



**Board Teleconference
March 17, 2020
MINUTES**

Members Present:

Christine Antler, Chair, District 2
Anca Cvaci, Vice-Chair, District 6
Alex Dar Santos, District 1
Andrea Silver, District 3
Steven Hopp, District 4
Michael Ortynsky, District 5
Claire Ishoy, District 7
Bal Dhillon, District 8
Tracey Hagkull, Government Appointee
Anne Peterson, Government Appointee
Katie Skelton, Government Appointee
Justin Thind, Government Appointee

Staff:

Bob Nakagawa, Registrar
Ashifa Keshavji, Director of Practice Reviews and Quality Assurance
Doreen Leong, Director of Registration and Licensure
Mary O’Callaghan, Chief Operating Officer
Anu Sharma, Acting Director of Policy and Legislation
Stephanie Kwok, Executive Assistant

1. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Chair Antler called the meeting to order at 4:00pm on March 17, 2020.

Chair Antler acknowledged the Coast Salish People on whose unceded traditional territories the meeting is being chaired from, the Coast Salish, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. She also recognized that attendees of the teleconference are joining the call from other First Nations territories across BC.

2. CHAIR’S UPDATES

Chair Antler provided an update on Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry’s announcement, declaring public health emergency in the province of British Columbia due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. REGISTRAR'S UPDATES

Registrar Nakagawa provided an update on College operations. He met with the management team via videoconferencing to ensure smooth transitioning of staff to a telecommuting work environment. He had two media calls and conversations with the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) and Health Canada (HC) regarding COVID-19. Deputy Registrar, David Pavan and Director of Communications and Engagement, Gillian Vrooman participated in a teleconference with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and BC Pharmacy Association (BCPhA) to discuss similar concerns raised by NAPRA and HC.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Anu Sharma, Acting Director of Policy and Legislation, thanked the Board for expediting the amendments to Professional Practice Policy 71 – Delivery of Opioid Agonist Treatment and Consequential Amendments to Professional Practice Policy 66 – Opioid Agonist Treatment and associated Policy Guides. The Board has approved the amendments via email and external communication regarding the amendments will be published shortly after this meeting.

The Legislation and Policy team is currently reviewing and drafting bylaw amendments to enable the reinstatement of recently retired pharmacists amid current COVID-19 situation.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board discussed potential drug shortages and arising patient safety issues. The Board requested the College to put out communication as soon as possible to assure the public that pharmacies will remain open and drugs will be accessible during the pandemic. The College will remind Pharmacists to act in the best interest of the public when determining whether to issue an emergency supply to patients.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Antler adjourned the meeting at 4:55pm on March 17, 2020.