



Transitional Council  
of the College of Homeopaths  
of Ontario (TC-CHO)

**CONTACT US**

We welcome your comments, questions, concerns, or requests for information.  
163 Queen Street East, 4th Floor Toronto, ON M5A 1S1  
Toll-free 1-877-883-8083 Direct: 416-862-4803 Fax: 416-874-4077

# Milestones Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 4

## Piecing Together the Regulatory Puzzle

Developing the regulations is just one piece of the legislative puzzle. Transitional Council and Staff are currently working to create the accompany pieces including policies, standards, guidelines and programs to support the implementation of the regulations. Examples of these pieces and programs include items such as entry-to-practice competency profile, jurisprudence program, prior learning assessment program, quality assurance program, and interpretation of registration regulation provision 4.(1) 2. Each piece is a comprehensive project with a long series of issues which must be considered and addressed. As is often the case in a transitional process there are many more issues to be addressed than there are answered.

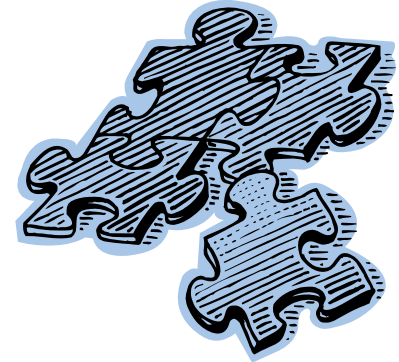
To assist in the process working groups have been established, research of homeopathic and other regulated health professionals undertaken, and consideration has been given to what is reasonable within the profession of homeopathy and responsible to the transitional Council's mandate of public protection.

### Interpretation of Registration Regulation provision 4.(1) 2

The Clinical Practice Working Group (CPWG) consisting of six transitional Council members and four non-Council professional members has been mandated to provide guidance on the interpretation of the clinical practice requirements for registration.

The CPWG is addressing and defining the key components of the provision and addressing questions such as: What is successfully completely? What is a structured, comprehensive supervised program? What qualifications must a supervisor meet? What is reflection and interaction? What are the components of comprising an appropriate amount of a preclinical observation? What are the components of comprising an appropriate amount of a supervised clinic? What is an internship program? And what accompanying guidelines are required to provide a full interpretation of the regulation?

### Professional Entry-to-practice Competencies



The TC-CHO is pleased to be working with Assessment Strategies Inc.

(ASI), who has been hired as an independent third-party with extensive expertise in the development of professional competencies to assist in guiding the process for the creation and validation of Ontario Homeopathy Entry-to-Practice Competencies.

The Competency Working Group consisting of five non-Council professional members and three Council members met with ASI for five days to develop a comprehensive set of professional entry-to-practice competencies. Once complete the draft competency document will be approved by the transitional Council with the intention of its release to stakeholders as part of the consultation process to assess and validate whether the competencies are consistent with the expectations for an entry-level homeopath.

The assessment and validation of the competencies will occur in several ways: feedback from individual practitioners via an online survey tool in November 2011, and, finally, a formal 60-day consultation process to start in December 2011.

[More see page 3](#)



## Upcoming Events

- Oct 18, 2011\* TC-CHO Presents at Homeopathic Medical Educational Centre of Canada  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
2649 Islington Avenue,  
Etobicoke, ON  
Public & Profession Welcome  
Seats are limited.
  
- Oct 20, 2011\* Council Meeting  
Key Discussion: Draft Competencies  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
163 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON
  
- Oct 23, 2011 TC-CHO Presents at  
Canadian Homeopathic Conference  
Crowne Plaza Toronto Airport Hotel  
33 Carlson Court, Toronto, ON  
3:30 – 4:45 p.m.  
Thank you to the conference organizers  
who have made this session open with-  
out cost to all interested public and pro-  
fessionals.
  
- Oct 24, 2011\* Information Session on  
Regulation Process  
Conference Call  
12:00 to 1:30 p.m. and  
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
  
- Oct 26, 2011 60-Day Consultation on  
Draft Regulations Ends
  
- Nov 7, 2011\* Council Meeting to Approve Draft  
Regulations  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
163 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON

Please contact the transitional Council office for more information on these free events.

Transitional Council meetings are open to the public to observe. As space is limited and time, date or location may change members of the public should provide advance notice of their interest to attend. If you wish to observe a Council meeting, please contact us:  
Telephone at 416-862-4780  
Email at [info@collegeofhomeopaths.on.ca](mailto:info@collegeofhomeopaths.on.ca)

## Draft Regulations Update

The deadline for feedback on the draft regulations has been extended to October 26. This change aligned the consultation end date with the Ministry of Economic Development regulatory registry consultation end date.

## How to Provide Your Feedback

Please use the feedback form downloadable from the website. Additional comments can be provided on a separate sheet.

Comments and reactions to the draft provisions are most helpful. Please provide supporting rationale.

We also appreciate your questions, which are best sent separately via email or fax to the transitional Council office.

The formal consultation allows individuals to provide written comment on the regulations and to express comment and/or concern on any provision within the regulations. All written comments are reviewed by the committees/working groups involved in the development of the regulations, and will be attached to the transitional Council's submission to the Government once the regulations are sent for review and approval.

## In this Issue of Milestones

Piecing Together the Regulatory Puzzle	Page 1
Upcoming Events	Page 2
Draft Regulations	Page 2
Profession Survey	Page 3
Why Regulate Homeopathy?	Page 4
Council Committee & Work Group List	Page 5
About the work of the transitional Council	Page 6
Doctor Title	Page 6

*If you know a homeopath who has not yet received communications directly from the transitional Council please pass on this newsletter.*

## More Pieces of the Regulatory Puzzle (Continued from Page 1)

### Prior Learning Assessment

Work on the development of Prior Learning Assessment program and tools will begin later this month, when the Assessment Working Group (AWG) meets for the first time. The AWG is the decision making group which will work with external experts to create assessment tools. The prior learning assessment process is well defined within professional and regulatory contexts and looks at ensuring proof of professional specific competencies. More details on the requirements and processes will be available as they become available.



### Quality Assurance Program

Development of the Quality Assurance Program will commence shortly. The Professional Practice Working Group will look at both process and content for the program, and will also provide definitions for components such as: What are assessors and peer assessors? What are the requirements of an assessor? And, what will qualify as continuing education?



### Profession Survey

In spring 2011, the transitional Council approved a partnership with University of Toronto (UofT) to conduct the first comprehensive collection of data on the homeopathic profession. This study will improve the Council's understanding of the demographics of the profession through data collection of education, training, and practice characteristics. It will also help to inform the future development of guidelines, policies and standards, and provide supporting documentation for submissions made to the Government.

The Transitional Council will not have access to any individual responses to the survey. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary and once submitted all of your answers will be kept confidential. The data will be stored on a password protected computer accessible only to the University of Toronto research team.

We encourage everyone to take time to complete the online survey. Your participation in this research is important and will inform the future direction of professional standards, guidelines and policies.

Thank you in advance for your involvement in this research study.

**Please provide your comments on the draft Registration, Quality Assurance, and/or Professional Misconduct regulations by October 26, 2011.**

Please use the feedback form downloadable from the transitional Council website at [www.collegeofhomeopaths.on.ca](http://www.collegeofhomeopaths.on.ca).

## Why Regulate Homeopathy?

Public protection, access to quality health care and client-centred care are basic principles of the regulated health care system in Canada. The *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (RHPA) and health profession acts, such as the *Homeopathy Act, 2007*, provide a consistent framework for Ontario's regulated health professions. The RHPA incorporates a number of underlying principles, including:

- Respecting the patient's right to have control over what happens to their body and to make informed health care choices;
- Protecting the public from unqualified, incompetent or unethical health care providers;
- Promoting accountability among health care professionals;
- Encouraging public access to health care professionals of their choice;
- Respecting all styles of practice provided the public is protected;
- Enhancing interprofessional collaborative care for the benefit of the patient; and
- Continuing quality improvement across professions.

### Public Protection & Access to Quality Care

For the public, regulation promotes transparency and some degree of consistency among registered members. Patient's rights become clear and are enforceable. Public protection also provides patients with a mechanism to have their complaints heard.

### Professional Standards

The future College will have a role both to enforce the regulations and to guide homeopaths, through education and information, on how to conduct themselves within a regulatory environment.

The *Regulated Health Professions Act* and the *Homeopathy Act* set out the responsibilities, powers and procedures related to the regulations of *Homeopaths*. Other standards are established and enforced for professional scope of practice, ethics, professional conduct, continuing competence and quality assurance.

While some would suggest that the relevant knowledge of homeopathy never changes, the practice environment and the health care system in which homeopaths operate is continuously changing.

### Accountability

Protection of the public goes beyond the risk of harm which might be present in the administering of a remedy. It also takes into consideration other factors such as a patient's right to privacy, informed consent, access to care without intimidation or abuse (physical, sexual, mental or psychological), and referrals to other health care professionals in a manner which facilitates timely or appropriate care when a case is outside of the homeopath's scope of practice.

As regulated professionals, homeopaths will be required by law to deliver competent, ethical services and be accountable to the College of Homeopaths of Ontario when a complaint is made about a member's conduct.

## What is the transitional Council of the College of Homeopaths of Ontario?

It IS a regulatory health college/council.

It is NOT an educational institution or a professional/advocacy association.

## Council Committee & Working Group List

### Assessment Working Group

John Millar, Chair (*professional, Council*)  
 John Curran (*public, Council*)  
 Eden Gajraj (*public, Council*)  
 Luba Plotkina (*professional, Council*)  
 Bhupinder Sharma (*professional, Council*)  
 Kelly Warren (*public, Council*)

### Clinical Practice Working Group

Bhupinder Sharma, Chair (*professional, Council*)  
 Violetta Ilkiw (*professional, Council*)  
 Kelly Warren (*public, Council*)  
 Whitney Collins (*professional, Council*)  
 John Millar (*professional, Council*)  
 John Curran (*public, Council*)  
 Inna Dolgopolsky (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Olga Imas (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Iman Navab (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Akshay Banker (*professional, Non-Council*)

### Communications Working Group

Eden Gajraj, Chair (*public, Council*)  
 Ron Harris (*professional, Council*)  
 Wangari Muriuki (*public, Council*)  
 Luba Plotkina (*professional, Council*)

### Competency Working Group

Wangari Muriuki, Chair (*public, Council*)  
 Ling Goh (*professional, Council*)  
 Luba Plotkina (*professional, Council*)  
 Inna Dolgopolsky (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Lucy Fournier (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Kashka Kril-Atkins (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Laurie Ann Allen (*professional, Non-Council*)  
 Lisa Decandia (*professional, Non-Council*)

### Executive Committee

Jim Dunsdon, *President* (*public, Council*)  
 Violetta Ilkiw, *Vice President* (*professional, Council*)  
 Ling Goh (*professional, Council*)  
 Margaret Martin (*public, Council*)  
 Luba Plotkina (*professional, Council*)

### Registrar

Basil Ziv

### Governance Working Group

John Curran, Chair (*public, Council*)  
 Whitney Collins (*professional, Council*)  
 Kathy Desjardins (*professional, Council*)  
 Jim Dunsdon (*public, Council*)  
 John Millar (*professional, Council*)

### Professional Practice Working Group

Whitney Collins, Chair (*professional, Council*)  
 John Curran (*public, Council*)  
 Ron Harris (*professional, Council*)  
 Margaret Martin (*public, Council*)  
 John Millar (*professional, Council*)

### Registration Committee

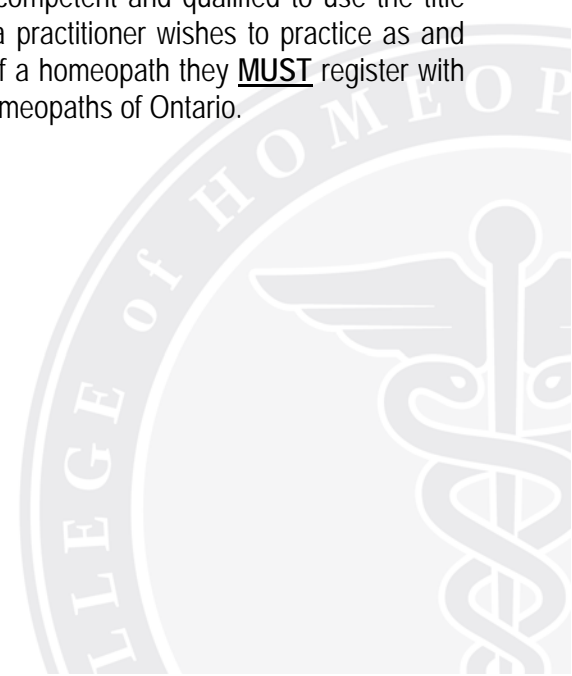
Wangari Muriuki, *Chair* (*public, Council*)  
 Ling Goh (*professional, Council*)  
 Violetta Ilkiw (*professional, Council*)  
 Bhupinder Sharma (*professional, Council*)  
 Kelly Warren (*public, Council*)

### Steering Working Group

Eden Gajraj, Chair (*public, Council*)  
 Kathy Desjardins (*professional, Council*)  
 Ling Goh (*professional, Council*)  
 Bhupinder Sharma (*professional, Council*)  
 Kelly Warren (*public*)

## Did you know?

Once the process to regulate the profession of homeopathy is in place and proclaimed into law, the transitional Council of the College of Homeopaths of Ontario is the **ONLY** organization that may assess applicants and determines who is competent and qualified to use the title "Homeopath". If a practitioner wishes to practice as and call him or herself a homeopath they **MUST** register with the College of Homeopaths of Ontario.



# About the Work of the transitional Council

## Mission Statement

*The mission of the transitional Council of the College of Homeopaths of Ontario (TC-CHO) is to protect the public interest through self-regulation of the practice of homeopathic medicine by setting high standards for competency and ethical practice. This is achieved through consultation with stakeholders in accordance with the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA), and the Homeopathy Act, 2007.*

(Approved in principle by Council January 22, 2010)

## Transitional Council Mandate

The transitional Council is accountable to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. Its specific functions include:

1. Establishing an accountability agreement with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC);
2. Establishing, in collaboration with the Registrar, administrative processes and the infrastructure necessary for the College to operate;
3. Developing by-laws, professional ethics, policies and guidelines;
4. Developing competencies and practice standards, and registration, professional misconduct, and quality assurance regulations;
5. Developing processes to assess and register registrants [members];
6. Developing processes to handle complaints and the discipline of registrants [members];
7. Developing communication programs to reach future registrants [members] of the profession, the public and other stakeholders.

The College of Homeopaths of Ontario will allow self-regulation of the homeopathic profession within the framework of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA)* and *The Homeopathy Act, 2007*. The College has a specific duty to protect the public interest.

### CONTACT US

We welcome your comments, questions, concerns, or requests for information.  
163 Queen Street East, 4th Floor Toronto, ON M5A 1S1  
Toll-free 1-877-883-8083 Direct: 416-862-4803 Fax: 416-874-4077

## Doctor Title

Many homeopaths continue to use the title "doctor" or add "Dr." in front of their name. In accordance with the Ontario's Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, section 33 the use of such language and title is illegal. In the provision of health care the doctor title is only granted to chiropractors, optometrists, physicians and surgeons, and psychologists. If you are not a registered member of one of these five professions, the doctor title can not be used literally or implied, in written or spoken manner when dealing with patients, staff, colleagues or other health care providers.

This provision has been put in place by the government to protect the public.

It is important to know that the use of the title "doctor" or "Dr." is a serious offense subject to prosecution and substantial fine.

### Restriction of title "doctor"

*The Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 states:*

33. (1) Except as allowed in the regulations under this Act, no person shall use the title "doctor", a variation or abbreviation or an equivalent in another language in the course of providing or offering to provide, in Ontario, health care to individuals. 1991, c. 18, s. 33 (1).

### Idem

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person who is a member of,

- (a) the College of Chiropractors of Ontario;
- (b) the College of Optometrists of Ontario;
- (c) the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario;
- (d) the College of Psychologists of Ontario; or
- (e) the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario. 1991, c. 18, s. 33 (2).

### Offences

40. (2) Every individual who contravenes section 31, 32 or 33 or subsection 34 (2), 34.1 (2) or 36 (1) is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$25,000 for a first offence and not more than \$50,000 for a second or subsequent offence. 2007, c. 10, Sched. M, s. 12.