

COLLEGE

Briefings

December 2018

Standards of Practice

Access to the Standards of Practice

The College of Dietitians of Alberta has published the updated Standards of Practice on the College website, under [About Us – Regulatory Documents](#). We encourage all members to read the new Standards of Practice and familiarize yourself with the content.

Should you have any questions regarding the new Standards of Practice, we encourage you to review the information within the webinar and applicable resources (see below), or [contact the College office](#).

College Webinar

On November 26, the College hosted a webinar for all members on the new Standards of Practice including important information all registered members should know. If you were unable to join us for the live presentation, or you wish to view the webinar again, you can access the webinar link and copies of the webinar slides posted on the College website under [Member Resources](#), College Webinars. A FAQ document has also been posted with the questions and answers received during the webinar.

College Position: Guidelines for Promotion and Advertising

Along with the new Standards of Practice document and the webinar, the College has developed a guideline specifically for Standard 13. Promotion/Advertising. Please review the guideline resource, posted on the College website under [For Dietitians - Member Resources](#), Practice Statements and Guidelines.

Contents

Standards of Practice

Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients

Cannabis Statement from the College

Call for Volunteers

Annual Report, New Council & Recognition Awards for 2018

CCP Review & Audit Update

Important Notice for Members

Jurisprudence Learning Module Reminder

News & Events and Opportunities

Holiday Office Hours

Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients

The Alberta government recently introduced *Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients* to amend the *Health Professions Act* (HPA). Bill 21 speaks specifically to sexual abuse and sexual misconduct by regulated health professionals and introduces a number of new requirements for regulatory health colleges and its members. The new rules will ensure consistent penalties are applied to all health professionals regulated under the *Health Professions Act* for findings of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct.

The College supports this legislation. The protection of Albertans is of paramount importance to all health professionals, and to Albertans. The legislation gives all colleges new tools to increase transparency and to address serious cases of sexual misconduct and sexual abuse. The College takes these issues seriously and this new legislation will help maintain public confidence in the profession.

Member Communication

The College emailed all members on December 5th providing important information on *Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients*. All members are encouraged to read the communication as Bill 21 contains significant changes to legislation. You may view the member communication on the [News & Events page](#) of the College website.

Survey on Bill 21 Standards of Practice: Sexual Abuse and Misconduct Prevention

Thank you to all members who took the time to complete the College survey on the *Standards of Practice: Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct Prevention*, developed in response to *Bill 21: An Act to Protect Patients*.

The Standards of Practice received a high level of agreement on the clarity of the Standards and therefore the Standards of Practice have been sent to Government for approval.

The College will provide further clarification on the feedback received as part of the Standards survey in a separate communication.

The College will continue to keep members updated as we work towards full compliance. If you have any questions about Bill 21, please contact the Registrar, Doug Cook at the College office.

Cannabis Statement from the College

With the legalization of cannabis occurring nationally on October 17, 2018, the College office has received questions regarding the role of the dietitian when it comes to patients and clients' questions about cannabis use.

The College directs all Dietitians to the [Alberta Gaming Liquor Cannabis \(AGLC\)](#) and [Alberta Health Services' Drug Safe Cannabis](#) websites in the meantime, as we work on gathering information for a more detailed position.

Call for Volunteers

The College of Dietitians of Alberta is looking for dedicated members passionate about their profession to volunteer for the Hearing Tribunal list. Those members on the list may be called upon to sit on either a Hearing Tribunal or a Complaints Review Committee. The descriptions are as follows:

- Hearing Tribunal – The Hearing Tribunal Committee hears evidence, determines findings and appropriate sanctions when a complaint is referred to a Hearing Tribunal. Commitment is for minimum one year. Hearings typically last 1-2 days, and occur during the day. Attendance at Hearings will be in Edmonton. Subsequent meetings of the Hearing Tribunal can be done via teleconference.
- Complaints Review Committee (CRC) – The Complaint Review Committee reviews the dismissal of a complaint under the professional conduct section of the *Health Professions Act* when requested by a complainant. The CRC also may review and ratify settlements under the Alternate Complaint Resolution section of the *Health Professions Act*. Attendance at established meetings of the Complaint Review Committee will be in Edmonton. Subsequent meetings of the Complaint Review Committee can be done via teleconference.

If you have been a member of the College for 3 or more years, and are interested in serving on the above-mentioned list, please send an email of interest to Lisa Omerzu, Hearings Director at execasst@collegeofdietitians.ab.ca. Deadline for email responses is January 31. If you have any questions, please contact the College office.

Annual Report, Council and Recognition

Annual Report 2017

The College has posted the Annual Report for 2017/2018 online. [Click here](#) to access the report (under About Us – Annual Reports).

New Council for 2018/2019

The College of Dietitians of Alberta is pleased to introduce the 2018/2019 Council. Council biographies can be viewed on the College website under [Member Resources](#), Important Member Resources.

Kenton Delisle, President
Anna Farmer, President-Elect
Jody Brudler, Past-President
Robin Anderson, Councilor
Diane Hoy, Councilor
Jillyan Jay, Councilor

Kathryn Taxbock, Councilor
Raelyn Baker, Councilor
Shannon Rendall, Councilor
Stephen Donaldson, Public Member
Julie Davis, Public Member
Geoff Rabbie, Public Member

Recognition Awards for 2018

The Dietetic Intern Bursary Program was introduced to support current dietetic interns who have demonstrated exceptional professionalism in practice while studying dietetics at the University of Alberta with the intention of becoming a Registered Dietitian. Information on Recognition Awards can be found on the College website under [For Dietitians – Awards](#).

The recipients of the Dietetic Intern Bursaries for 2018 are Heather Chappell, Naomi Schoepp and Hillary Wilson. The College wishes the recipients all the best as they embark on their careers. The Dietetic Intern Bursaries were presented during an award luncheon at the College's September Council meeting.

CCP Review & Audit Update

The College completed its annual CCP reviews and audits in August of this year: 360 members had their online reflections reviewed and 40 had their entire program for the 2017/2018 year audited by the Continuing Competence Committee.

For more information on the College's Continuing Competence Program, please read the material posted on the College's website under [For Dietitians – Continuing Competence Program](#).

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.

Jurisprudence Learning Module Reminder

On May 1, 2018, the College emailed all members who were required to complete the Jurisprudence Learning Module during the current registration year. If you are required to complete the learning module, access the [Member Login](#) and click on Jurisprudence along the top header bar.

Members currently required to complete the learning module are encouraged to do so **as soon as possible**. More information on the Jurisprudence Learning Module can be found on the College website under [For Dietitians - Jurisprudence](#). If you have any questions, please [contact the College office](#).

News & Events and Opportunities

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

Opportunities for Dietitians (available until January 7)

Michener Services (Request for Proposals); Silver Linings Foundation; Recovery Pointe Physiotherapy

Holiday Office Hours

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

The College office will be closed from December 24, 2018 to January 1, 2019. The office will reopen on January 2, 2019.