](#)).
 - **College Statement: Restricted Activity of Psychosocial Intervention** - Registered Dietitians no longer require authorization from the College to work with clients/patients with disordered eating patterns and/or eating disorder diagnoses. Please read the College Statement for further information (under [Member Resources](#)).
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News & Events

The College has posted [Spring 2018](#) events on the website, under News & Events. Please check back often for new postings and any updates.

- Nutrition Support Day 2018 (April 14)
 - Food Matters Conference (April 20-21)
 - Launch of Health Canada's Front-of-Package Regulatory Consultations (open to April 26)
 - Nourishing Knowledge: Optimizing Nutrition in Continuing Care (May 11)
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Opportunities for Dietitians

Below are employment opportunities available for Registered Dietitians in Alberta. Volunteer opportunities, when available, can be found on the For Dietitians section of the College website, under [Member Resources](#). Please check regularly for any postings.

Canning & Preserving Educator (Calgary)

Do you have a passion for teaching others your craft to develop their own food skills? We are looking a charismatic individual with experience in hot water bath canning and fermenting to join our team at Poppy Innovations. Demonstrated experience in adult teaching and a desire to help others learn to can and preserve is a must. We offer a flexible schedule though classes are in the evening and weekends. This is a part-time contract position. Check out the job description for [Canning & Preserving Educator](#). Email *Poppy Innovations* at hello@poppyinnovations.ca or visit their [website](#).

Food Skills & Nutrition Educator (Calgary)

We have 2 – 3 openings for Educators to join our team at Poppy Innovations! Our programs have expanded and day camps for the summer are just around the corner. A nutrition background with demonstrated culinary skills are the perfect match to work with us in empowering children and adults to develop food skills and learn practical nutrition to change the way they eat! These are part-time positions approximately 20 hours+ per month for the person who loves variety in their schedule. Take a look at the [Food Skills & Nutrition Educator](#) job description and send us your cover letter & resume to tell us about your skills, experience and don't forget to tell us your availability. Email *Poppy Innovations* at hello@poppyinnovations.ca or visit their [website](#).

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