2nd SESSION, 65th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Province of Prince Edward Island
66 ELIZABETH II, 2017

BILL NO. 72

Registered Health Professions Act

Honourable Robert L. Henderson
Minister of Health and Wellness

GOVERNMENT BILL

MICHAEL D. FAGAN
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**Title:** REGISTERED HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT

**Bill Number:** 72

**ASSEMBLY / SESSION / YEAR**
65th General / 2nd / 2017
Registered Health Professions Act

BE IT ENACTED by the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Prince Edward Island as follows:

PART I – INTERPRETATION AND ADMINISTRATION

1. In this Act,

(a) “Canadian jurisdiction” means a Canadian jurisdiction as defined in the Labour Mobility Act R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. L-1.1;

(b) “Deputy Registrar” means the Deputy Registrar appointed pursuant to subsection 3(4) or 29(1);

(c) “extra-provincial certification”, in relation to an individual, means a certificate, license, registration or other form of official recognition issued by a professional regulatory body regulating the individual’s health profession in a Canadian jurisdiction, other than Prince Edward Island, that attests that the individual is qualified and authorized to engage in the practice of the health profession or to use a title relating to the practice of the health profession;

(d) “health care” means any care, service or procedure, including the sale or dispensing of a drug, device, equipment or another item pursuant to a prescription,

(i) to diagnose, treat or maintain an individual’s health,

(ii) to prevent disease or injury or promote health, or

(iii) that affects the structure or function of a human body;

(e) “health profession” means a profession in which a person exercises skill or judgment in providing health care;

(f) “health profession corporation” means a corporation that holds a valid permit;

(g) “Minister” means the Minister of Health and Wellness;

(h) “permit” means a permit issued pursuant to subsection 51(3) authorizing a health profession corporation to carry on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant;

(i) “register” means the register of a registered health profession kept by the Registrar;

(j) “registered health profession” means a health profession designated by regulation as a registered health profession;
(k) “registrant” means an individual who is registered or deemed to be registered in a register;

(l) “Registrar” means the Registrar appointed pursuant to subsection 3(1);


2. The purpose of this Act is to provide for the regulation of certain health professions where it is in the public interest and self-regulation of the health profession under the Regulated Health Professions Act is not appropriate due to the small number of practitioners of the health profession or other factors.

3. (1) The Minister shall appoint a Registrar for the purposes of this Act and the regulations.

(2) The Registrar shall
   (a) as directed by the Minister under Part II, investigate and provide a recommendation as to whether it is within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession;
   (b) receive, assess and determine applications in respect of registration and permits;
   (c) keep and maintain registers and records for each registered health profession;
   (d) keep and maintain records in respect of health profession corporations;
   (e) perform the duties of the Registrar in respect of discipline matters under Part IV;
   (f) perform other functions and duties assigned to the Registrar by the Minister.

(3) In carrying out his or her duties, the Registrar may, subject to the approval of the Minister with respect to any associated expenses,
   (a) consult with any person who has expertise or information relevant to the duties of the Registrar; and
   (b) engage, on a temporary basis or for a specific purpose, any person with technical or specialized knowledge of a matter relating to the duties of the Registrar.

(4) The Minister may appoint a Deputy Registrar to assist the Registrar in carrying out his or her duties under this Act and to act in place of the Registrar when the Registrar is absent or unable to act.
PART II – DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Application

4. (1) A group of persons representing a majority of the persons practising a health profession in the province may apply to the Minister to have the health profession designated as a registered health profession.

(2) The application shall be in the form and contain the information required by the Minister, and shall be accompanied by the prescribed application fee.

(3) Upon receiving an application, the Minister may do one or more of the following:
   (a) investigate or direct the Registrar to investigate whether it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate the health profession as a registered health profession;
   (b) refuse the application, with or without investigation;
   (c) approve the application, with or without investigation.

Investigation

5. Notwithstanding section 4, in the absence of an application, the Minister may investigate or direct the Registrar to investigate whether it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession.

6. (1) In conducting an investigation under this Part, the Minister or Registrar may investigate as he or she considers necessary and may do one or more of the following:
   (a) determine the proportion of the practitioners of the health profession that are engaged in activities that are under the Minister’s jurisdiction;
   (b) evaluate whether the primary objectives of the health care provided by the health profession is the prevention of disease or injury and the promotion and restoration of health;
   (c) evaluate the degree, if any, of the risk of harm to the health and safety of the public from incompetent, unethical or impaired practice of the health profession, having regard to
      (i) the health care provided by the practitioners,
      (ii) the technology, including instruments and materials, used by the practitioners, and
      (iii) the invasiveness of the procedures or mode of treatment used by the practitioners;
(d) evaluate the degree of supervision that is necessary and that a practitioner receives or is likely to receive with respect to the practice of the health profession;
(e) consider whether there are more appropriate means to regulate the practitioners of the health profession other than under this Act;
(f) consider whether the health profession is a distinct and identifiable profession with a distinct and identifiable body of knowledge that is used by practitioners of the profession to provide health care;
(g) ascertain what the qualifications and minimum standards of competence for persons entering the practice of the health profession are and how the continuing education and competence of practitioners is to be maintained;
(h) ascertain what education programs are available with respect to the practice of the health profession and evaluate those programs;
(i) consider the potential economic impact of regulating the health profession, including the expected effect on practitioner availability, education and training programs, access to services and the quality, cost and efficiency of those services;
(j) consider other prescribed criteria, if any.

(2) In accordance with the regulations, the Minister may charge to persons who make an application under section 3 the costs, including the administrative costs, incurred to conduct an investigation under this Part respecting the application.

Recommendations

Recommendation of Registrar

7. (1) Upon completing an investigation under this Part, the Registrar shall recommend to the Minister, with reasons, whether or not, in the opinion of the Registrar, it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate the health profession as a registered health profession.

(2) If the Registrar recommends that the health profession be designated as a registered health profession, the Registrar may also make recommendations respecting

(a) a proposed scope of practice for the proposed registered health profession;
(b) a proposed listing of the reserved activities that registrants of the proposed registered health profession may perform and any conditions respecting the performance of those activities;
(c) a name for the proposed registered health profession and a designation or title for its registrants; and
(d) any other matter that is compatible with the recommendation that the health profession be regulated under this Act.
8. (1) In determining whether it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession, the Minister
   (a) may take into consideration
      (i) any or all of the factors set out in clauses 6(1)(a) to (j),
      (ii) the recommendations of the Registrar under section 7, if applicable; and
   (b) shall take into consideration whether the health profession may be regulated through self-regulation under the Regulated Health Professions Act.

(2) Where the Minister determines that it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession, the Minister shall make that recommendation to the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Designation as a Registered Health Profession

9. The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation made pursuant to section 73, designate a health profession as a registered health profession for the purpose of this Act.

PART III – REGISTRATION AND PRACTICE OF A REGISTERED HEALTH PROFESSION

Prohibitions

10. (1) No person shall practise a registered health profession unless he or she is a registrant of that registered health profession.

   (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to or prevent the practice of a health profession that includes functions the same or similar to the practice of a registered health profession by a person authorized to perform those functions under another enactment.

   (3) Subsection (1) does not apply to a person in the course of fulfilling the requirements to become a registrant of the registered health profession, provided that the person is acting under the supervision or direction of a registrant of the registered health profession.

   (4) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of a prescribed registered health profession that does not have a distinct and identifiable scope of practice.

   (5) No person, other than a registrant of the registered health profession, shall use the designation of a registrant of the registered health profession as set out in the regulations, or any other title, name,
description, abbreviation or derivative implying that a person is a registrant of the registered health profession.

(6) Subsections (1) and (5) do not apply to
(a) a professor in the field of a registered health profession while carrying out teaching and research duties, who uses a title or description that clearly indicates professorial status; or
(b) a person
(i) who is authorized to practise a registered health profession by a professional regulatory body in another jurisdiction recognized by the Registrar, and
(ii) whose practice of the registered health profession in the province consists only of the provision of educational workshops or courses and does not exceed one week in a calendar year.

Application for Registration

11. (1) A person may apply to the Registrar, in the form required by the Registrar accompanied by the prescribed application fee, to be registered in the register of a registered health profession.

(2) An applicant is eligible to be registered in the register of a registered health profession if the applicant
(a) is entitled to work in Canada;
(b) in the opinion of the Registrar, has reasonable proficiency in written and spoken English;
(c) has successfully completed the prescribed educational requirements for the registered health profession at an educational institution that is approved by the Registrar or accredited by an accreditation body designated in the regulations;
(d) has successfully completed any examinations required by the regulations;
(e) has successfully completed any requirements for a graduate practicum, internship training or post-graduate supervised practice set out in the regulations;
(f) meets any requirements for currency of professional knowledge and skills set out in the regulations;
(g) where applicable, is in good standing with the professional regulatory bodies regulating the practice of the registered health profession, or the use of titles relating to the practice of the profession, in any jurisdictions in which the applicant was previously authorized to practise the profession or to use a title relating to the practice of the profession;
(h) has not been found guilty of an offence that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the applicant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession;
(i) has not been disciplined by a professional regulatory body for misconduct, incompetence or incapacity that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the applicant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession;
(j) holds or is covered by professional liability insurance or protection as required by the regulations;
(k) meets any other requirements set out in the regulations for registration under this section; and
(l) has paid the prescribed registration fee.

(3) An applicant who holds extra-provincial certification that is, in the opinion of the Registrar, substantially equivalent to the registration being applied for is deemed to have met the requirements of clauses (2)(a) to (I).

(4) Subject to section 20, on receipt of an application made in accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall review the application and, where the Registrar is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements for registration set out in subsection (2), register the applicant in the appropriate register and issue a certificate of registration to the applicant.

(5) A registrant shall notify the Registrar without delay if the registrant
   (a) is found guilty of an offence;
   (b) is disciplined by a professional regulatory body; or
   (c) ceases to hold or be covered by professional liability insurance or protection as required by the regulations.

Special Registration

12. (1) A person who is authorized by a professional regulatory body in another jurisdiction recognized by the Registrar to practise a registered health profession or use a title relating to the practice of a registered health profession, may apply to the Registrar, in a form approved by the Registrar accompanied by the prescribed application fee, to be registered in the register of the registered health profession for a limited time or for a special purpose.

(2) An applicant is eligible to be registered in the register of a registered health profession for a limited time or for a special purpose, if the applicant
   (a) is authorized to practise the registered health profession, or to use a title relating to the practice of the registered health profession, by a professional regulatory body in another jurisdiction recognized by the Registrar, in a professional category considered by the
Registrar to be equivalent or comparable to registration in that register;
(b) meets any other requirements set out in the regulations for registration under this section; and
(c) has paid the prescribed registration fee.

(3) Subject to section 20, on receipt of an application made in accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall review the application and, where the Registrar approves of the registration of the applicant for the time period or special purpose proposed by the applicant and is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements for registration set out in subsection (2), register the applicant in the register and issue a certificate of registration to the applicant.

Terms or Conditions

13. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Registrar may impose terms or conditions on a registration.

(2) The Registrar shall not impose terms or conditions that contravene the Labour Mobility Act on a registration.

(3) The imposition of terms or conditions on a registration under subsection (1) is not effective until notice of the imposition is served on the registrant affected by it.

Register

14. (1) The Registrar shall enter in a register, in respect of each registrant in that register,
(a) the name and business address of the registrant and, if applicable, the name of each health profession corporation of which the registrant is a shareholder or a director;
(b) the qualifications of the registrant;
(c) any terms or conditions imposed by the Registrar on the registrant’s registration;
(d) the date and circumstances of any suspension, cancellation or reinstatement of the registration of the registrant under this Part;
(e) the results of any disciplinary proceeding involving the registrant; and
(f) any other information required to be entered in the register by the regulations.

(2) A registrant shall notify the Registrar without delay of any change in the information referred to in clause (1)(a).

(3) Upon request, the Registrar shall disclose
(a) to any person,
(i) the name, business address, qualifications, registration status and registration history of a registrant or former registrant,
(ii) the nature and disposition of any complaint, investigation or hearing respecting a registrant or former registrant
   (A) that was resolved by agreement or by an order made with the consent of the registrant or former registrant, or
   (B) where a hearing committee determined that the conduct of the registrant or former registrant constituted professional misconduct or incompetence,
(iii) aggregate, non-identifiable demographic information from a register, and
(iv) any other information required by the regulations to be disclosed; and
(b) to a professional regulatory body, in addition to the information described in clause (a),
   (i) the nature of any ongoing complaint, investigation or hearing respecting a registrant or former registrant, and
   (ii) any other information required by the regulations to be disclosed.

Certificate of Registration

15. (1) The Registrar shall include the following information on a certificate of registration:
   (a) the name of the registrant;
   (b) the register in which the registrant is registered;
   (c) the expiry date of the registration;
   (d) any terms or conditions on the registration of the registrant;
   (e) any other information required by the regulations to be included on a certificate of registration.

   (2) If any of the information referred to in subsection (1) changes, the Registrar shall amend the registration of the registrant and issue a replacement certificate of registration.

   (3) Where a registrant’s registration is suspended or cancelled under this Act or the regulations,
      (a) the certificate of registration evidencing the registration becomes invalid; and
      (b) the registrant or former registrant shall, without delay after being served with notice of the suspension or cancellation, return the certificate of registration to the Registrar.

   (4) Where the suspension of a registrant’s registration ends or is lifted and the registration has not been cancelled, the Registrar shall issue a replacement certificate of registration to the registrant.
(5) A registrant shall, subject to subsection (3),
(a) on request by any person, produce his or her certificate of
registration for inspection; and
(b) if required to do so by the regulations, display the certificate of
registration in a conspicuous place where the registrant practises.

Renewal of Registration

16. (1) A registrant may, at least 30 days before his or her registration
expires, apply to the Registrar in the form required by the Registrar
accompanied by the prescribed application fee, to renew the registration.

(2) A registrant is eligible to renew his or her registration if the
registrant
(a) has fulfilled any continuing education and competency
requirements set out in the regulations;
(b) has fulfilled any requirements for currency of professional
knowledge and skills set out in the regulations;
(c) has not been found guilty of an offence that, in the Registrar’s
opinion, renders the applicant unsuitable to practise the registered
health profession;
(d) has not been disciplined by a professional regulatory body for
conduct that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the applicant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession;
(e) holds or is covered by professional liability insurance or
protection as required by the regulations;
(f) meets any other requirements set out in the regulations for the
renewal of registration; and
(g) has paid the prescribed registration fee.

(3) Subject to section 20, on receipt of an application made in
accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall review the application
and, where the Registrar is satisfied that the applicant meets the
requirements set out in subsection (2), issue a certificate of registration to
the applicant.

17. On the written request of a registrant, the Registrar may, in writing,
extend a registration past its expiry date for a period not exceeding 30
days to allow the registrant to make an application for renewal of the
registration under subsection 16(1).

Request for Cancellation of Registration

18. (1) A registrant may
(a) request, in writing, that the Registrar cancel the registration of
the registrant; and
(b) surrender the certificate of registration held by the registrant to the Registrar.

(2) On receipt of a request in writing by a registrant and the surrender of the registrant’s certificate of registration in accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall cancel the registration of the registrant.

Reinstatement of Registration

19. (1) Where the registration of a former registrant expired or was cancelled pursuant to section 18 and less than a prescribed period of time has elapsed since the expiry or cancellation, the former registrant may apply to the Registrar, in the form required by the Registrar accompanied by the prescribed application fee, for reinstatement of the registration.

(2) An applicant who is a former registrant referred to in subsection (1) is eligible to have his or her registration reinstated, if the applicant

(a) where applicable, is in good standing with the professional regulatory bodies regulating the practice of the registered health profession, or the use of titles relating to the practice of the profession, in any jurisdictions in which the applicant was authorized to practise the profession or to use a title relating to the practice of the profession since the expiry or cancellation of the applicant’s registration;

(b) meets any requirements for currency of professional knowledge and skills set out in the regulations;

(c) has not been found guilty of an offence that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the applicant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession;

(d) has not been disciplined by a professional regulatory body for conduct that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the applicant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession;

(e) holds or is covered by professional liability insurance or protection as required by the regulations;

(f) meets any other requirements in respect of reinstatement of registration set out in the regulations; and

(g) has paid the prescribed registration fee.

(3) Subject to section 20, on receipt of an application made in accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall review the application and, where the Registrar is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements set out in subsection (2), register the applicant in the appropriate register and issue a certificate of registration to the applicant.
Refusal, Suspension or Cancellation of Registration

20. (1) The Registrar may refuse to consider an application for registration or the renewal or reinstatement of a registration where the applicant has an outstanding charge for an offence or is under investigation by a professional regulatory body, until the matter has been resolved.

(2) The Registrar may refuse to register an applicant or renew or reinstate a registration where the Registrar determines that the applicant does not meet the eligibility requirements for registration, renewal or reinstatement, as the case may be, under this Act or the regulations.

(3) The Registrar may suspend or cancel the registration of a registrant who

(a) is found guilty of an offence that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the registrant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession;
(b) is disciplined by a professional regulatory body for conduct that, in the Registrar’s opinion, renders the registrant unsuitable to practise the registered health profession; or
(c) ceases to hold or be covered by professional liability insurance or protection as required by the regulations.

21. (1) On refusing to consider an application, register an applicant or renew or reinstate a registration, or on suspending or cancelling a registration, pursuant to section 20, the Registrar shall serve on the affected person

(a) written notice of and reasons for the refusal, suspension or cancellation; and
(b) written notice of the person’s right to appeal under section 22.

(2) A suspension or cancellation of a registration pursuant to section 20 is not effective until notice of the suspension or cancellation is served on the person affected by it.

Appeal

22. (1) A person who is aggrieved by the imposition of terms or conditions on the person’s registration under section 13 by the Registrar may appeal the imposition of the terms or conditions to the Supreme Court within 30 days after being served with notice of the imposition.

(2) A person who is aggrieved by a refusal of the Registrar to consider the person’s application, register the person or renew or reinstate the person’s registration, or by a suspension or cancellation of the person’s registration by the Registrar, pursuant to section 20 may appeal the
refusal, suspension or cancellation to the Supreme Court within 30 days after being served with notice of the refusal, suspension or cancellation.

(3) On hearing an appeal, the court may
   (a) confirm, revoke or vary the terms or conditions imposed by the Registrar or the refusal, suspension or cancellation appealed from;
   (b) refer the matter, or any issue, back to the Registrar for further consideration; or
   (c) provide any direction that it considers appropriate.

(4) The court may make any order as to the costs of an appeal that it considers appropriate.

Reserved Activities

23. (1) Subject to any terms or conditions on a registrant’s registration or requirements in the regulations, a registrant may perform a reserved activity if registrants of the registered health profession that the registrant practises, or registrants of the category or class of registrants to which the registrant belongs, are authorized by the regulations to perform the reserved activity.

(2) A person may perform a reserved activity in the course of fulfilling the requirements to become a registrant of a registered health profession, or a registrant of a category or class of registrants that may perform the reserved activity, provided that
   (a) registrants of the registered health profession, or registrants of a category or class of registrants of the registered health profession, as the case may be, are authorized by the regulations to perform the reserved activity; and
   (b) the person performs the reserved activity under the supervision or direction of a registrant of the registered health profession who is authorized to perform the reserved activity.

Practice Relationships and Liability

24. (1) Nothing contained in this Act shall affect, modify or limit any law applicable to the confidential or ethical relationship between a registrant and a client or patient of the registrant.

(2) The relationship of a registrant to a health profession corporation as a shareholder, director, officer or employee does not affect, modify or diminish
   (a) the application of this Act or the regulations to the registrant;
   (b) the fiduciary, ethical and legal duties of the registrant; or
   (c) the liability of the registrant.
(3) In the event of a conflict between a registrant’s duty to a client or patient, the Registrar or the public and the registrant’s duty to a health profession corporation, the duty to the client or patient, the Registrar or the public, as the case may be, prevails.

25. (1) In this section, “practise in association” means practise by a registrant in co-operation with another registrant, where one or more of the following occur:
   (a) joint advertising;
   (b) a shared office telephone number;
   (c) combined client billing for services provided by more than one person;
   (d) a shared office reception area;
   (e) shared office or clinic expenses;
   (f) shared administrative functions or expenses;
   (g) shared ownership or use of premises, equipment, furnishings or other property;
   (h) shared employees;
   (i) other circumstances set out in the regulations as constituting practise in association.

(2) Unless restricted by the regulations, a registrant may
   (a) practise in association with another registrant; and
   (b) refer clients or patients to and receive referrals from another registrant or any other person.

(3) The ethical and confidential obligations of a registrant to a client or patient of the registrant
   (a) are not diminished by the fact that the registrant is practising in association; and
   (b) apply equally to all registrants practising in association.

PART IV – DISCIPLINE

Interpretation

26. In this Part,

(a) “complainant” means
   (i) a person who makes a complaint to the Registrar under subsection 28(1) or is the complainant in a matter referred to a hearing committee under subsection 75(2) or (3), or
   (ii) the Registrar, in respect of a complaint initiated by the Registrar under subsection 28(4) or referred to an investigation committee under clause 42(2)(b);

(b) “complaint” means a complaint
   (i) made or initiated under section 28,
Duty to Report

27. (1) A registrant who has knowledge or reasonable grounds to believe that
(a) the conduct of another registrant constitutes incompetence in accordance with subsection 46(2); or
(b) the conduct of a person who is authorized under another enactment to practice a health profession or use a title relating to the practice of a health profession constitutes incompetence under that enactment,
shall report the circumstances and provide any additional information known or available to the registrant to the Registrar or the regulatory body governing the health profession, as the case may be.

(2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4), a registrant who has knowledge or reasonable grounds to believe that
(a) another registrant or former registrant has, while a registrant, committed sexual abuse involving a client or patient; or
(b) a person has, while authorized to practise a health profession or use a title relating to the practice of a health profession under another enactment, committed sexual abuse involving a client or patient,
shall report the circumstances and provide any additional information known or available to the registrant to the Registrar or the regulatory body governing the health profession, as the case may be.

(3) Before making a report under subsection (2), a registrant shall, if possible,
(a) inform the client or patient of the registrant’s statutory obligation to report; and
(b) encourage the client or patient to make a complaint and provide information, if requested, to the Registrar or the regulatory body governing the health profession, as the case may be.

(4) In providing information to the Registrar or a regulatory body under subsection (2), a registrant shall not identify the client or patient unless the client or patient, or a representative of the client or patient, consents to the identification.

(5) A registrant who makes a report to the Registrar or a regulatory body under subsection (1) or (2) is not subject to liability as a result of making the report, unless it is established that the report was made maliciously.

(6) Upon receiving a report under this section, the Registrar may initiate a complaint under subsection 28(4).

(7) A registrant who makes a complaint to the Registrar under subsection 28(1) or in accordance with the enactment governing the respondent, as the case may be, respecting a matter described in subsection (1) or (2) satisfies the duty to report the matter.

Complaint

28. (1) Any person, other than the Registrar, may make a complaint to the Registrar alleging that the conduct of a registrant, or the conduct of a former registrant that occurred while the person was a registrant, constitutes professional misconduct or incompetence in accordance with section 46.

(2) A person shall make a complaint by stating the complaint and the grounds for the complaint in writing and signing the complaint.

(3) A former registrant continues to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Registrar and an investigator, investigation committee or hearing committee appointed or constituted in relation to a complaint about any conduct of the former registrant that occurred while the former registrant was a registrant that may be found to constitute professional misconduct or incompetence.

(4) In the absence of a complaint made to the Registrar under subsection (1), the Registrar may initiate a complaint in writing if the Registrar has reasonable grounds to believe that the conduct of a registrant, or the conduct of a former registrant that occurred while the person was a registrant, constitutes professional misconduct or incompetence in accordance with section 46.
29. (1) Where the Registrar has a conflict of interest regarding a complaint made under subsection 28(1) or initiates a complaint under subsection 28(4), the Minister shall appoint a Deputy Registrar, if one has not already been appointed, and the Registrar shall refer the complaint to the Deputy Registrar.

(2) Where the Registrar refers a complaint to the Deputy Registrar under subsection (1),
(a) the Registrar shall refrain from participating in any investigation, proceeding or decision in respect of the complaint;
(b) the Deputy Registrar may exercise the powers and shall perform the duties of the Registrar under this Act and the regulations in respect of the complaint; and
(c) a reference in this Act or the regulations to the Registrar in respect of the complaint shall be read as a reference to the Deputy Registrar.

30. (1) Within 30 days after the receipt of a complaint under subsection 28(1) or the initiation of a complaint under subsection 28(4), the Registrar shall serve on the respondent
(a) a copy of the complaint; and
(b) written notice of the respondent’s right to submit a response to the complaint under subsection (2).

(2) A respondent may submit a written response to a complaint to the Registrar within 30 days after being served with a copy of the complaint and the notice under subsection (1).

(3) The Registrar shall promptly serve a copy of any response submitted under subsection (2) on the complainant.

31. (1) The Registrar, with respect to a complaint made or initiated under section 28,
(a) shall inquire into the complaint to the extent that the Registrar determines is warranted; and
(b) may attempt to resolve the complaint informally, if the Registrar considers informal resolution to be appropriate and not contrary to the public interest.

(2) The Registrar shall dismiss a complaint made or initiated under section 28 if the Registrar finds
(a) that the complaint is frivolous, vexatious or without merit; or
(b) that
(i) the complaint has been resolved or the complainant wishes no further action to be taken, and
(ii) dismissal is not contrary to the public interest.
(3) On dismissing a complaint, the Registrar shall serve on the complainant and the respondent:
(a) written notice of and reasons for the dismissal; and
(b) written notice of the complainant’s right to request a review of the dismissal under subsection 32(1).

(4) Where the Registrar does not dismiss a complaint under subsection (3), the Registrar shall:
(a) request that the Minister appoint an investigation committee pursuant to section 33; and
(b) refer the complaint to the investigation committee.

32. (1) A complainant may, within 30 days after being served with the notice of the dismissal of his or her complaint under subsection 31(3), submit a request for a review of the dismissal to the Minister.

(2) The Minister shall appoint an investigation committee pursuant to section 33 and refer a request for a review of the dismissal of a complaint made under subsection (1) to the investigation committee.

(3) Unless the investigation committee otherwise determines, a review of the dismissal of a complaint by the investigation committee shall be based on the record prepared by the Registrar and the Registrar’s reasons for dismissal.

(4) Within 60 days after receipt of a request for review under subsection (2), the investigation committee shall review the dismissal and:
(a) confirm the dismissal; or
(b) where the investigation committee finds that the dismissal of the complaint was in error, overturn the dismissal.

(5) On confirming or overturning a dismissal under subsection (4), the investigation committee shall serve, on the complainant and the respondent, written notice of and reasons for its decision.

(6) Where an investigation committee overturns the dismissal of a complaint, the investigation committee shall investigate the complaint or refer the complaint to an investigator for investigation in accordance with section 38.

Investigation Committee and Investigators

33. (1) For the purpose of subsection 31(4) or 32(2) or clause 42(2)(b), the Minister shall appoint an investigation committee composed of three persons, including
(a) at least one person who is authorized by the laws of a province to practise the registered health profession of the respondent, if possible, or another health profession; and
(b) at least one public representative.

(2) The Minister shall appoint one member of the investigation committee, who is authorized by the laws of a province to practise the registered health profession of the respondent or another health profession, as the chair of the investigation committee.

(3) Two members of an investigation committee, one of whom shall be a public representative, constitute a quorum.

(4) A member of an investigation committee who has a conflict of interest in respect of a matter that is before the investigation committee shall
(a) immediately disclose the nature of the conflict of interest to the investigation committee; and
(b) refrain from attempting to influence the disposition of the matter or participating in consideration of the matter.

(5) The Minister may appoint one or more persons as investigators.

Consideration of Complaint

34. Within 30 days after the referral of a complaint to an investigation committee under subsection 31(4) or clause 42(2)(b), the investigation committee shall consider the complaint and any response to the complaint that was submitted by the respondent under subsection 30(2), and
(a) dismiss the complaint, if in the opinion of the investigation committee, the complaint is frivolous and vexatious or without merit;
(b) refer the complaint to a mediator for mediation, if
(i) the investigation committee is satisfied that the referral is appropriate in the circumstances and not contrary to the public interest, and
(ii) the complainant and the respondent agree to participate in mediation;
(c) make any order that a hearing committee is authorized to make under subsection 47(2), if the respondent consents to the order; or
(d) investigate the complaint or refer the complaint to an investigator for investigation in accordance with section 38.
Mediation

35. (1) An investigation committee may establish procedures to be followed with respect to mediation, including procedures pertaining to the selection of a mediator.

(2) Where an investigation committee refers a complaint to a mediator for mediation under clause 34(b) and the complainant and the respondent agree to a proposed resolution of the complaint, the mediator shall
   (a) ensure that the proposed resolution is recorded in a written agreement that
      (i) includes all of the terms or conditions agreed to by the complainant and the respondent, and
      (ii) is signed by the complainant, the respondent and the mediator; and
   (b) submit the agreement referred to in clause (a) to the investigation committee.

(3) On receipt of an agreement submitted to the investigation committee under clause (2)(b), the investigation committee shall
   (a) approve or reject the proposed resolution; and
   (b) serve on the complainant and the respondent
      (i) written notice of the approval, or
      (ii) written notice of the rejection and reasons for the rejection.

(4) Where an investigation committee approves the proposed resolution of a complaint under clause (3)(a), the investigation committee shall
   (a) make any order or take any action required for the implementation of the resolution; and
   (b) notify the Registrar of the resolution of the complaint and the terms of the resolution.

(5) Where an investigation committee refers a complaint to mediation under clause 34(b) and
   (a) the investigation committee concludes that mediation is not likely to be successful;
   (b) the complaint is not resolved within 60 days of the referral; or
   (c) the investigation committee rejects the proposed resolution of the complaint under clause (3)(a),
the investigation committee shall investigate the complaint or refer the complaint to an investigator for investigation in accordance with section 38.

36. (1) In this section, “legal proceeding” means
   (a) a proceeding in any court, including a civil proceeding or a proceeding for the imposition of punishment by fine, penalty or
imprisonment to enforce an Act or a regulation made under an Act; and
(b) an investigation or a hearing under this Act.

(2) No evidence of or relating to a statement made by a mediator or a participant to mediation in the course of and for the purposes of the mediation is admissible in a legal proceeding without the consent of the mediator and the participant.

(3) A mediator of a complaint is not a competent or compellable witness in a legal proceeding in respect of information obtained by the mediator in the course of or in relation to the mediation.

37. Where an investigation committee refers a complaint to an investigator under subsection 32(6) or 35(5) or clause 34(d), the investigation committee shall
(a) serve written notice of the referral on the complainant and the respondent; and
(b) provide the investigator with a copy of the complaint and any response to the complaint submitted by the respondent under subsection 30(2).

Investigation

38. (1) An investigation committee or an investigator
(a) may do all things necessary to provide a full and proper investigation of a complaint;
(b) may deal with multiple complaints concerning a respondent severally or in combination;
(c) shall consider the allegations and the evidence and ascertain the facts of each complaint in the manner that the investigation committee or investigator considers fit;
(d) may make oral or written inquiries of any person who may have information relevant to the investigation;
(e) may require the respondent or another registrant to be interviewed for the purpose of the investigation;
(f) may require the respondent to produce for examination any documents, records and other materials that are in the respondent’s possession or under the respondent’s control that may be relevant to the investigation;
(g) may copy and keep copies of any documents, records and other materials produced under clause (f); and
(h) may investigate any matter in addition to the complaint that arises in the course of the investigation concerning conduct of the respondent that may be found to constitute professional misconduct or incompetence.
(2) Where an investigation committee or an investigator investigates a complaint that the conduct of the respondent constitutes incompetence, the investigation committee or the investigator may do one or more of the following:

(a) require the respondent to take an examination of knowledge or skills related to the practice of the respondent’s registered health profession to determine whether or not the respondent is competent to practise the registered health profession;
(b) engage a person with expertise or specialized knowledge to audit the respondent’s practice and provide an opinion as to whether or not the respondent is competent to practise the registered health profession;
(c) where the investigation committee or the investigator has reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent’s capacity to practise a registered health profession in accordance with accepted professional standards is impaired by a disability or a condition, including an addiction or an illness, require the respondent to submit to physical or psychological examinations by the qualified persons that the investigation committee or the investigator designates.

(3) Where an investigator investigates a complaint and a registrant

(a) respond to an inquiry or comply with a requirement under subsection (1); or
(b) comply with a requirement under subsection (2),
the investigator shall report the failure or refusal to the investigation committee in writing.

(4) Where a registrant fails or refuses, without reasonable cause, to

(a) respond to an inquiry or comply with a requirement under subsection (1); or
(b) comply with a requirement under subsection (2),
the investigation committee may suspend or impose terms or conditions on the registration of the registrant until he or she complies.
(3) An investigation committee shall serve a copy of the investigation report prepared under subsection (1) on the complainant and the respondent.

41. (1) An investigation committee shall, after consideration of an investigation report prepared under subsection 40(1),

(a) dismiss the complaint, if in the opinion of the investigation committee

1. the allegations are frivolous, vexatious or without merit, or
2. there is insufficient evidence to support the allegations;

(b) make any order that a hearing committee is authorized to make under subsection 47(2), if the respondent consents to the order; or

(c) refer the complaint to a hearing committee for a hearing.

(2) Where an investigation committee dismisses a complaint under clause 34(a) or (1)(a), the investigation committee shall serve on

(a) the complainant and the respondent,

1. written notice of and reasons for the dismissal, and

2. written notice of the complainant’s right to appeal the dismissal under subsection 49(1); and

(b) the Registrar, written notice of and reasons for the dismissal.

(3) Where an investigation committee makes an order under clause 34(c) or clause (1)(b), the investigation committee shall serve a copy of the order on the complainant, the respondent and the Registrar.

(4) Where an investigation committee decides to refer a complaint to a hearing committee under clause (1)(c), the investigation committee shall

(a) request the Minister to appoint a hearing committee in accordance with section 43;

(b) provide the hearing committee with a copy of the complaint and any response to the complaint submitted under subsection 30(2);

(c) serve written notice of the referral on the complainant the respondent and the Registrar.

(5) An investigation committee may appoint legal counsel to adduce evidence at the hearing of a complaint.

Interim Order

42. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, where the Registrar has reasonable grounds to believe that the conduct of a registrant poses a demonstrable risk of serious and imminent harm to the registrant’s clients or patients or to the general public and that intervention is required, the Registrar may make an order imposing terms or conditions on, or suspending, the registrant’s registration.
(2) Where the Registrar makes an order under subsection (1), the Registrar shall
   (a) serve on the registrant who is the subject of the order
      (i) a copy of the order,
      (ii) written reasons for the order, and
      (iii) written notice of the right to appeal under subsection 49(2); and
   (b) where a complaint has not been made or initiated in respect of the matter,
      (i) request the Minister to appoint an investigation committee pursuant to section 33, and
      (ii) refer the matter as a complaint to the investigation committee.

(3) An order of the Registrar made under subsection (1)
   (a) is in effect when it is served on the registrant who is the subject of the order; and
   (b) is valid for the period, not exceeding 90 days, that is specified in the order.

Hearing Committee

43. (1) For the purpose of subsection 41(4) or 75(2) or (3), the Minister shall appoint a hearing committee, composed of three persons who are not members of an investigation committee appointed in relation to the complaint and did not investigate the complaint, including
   (a) at least one person who is authorized by the laws of a province to practise the registered health profession of the respondent, if possible, or another health profession; and
   (b) at least one public representative.

Chair

(2) The Minister shall appoint one member of the hearing committee, who is authorized by the laws of a province to practise the registered health profession of the respondent or another health profession, as the chair of the hearing committee.

Quorum

(3) Two members of the hearing committee, one of whom shall be a public representative, constitute a quorum.

Conflict of interest of member of hearing committee

(4) A member of a hearing committee who has a conflict of interest in respect of a matter that is before the hearing committee shall
   (a) immediately disclose the nature of the conflict of interest to the hearing committee; and
   (b) refrain from attempting to influence the disposition of the matter or participating in consideration of the matter.

Powers, privileges and immunities

(5) In the discharge of the functions of a hearing committee, the hearing committee and each member of the hearing committee have all

Hearing

44. (1) A hearing committee shall,
   (a) unless otherwise directed by the Minister, hold a hearing into a complaint referred to it within 45 days of the referral; and
   (b) conduct its proceedings in accordance with the rules of natural justice.

(2) A hearing committee shall, not less than 30 days before the date set for the hearing, serve written notice of the date, time, place and subject matter of the hearing on
   (a) the complainant;
   (b) the respondent; and
   (c) any legal counsel appointed under subsection 41(5) or, where none have been appointed, the investigation committee.

(3) A hearing committee may retain any legal or other assistance that it considers necessary for the purposes of conducting a hearing.

(4) The respondent has the right to appear, to be represented by legal counsel, and to examine, cross-examine and re-examine witnesses at a hearing.

(5) Where the respondent fails to appear at a hearing after being served with notice in accordance with subsection (2), the hearing committee may proceed with the hearing in the absence of the respondent and make any decision, determination or order as if the respondent were in attendance.

45. (1) A hearing committee
   (a) may do all things necessary to provide a full and proper hearing in respect of a complaint;
   (b) may deal with multiple complaints concerning a respondent severally or in combination; and
   (c) may hear any matter in addition to the complaint before the hearing committee that arises in the course of its proceedings and that may demonstrate, in respect of the respondent, professional misconduct or incompetence.

(2) Where a hearing committee hears an additional matter referred to in clause (1)(c), the hearing committee shall give the respondent a reasonable opportunity to respond to the matter.

(3) A hearing shall be open to the public unless the hearing committee is of the opinion that
(a) the interests of a person other than the respondent may be detrimentally affected if the hearing, or part of the hearing, is not held in private; and
(b) the desirability of avoiding public disclosure of financial, personal or other matters in the interest of a person affected or in the public interest outweighs the desirability of adhering to the principle that inquiries be open to the public.

(4) A hearing committee may, on the request of a witness whose testimony is of a confidential or personal and sensitive nature, order that no person publish the identity of the witness or any information that could disclose the identity of the witness.

(5) Where a registrant fails to comply with a subpoena issued by a hearing committee or a member of a hearing committee, or refuses to answer any question under oath directed to be answered by a hearing committee or a member of the hearing committee, the failure or refusal may be held by the hearing committee to be professional misconduct.


46. (1) The conduct of a respondent may be found to constitute professional misconduct if
(a) the respondent contravenes this Act or the regulations in a manner that, in the opinion of an investigation committee or hearing committee, relates to the respondent’s suitability to practise a registered health profession;
(b) the respondent has been found guilty of an offence that, in the opinion of an investigation committee or hearing committee, relates to the respondent’s suitability to practise a registered health profession;
(c) the respondent refuses or fails to cooperate fully in respect of an investigation or hearing of a complaint;
(d) the respondent contravenes an order made under this Act; or
(e) the conduct of the respondent constitutes professional misconduct as set out in the regulations.

(2) The conduct of a respondent may be found to constitute incompetence where
(a) an act or omission of the respondent
   (i) demonstrates a lack of knowledge, skill or judgment,
   (ii) demonstrates disregard for the safety or welfare of a client, or
   (iii) constitutes incompetence as set out in the regulations; or
(b) the respondent is unable to practise a registered health profession in accordance with accepted professional standards for
any reason, including that the respondent is impaired by illness, addiction or other incapacity.

**Determination and Order**

47. (1) On concluding a hearing, a hearing committee shall determine whether or not the conduct of the respondent constitutes professional misconduct or incompetence.

(2) Where a hearing committee determines that conduct of the respondent constitutes professional misconduct or incompetence, the hearing committee may make one or more of the following orders:
   (a) an order directing the respondent to undergo additional education or training;
   (b) an order directing the respondent to participate in counselling or a rehabilitative treatment program;
   (c) an order reprimanding the respondent;
   (d) an order imposing terms or conditions on the registration of the respondent;
   (e) an order suspending the registration of the respondent for a specified period of time or until the occurrence of a specified future event;
   (f) an order cancelling the registration of the respondent;
   (g) an order requiring the respondent to pay all or part of the costs incurred by the hearing committee to conduct the hearing;
   (h) an order imposing a fine on the respondent in an amount that the hearing committee considers appropriate, up to a maximum of $50,000;
   (i) an order imposing any other sanction that the hearing committee considers to be appropriate.

(3) Within 30 days after the completion of a hearing, a hearing committee shall serve
   (a) written notice of, and reasons for, the determination made under subsection (1), and a copy of any order made under subsection (2), on
      (i) the respondent,
      (ii) the complainant, and
      (iii) the Registrar; and
   (b) written notice of the right to appeal the determination made under subsection (1), and any order made under subsection (2), on the respondent.

(4) An order of a hearing committee is in effect when it is served on the respondent and remains in effect pending an appeal unless the Supreme Court, on application, stays the order pending the outcome of the appeal.
(5) Where the Registrar is satisfied that a respondent has failed to comply with an order of an investigation committee or a hearing committee, the Registrar may, without a further hearing, make an order suspending the respondent’s registration subject to any terms or conditions that the Registrar considers appropriate.

Publication

48. (1) Subject to any publication ban ordered by a hearing committee under subsection 45(4), the Registrar shall publish an order of an investigation committee or a determination and order of a hearing committee by any means the Registrar considers appropriate.

(2) Where an investigation committee or a hearing committee suspends or cancels a respondent’s registration, or imposes terms or conditions on a respondent’s registration, the Registrar shall publish a notice of the suspension, cancellation or terms or conditions in the manner that the Registrar considers appropriate to inform the public.

Appeal

49. (1) A complainant may appeal the dismissal of a complaint by the investigation committee under clause 34(a) or 41(1)(a) to the Supreme Court within 30 days after being served with notice of the dismissal.

(2) A respondent may appeal any of the following to the Supreme Court within 30 days after being served with notice of it:

(a) an order of the Registrar made under subsection 42(1);
(b) a determination of a hearing committee made under subsection 47(1); or
(c) an order of a hearing committee made under subsection 47(2).

(3) Notice of an appeal under subsection (1) or (2) shall be served on every person who was served with notice of the dismissal, determination or order that is under appeal and on the Registrar.

(4) On hearing an appeal, the court may

(a) confirm, revoke or vary the dismissal, determination or order appealed from;
(b) refer the matter, or any issue, back to the investigation committee or the hearing committee for further consideration; or
(c) provide any direction that it considers appropriate.

(5) The court may make any order that it considers appropriate as to the costs of an appeal.
PART V – HEALTH PROFESSION CORPORATIONS

Prohibition

50. No corporation, other than a health profession corporation, may carry on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant.

Application for a Permit

51. (1) A corporation may apply to the Registrar, in the form approved by the Registrar accompanied by the prescribed application fee, for a permit to carry on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant.

(2) An applicant is eligible for a permit if

(a) the corporation is in good standing in accordance with the legislation under which it was incorporated;
(b) the letters patent or articles of incorporation of the corporation permit the corporation to carry on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant;
(c) the name of the corporation meets the requirements set out in the regulations;
(d) each issued voting share of the corporation is legally and beneficially owned by
   (i) a registrant,
   (ii) a trust in which all of the trustees and all of the beneficiaries are registrants,
   (iii) a health profession corporation, or
   (iv) a corporation
      (A) of which each issued voting share is legally and beneficially owned by one or more of the persons described in subclause (i) or (ii), and
      (B) that meets the requirements of clauses (f) and (g);
(e) each issued non-voting share of the corporation is legally and beneficially owned by
   (i) a registrant,
   (ii) a health profession corporation that is a voting shareholder in the corporation,
   (iii) a spouse, child, grandchild, sibling or parent of a registrant who
      (A) is a voting shareholder in the corporation, or
      (B) is a voting shareholder in a health profession corporation that is a voting shareholder in the corporation,
   (iv) a trust in which all of the trustees and all of the beneficiaries are persons described in subclause (i), (ii) or (iii), or
(v) a corporation of which
   (A) each issued share is legally and beneficially owned by one
       or more of the persons described in subclause (i), (ii), (iii) or
       (iv), and
   (B) each of the officers and directors are persons described in
       subclause (i), (ii) or (iii);
(f) all of the officers and directors of the corporation are registrants;
(g) any person who practises a registered health profession through
    the corporation is a registrant whose registration has not been
    suspended;
(h) the corporation holds or is covered by professional liability
    insurance or protection as required by the regulations;
(i) the corporation meets any other requirements for a permit set out
    in the regulations; and
(j) the corporation has paid the prescribed permit fee.

(3) Subject to section 57, on receipt of an application made in
    accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall review the application
    and, where the Registrar is satisfied that the applicant meets the
    requirements set out in subsection (2), issue a permit to the applicant.

(4) A health profession corporation shall notify the Registrar without
    delay if the health profession corporation
    (a) is found guilty of an offence;
    (b) is disciplined by a professional regulatory body;
    (c) ceases to hold or be covered by professional liability insurance
        or protection as required by the regulations; or
    (d) ceases to meet an eligibility requirement in subsection (2).

Terms or Conditions

52. (1) The Registrar may impose terms or conditions on a permit.

(2) The imposition of terms or conditions on a permit under
    subsection (1) is not effective until notice of the imposition is served on
    the permit holder.

Records

53. (1) The Registrar shall keep a record of the following information in
    respect of each health profession corporation:
    (a) the name and business address of the health profession
        corporation and every director and shareholder of the health
        profession corporation;
    (b) any terms or conditions imposed by the Registrar on the health
        profession corporation’s permit;
(c) the date and circumstances of any suspension or cancellation of the health profession corporation’s permit;
(d) any other prescribed information.

(2) A health profession corporation shall notify the Registrar without delay of any change in the information referred to in clause (1)(a).

(3) Upon request, the Registrar shall disclose to any person
   (a) the name, business address, permit status and permit history of a health profession corporation or former health profession corporation;
   (b) the name and business address of every director of a health profession corporation or former health profession corporation; and
   (c) any other information required by the regulations to be disclosed.

Permit

54. (1) The Registrar shall include the following information on a permit:
   (a) the name of the permit holder;
   (b) the expiry date of the permit;
   (c) any terms or conditions on the permit;
   (d) any other information required by the regulations to be included on a permit.

(2) If any of the information referred to in subsection (1) changes, the Registrar shall issue a replacement permit containing the updated information.

(3) Where a permit is suspended or cancelled under this Act or the regulations,
   (a) the permit becomes invalid; and
   (b) the permit holder shall, without delay after being served with notice of the suspension or cancellation, return the permit to the Registrar.

(4) Where the suspension of a health profession corporation’s permit ends or is lifted and the permit has not been cancelled, the Registrar shall issue a replacement permit to the health profession corporation.

(5) A health profession corporation shall, subject to subsection (3),
   (a) on request by any person, produce its permit for inspection; and
   (b) if required to do so by the regulations, display the permit in a conspicuous place where the health profession corporation carries on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant.
Renewal of Permit

55. (1) A health profession corporation may, at least 30 days before its permit expires, apply to the Registrar, in the form required by the Registrar accompanied by the prescribed application fee, to renew the permit.

(2) A health profession corporation is eligible to renew its permit if the health profession corporation continues to meet the requirements of clauses 51(2)(a) to (i) and has paid the prescribed permit fee.

(3) Subject to section 57, on receipt of an application made in accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall review the application and, where the Registrar is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements set out in subsection (2), issue a permit to the applicant.

(4) On the written request of a health profession corporation, the Registrar may, in writing, extend a permit past its expiry date for a period not exceeding 30 days to allow the health profession corporation to make an application for renewal of the permit under subsection (1).

Request for Cancellation of Permit

56. (1) A health profession corporation may
(a) request, in writing, that the Registrar cancel the permit of the health profession corporation; and
(b) surrender the permit to the Registrar.

(2) On receipt of a request in writing by a health profession corporation and the surrender of its permit in accordance with subsection (1), the Registrar shall cancel the permit of the health profession corporation.

Refusal, Suspension or Cancellation of Permit

57. (1) The Registrar may refuse to consider an application for a permit or to renew a permit where the applicant has an outstanding charge for an offence or is under investigation by a professional regulatory body, until the matter has been resolved.

(2) The Registrar may refuse to issue or renew a permit where the Registrar determines that the applicant does not meet the eligibility requirements for a permit under this Act or the regulations.

(3) Subject to subsection (4), the Registrar may suspend or cancel the permit of a health profession corporation that ceases to meet any eligibility requirement applicable to it under this Act or the regulations.
(4) The Registrar shall not suspend or cancel the permit of a health profession corporation under subsection (3) for a period of 90 days from the date the corporation ceases to meet an eligibility requirement because a shareholder of the health profession corporation has died or has otherwise ceased to be registered.

(5) In the event of the death of a registrant who is a shareholder of a health profession corporation, the Registrar may, in writing, extend the 90-day period provided for in subsection (4) for the further period that the Registrar considers reasonable.

58. (1) On refusing to consider an application or issue or renew a permit, or on suspending or cancelling a permit, pursuant to section 57, the Registrar shall serve on the affected person
   (a) written notice of and reasons for the refusal, suspension or cancellation; and
   (b) written notice of the person’s right to appeal under section 59.

(2) A suspension or cancellation of a permit pursuant to section 57 is not effective until notice of the suspension or cancellation is served on the person affected by it.

Appeal

59. (1) A health profession corporation that is aggrieved by the imposition of terms or conditions on its permit under section 52 by the Registrar may appeal the imposition of the terms or conditions to the Supreme Court within 30 days after being served with notice of the imposition.

(2) A person who is aggrieved by a refusal of the Registrar to consider an application for a permit or issue or renew a permit, or by a suspension or cancellation of a permit by the Registrar, pursuant to section 57 may appeal the refusal, suspension or cancellation to the Supreme Court within 30 days after being served with notice of the refusal, suspension or cancellation.

(3) On hearing an appeal, the court may
   (a) confirm, revoke or vary the terms or conditions imposed by the Registrar or the refusal, suspension or cancellation appealed from;
   (b) refer the matter, or any issue, back to the Registrar for further consideration; or
   (c) provide any direction that it considers appropriate.

(4) The court may make any order as to the costs of an appeal that it considers appropriate.
Practice Relationships and Liability

60. (1) A health profession corporation may carry on business
   (a) under its own name; or
   (b) as part of a general partnership of health profession corporations
       or one or more health profession corporations and one or more
       registrants, under a name that meets the requirements set out in the
       regulations.

   (2) A health profession corporation is subject to all applicable laws
       relating to the confidential and ethical relationship between a registrant
       who is practising a registered health profession through the corporation
       and a client or patient of the registrant.

   (3) All rights and obligations pertaining to communications made to,
       or information received by, registrants apply to the shareholders,
       directors, officers and employees of a health profession corporation.

   (4) A health profession corporation is jointly and severally liable with
       a registrant who practises a registered health profession through the
       health profession corporation for any fines, costs and expenses that the
       registrant is ordered to pay under this Act.

61. (1) No shareholder of a health profession corporation shall enter
   into a voting trust agreement, proxy agreement or any other type of
   agreement vesting in another person who is not a registrant the authority
   to exercise the voting rights attached to any or all of the shareholder’s
   shares.

   (2) A health profession corporation shall notify the Registrar within
       30 days of any change in the status of shareholders or directors of the
       health profession corporation.

PART VI – GENERAL

Evidence

62. (1) A certificate respecting a matter dealt with by this Act that
   purports to be issued by the Registrar is admissible in evidence as proof
   of its contents without proof of the office or signature of the Registrar.

   (2) A copy of a certificate respecting a matter dealt with by this Act
       that purports to be certified by a Registrar is admissible in evidence as
       proof of the original document without proof of the office or signature of
       the Registrar.
Limitation of Liability

63. No action or proceeding lies or shall be instituted, for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith in the performance or intended performance of any duty or in the exercise or intended exercise of any power under this Act or the regulations, against the following:

(a) the Minister;
(b) the Registrar or Deputy Registrar;
(c) an investigator;
(d) an investigation committee;
(e) a hearing committee;
(f) a member of an investigation committee or a hearing committee;
(g) persons acting on behalf of the Registrar or the Minister under this Act.

Service of Documents

64. (1) Any notice, order or other document required to be served on a person under this Act or the regulations is deemed to be sufficiently served

(a) upon a copy being personally served on the person to whom it is directed;
(b) upon a copy being sent by facsimile or other electronic means to the person to whom it is directed and an acknowledgement of receipt being received;
(c) five days after a copy is sent by registered mail addressed to the person to whom it is directed at the last known address for that person; or
(d) in the case of a registrant or a health profession corporation, five days after a copy is sent by registered mail addressed to the registrant or corporation at the business address shown in the records of the Registrar.

(2) Where the person to be served is a corporation, service on a director, officer or recognized agent of the corporation in accordance with subsection (1) is deemed to be service on the corporation for the purposes of this Act.

(3) Where it is impractical for any reason to serve an order in a manner referred to in subsection (1), an ex parte application may be made to a judge of the Supreme Court who may make an order for substituted service providing for the steps to be taken to bring the matter to the attention of the person to be served.
Prohibitions

65. No registrant shall practise a registered health profession
(a) in contravention of any terms or conditions imposed on the registration of the registrant; or
(b) while the registration of the registrant is suspended.

66. No health profession corporation shall carry on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant
(a) in contravention of any terms or conditions imposed on the permit of the health profession corporation; or
(b) while the permit of the health profession corporation is suspended.

67. (1) A person who employs or engages an individual to provide the professional services of a registrant shall ensure that individual is registered and the registration has not been suspended during the period of employment or engagement.
(2) A person who employs or engages a registrant to provide the professional services of a registrant shall
(a) promptly report to the Registrar, in writing, the suspension or termination of the employment or engagement of the registrant for misconduct, incompetence or incapacity; and
(b) give the registrant a copy of the report.
(3) No person who employs or engages a registrant to provide the professional services of a registrant shall knowingly permit the registrant to
(a) contravene a provision of this Act or the regulations; or
(b) fail to comply with a term or condition of the registrant's registration.

68. No person shall knowingly furnish false information in any application under this Act, or in any statement or report required to be furnished under this Act or the regulations.

69. No registrant or health profession corporation shall engage in advertising that is untruthful, inaccurate or otherwise capable of misleading or misinforming the public.

Offences and Penalties

70. (1) Every person who contravenes
(a) this Act or the regulations; or
(b) an order made by an investigation committee, a hearing committee or the Registrar under this Act or the regulations,
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is guilty of an offence and is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding $50,000.

(2) Every officer, director or agent of a corporation who directs, authorizes, assents to, acquiesces in, or participates in, the commission of an offence by that corporation is also guilty of the offence and is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding $50,000, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both.

(3) Subsection (2) applies whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted for or convicted of the offence.

71. No prosecution for an offence under this Act or the regulations shall be commenced after two years from the date when the offence is alleged to have been committed.

Injunctions

72. Where a person does, or threatens or attempts to do, anything that contravenes this Act or the regulations, the Supreme Court may, on the application of the Registrar, grant an injunction restraining the person from committing or continuing the contravention.

Regulations

73. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations
(a) prescribing criteria to be considered in determining whether it would be within the purpose of the Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession;
(b) respecting charging an applicant the costs incurred in conducting an investigation as to whether it would be within the purpose of the Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession;
(c) designating a health profession as a registered health profession;
(d) respecting the types of designations, titles, names, descriptions, abbreviations or derivatives that registrants of a registered health profession are authorized to use;
(e) establishing different categories or classes of registrants of a registered health profession;
(f) respecting the scope of practice of a registrant of a registered health profession and prescribing a registered health profession in respect of which the prohibition in subsection 10(1) does not apply as provided in subsection 10(4);
(g) establishing or adopting standards of practice and a code of ethics for a registered health profession;
(h) respecting the procedures and requirements for applications for registration in a register or the renewal or reinstatement of a
registration, including the information, evidence and supporting material required with applications;
(i) requiring an applicant for registration to notify the Registrar without delay of any change in the information provided with an application;
(j) respecting determining whether an applicant for registration has reasonable proficiency in written and spoken English;
(k) prescribing the educational requirements for a registered health profession;
(l) respecting the approval of educational institutions and designating accreditation bodies for the purposes of clause 11(2)(c);
(m) respecting the assessment of the educational qualifications of applicants for registration, including providing for a transitional period for the assessment of educational qualifications obtained within one year after the coming into force of this Act and setting out the circumstances in which any requirements are deemed to have been met;
(n) prescribing any examinations an applicant is required to have successfully completed to be eligible for registration;
(o) prescribing any practicum training, internship or supervised practice requirements for registration;
(p) respecting any requirements for currency of professional knowledge and skills for applicants for registration or the renewal or reinstatement of a registration;
(q) respecting the type and amount of professional liability insurance or protection that registrants are required to hold or be covered by;
(r) prescribing additional requirements for registration or for the renewal or reinstatement of a registration;
(s) deeming a person who holds extra-provincial certification to have met an additional requirement for registration set out in the regulations;
(t) respecting the terms or conditions that may be imposed on the registration of a registrant;
(u) prescribing other information required to be entered in a register;
(v) prescribing information entered in a register that is required to be disclosed to any person or to another professional regulatory body;
(w) prescribing other information required to be included on a certificate of registration;
(x) requiring a registrant to display his or her certificate of registration;
(y) prescribing requirements for continuing education and competency for registrants and establishing a program of continuing education for registrants;
(z) establishing methods or programs to assess the competency of registrants, such as peer review, self-assessment or practice audits, and requiring registrants to participate;
(aa) prescribing the maximum period of time that may elapse since the expiry or cancellation of a registration for the purposes of an application for reinstatement under subsection 19(1);
(bb) specifying the reserved activity or activities that registrants of a registered health profession are authorized to perform;
(cc) requiring a registrant of a registered health profession to have special authorization, in the form of an endorsement on a registration or a certificate or other instrument, to perform a reserved activity or a prescribed activity;
(dd) prescribing an activity for which a registrant of a registered health profession requires special authorization to perform;
(ee) respecting the procedures and requirements for applications for special authorization to perform a prescribed activity or for the renewal or reinstatement of a special authorization, and the information, evidence and supporting material that shall be provided with those applications;
(ff) prescribing the requirements a registrant shall meet for special authorization to perform a reserved activity or a prescribed activity;
(gg) imposing terms or conditions with respect to special authorization to perform a reserved activity or a prescribed activity;
(hh) respecting the refusal to grant special authorization to perform a reserved activity or a prescribed activity or the suspension or cancellation of a special authorization;
(ii) providing for an appeal related to matters referred to in clauses (gg) and (hh);
(jj) requiring a registrant to pay fees for special authorization to perform a reserved activity or a prescribed activity and prescribing the fees;
(kk) governing the performance of a reserved activity, an activity for which special authorization is required or any other activity within the scope of practice of a registrant of a registered health profession, including the purposes for which, or the circumstances in which, the activity may be performed;
(ll) restricting the persons or classes of persons with whom a registrant or class of registrants may practise in association;
(mm) prescribing other circumstances that constitute practising in association;
(nn) respecting types of conduct that may be found to constitute professional misconduct;
(oo) respecting methods for determining incompetence and the types of conduct that may be found to constitute incompetence;
(pp) respecting the procedure to be followed at a hearing by a hearing committee;
(qq) respecting the criteria to be considered by a hearing committee in imposing a fine under clause 47(2)(h);
(rr) respecting the procedures and requirements for applications for a permit or to renew a permit including the information, evidence and supporting material required with applications;
(ss) requiring an applicant for a permit to notify the Registrar without delay of any change in the information provided with an application;
(tt) respecting the name of a health profession corporation;
(uu) respecting the type and amount of professional liability insurance or protection that health profession corporations are required to hold or be covered by;
(vv) prescribing additional requirements for a permit or to renew a permit;
(ww) respecting the terms or conditions that may be imposed on a permit;
(xx) prescribing other information in respect of a health profession corporation of which the Registrar shall keep a record;
(yy) prescribing information in respect of a health profession corporation that is required to be disclosed to any person;
.zz) prescribing other information required to be included on a permit;
(aaa) requiring a health profession corporation to display its permit;
(bbb) prescribing requirements in respect of the name under which the following may carry on business:
   (i) a partnership of health profession corporations,
   (ii) a partnership of one or more health profession corporations and one or more registrants;
(ccc) requiring registrants and health profession corporations to keep specified records or accounts with respect to their practice or operations, as the case may be;
(ddd) providing that the contravention of specified provisions of the regulations constitutes an offence;
(eee) prescribing fees required to be paid under this Act or the regulations;
(fff) defining any word or phrase used but not defined in this Act;
(ggg) respecting any other matter necessary or advisable to carry out the intent and purpose of this Act.

(2) A regulation referred to in clause (1)(g) may incorporate by reference, in whole or in part, any code, standard or guideline relating to standards of practice and ethics of the registered health profession, and
may incorporate it as amended from time to time and with any necessary changes.

(3) A document incorporated by reference under subsection (2) shall be a document created by a recognized authority in the area of practice of the registered health profession and shall not be a document created by the Registrar.

(4) The Registrar shall make a copy of every code, standard or guideline adopted under subsection (2) available for public inspection

(a) during normal business hours in the Registrar’s office; and

(b) on any website established for the registered health profession.

PART VII – TRANSITIONAL AND COMMENCEMENT

74. (1) Where, immediately before a health profession was designated as a registered health profession, a person was authorized under another enactment to practice the health profession or use a title related to the health profession,

(a) the person is deemed to be registered in the register for that registered health profession; and

(b) any document held by the person evidencing the authorization is deemed to be a certificate of registration as a registrant of that registered health profession.

(2) Where a person is deemed to be registered in a register under subsection (1), the registration of the person

(a) is subject to any terms or conditions that were on the authorization of the person immediately before the health profession was designated as a registered health profession; and

(b) expires on the date that the authorization was to expire.

75. (1) Where, immediately before a health profession was designated as a registered health profession, a practice or disciplinary matter was pending under another enactment governing persons authorized to practise the health profession or use a title related to the health profession and was set for a hearing to commence within 60 days, the matter shall be concluded under the other enactment as though this Act had not come into force.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the body governing the health profession under another enactment and the registrant whose conduct is the subject matter of the hearing may agree that the matter shall be referred as a complaint to a hearing committee appointed under subsection 43(1) of this Act, and in that case the matter shall be concluded under this Act.
(3) Where, immediately before a health profession was designated as a registered health profession, a practice or disciplinary matter was pending under another enactment governing persons authorized to practise the health profession or use a title related to the health profession and was not set for a hearing to commence within 60 days, the matter shall be referred as a complaint to a hearing committee appointed under subsection 43(1) of this Act, and the matter shall be concluded under this Act.

(4) A complaint made after a health profession was designated as a registered health profession that relates to conduct that occurred in whole or in part before the health profession was designated as a registered health profession shall be dealt with under this Act.

(5) A direction, decision, action, determination, finding, recommendation or order made or carried out under another enactment in relation to a person authorized to practice a health profession or use a title related to a health profession under that enactment, that was in effect immediately before the health profession was designated as a registered health profession, continues in effect until it ceases to have effect according to its terms, or is varied or terminated under this Act.

Commencement

76. This Act comes into force on a date that may be fixed by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
EXPLANATORY NOTES

SECTION 1 defines certain terms used in this Act.

SECTION 2 sets out the purpose of this Act, which is to provide for the regulation of certain health professions where it is in the public interest and self-regulation of the health profession under the Regulated Health Professions Act is not appropriate due to the small number of practitioners or other factors.

SECTION 3 requires the Minister to appoint a Registrar and sets out duties and powers of the Registrar. It also requires the Minister to appoint a Deputy Registrar.

SECTION 4 provides for persons representing the majority of those practising a health profession in the province to apply to the Minister to have the health profession designated as a registered health profession. It sets out the powers of the Minister on receipt of an application.

SECTION 5 sets out the powers of the Minister to investigate, in the absence of an application, whether it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession.

SECTION 6 sets out factors that the Minister or the Registrar may consider in conducting an investigation. It also provides for the Minister to charge applicants for costs incurred investigating an application.

SECTION 7 requires the Registrar to recommend to the Minister whether it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession, following an investigation. It also permits the Registrar to make recommendations respecting related matters.

SECTION 8 sets out matters the Minister may or shall take into account when determining whether it would be within the purpose of this Act to designate a health profession as a registered health profession. Where the Minister determines that it would be, the Minister is required to make that recommendation to the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

SECTION 9 provides for the Lieutenant Governor in Council to designate a health profession as a registered health profession by regulation.

SECTION 10 sets out prohibitions related to practising a registered health profession and exceptions to those prohibitions.
SECTION 11 sets out an application process and eligibility requirements for registration. It also requires a registrant to notify the Registrar respecting certain circumstances that might impact continued registration.

SECTION 12 sets out an application process and eligibility requirements for special registration for a limited time or a special purpose.

SECTION 13 provides for the Registrar to impose terms or conditions on a registration, subject to the Labour Mobility Act. It also provides the terms or conditions are not effective until notice of them is served on the affected registrant.

SECTION 14 sets out the information the Registrar is required to enter in a register in respect of each registrant. It requires a registrant to notify the Registrar without delay of changes in respect of certain information. It also sets out information the Registrar is required to disclose on request to any person and to a professional regulatory body.

SECTION 15 sets out the information the Registrar is required to include on a certificate of registration. Where any of that information changes, the Registrar is required to update the registrant’s registration and issue a replacement certificate. It also provides that where a registrant’s registration is suspended or cancelled, the certificate of registration becomes invalid and shall be returned without delay. It also requires a registrant to produce the certificate on request and to display it if required to do so by the regulations.

SECTION 16 sets out an application process and eligibility requirements to renew a registration.

SECTION 17 provides for the Registrar to extend a registration past its expiry date, by not more than 30 days, to allow the registrant to apply for renewal.

SECTION 18 provides for a registrant to request the cancellation of his or her registration.

SECTION 19 sets out an application process and eligibility requirements for the reinstatement of a registration that expired or was cancelled under section 18.
SECTION 20 provides for the Registrar to refuse to consider an application for registration, or the renewal or reinstatement of a registration, where the applicant has an outstanding charge for an offence or is under investigation by a professional regulatory body, until the matter is resolved. It provides for the Registrar to refuse to register, or renew or reinstate a registration, where the Registrar determines that the applicant doesn’t meet the eligibility requirements. It also provides for the Registrar to suspend or cancel a registration in certain circumstances.

SECTION 21 requires the Registrar to give notice of his or her decisions or actions under section 20 and provides that a suspension or cancellation under that section is not effective until notice has been served on the affected person.

SECTION 22 provides a right of appeal to the Supreme Court respecting the imposition of terms and conditions on a registration, a refusal to consider an application, a refusal to register or to renew or reinstate a registration, and a suspension or cancellation of registration. It also sets out the powers of the court on hearing an appeal.

SECTION 23 authorizes a registrant to perform a reserved activity if registrants of the registered health profession, or of the class or category of the registered health profession to which the registrant belongs, are authorized to do so by regulation, subject to any terms and conditions on the registrant’s registration or requirements in the regulations.

SECTION 24 provides that this Act does not affect the confidential or ethical obligations of a registrant to a client or patient. It provides that the relationship of a registrant to a professional health corporation or a shareholder, director, officer or employee does not affect the application of this Act or the regulations to the registrant, the fiduciary, ethical and legal duties of the registrant or the liability of the registrant. It also provides that a registrant’s duties to a client or patient, the Registrar or the public are paramount to the registrant’s relationship with or obligations to a health profession corporation.

SECTION 25 defines “practise in association” and authorizes registrants to practise in association, subject to any restrictions in the regulations. It also provides that a registrant’s ethical and confidential obligations to a client or patient are not diminished by practising in association and apply equally to the other registrants with whom the registrant is practising.

SECTION 26 defines terms used in Part IV – Discipline.
SECTION 27 imposes a duty on a registrant to report conduct that may constitute incompetence or sexual abuse committed by another registrant or another regulated health professional. It prohibits a registrant from identifying a client or patient who is a victim of sexual abuse unless the client or patient consents to the identification. It limits the liability of a registrant who makes a report in good faith. It provides for the Registrar to initiate a complaint based on a report and provides that a registrant who makes a complaint on a matter under this section satisfies the duty to report.

SECTION 28 provides for the Registrar to initiate a complaint and for any other person to make a complaint alleging the conduct of a registrant or a former registrant constitutes professional misconduct or incompetence. It also provides that a former registrant continues to be subject to the jurisdiction of the Registrar and any investigator, investigation committee or discipline committee appointed or constituted in relation to a complaint about any conduct of the former registrant that occurred while he or she was a registrant.

SECTION 29 requires the Registrar to refer a complaint to the Deputy Registrar where the Registrar has a conflict of interest in relation to the complaint or initiated the complaint. It prohibits the Registrar from participating in any activity related to the complaint and provides the Deputy Registrar with the powers and duties of the Registrar in respect of a complaint.

SECTION 30 requires the Registrar to serve a copy of the complaint on the respondent within 30 days after the complaint is made or initiated and notify the respondent of his or her right to submit a response within 30 days of receiving the complaint and the notice. It also requires the Registrar to promptly serve a copy of any response on the complainant.

SECTION 31 requires the Registrar to inquire into a complaint made or initiated under section 28 to the extent the Registrar determines is warranted and permits the Registrar to attempt to resolve the complaint informally if appropriate and not contrary to the public interest. It sets out circumstances in which the Registrar shall dismiss a complaint made or initiated under section 28 and requires the Registrar to otherwise request the appointment of an investigation committee and refer the complaint to the investigation committee.

SECTION 32 provides for a complainant to submit a request for a review of the dismissal of his or her complaint to the Minister. It requires the Minister to appoint an investigation committee and refer the request
to it. It sets out the powers and duties of an investigation committee in relation to the request.

**SECTION 33** provides for the appointment of an investigation committee and the chair by the Minister, sets out the required composition of an investigation committee and the required qualifications of the chair, and sets quorum. It requires a member of the investigation committee to immediately disclose any conflict of interest and refrain from participating in any consideration of the matter. It also provides for the Minister to appoint investigators.

**SECTION 34** sets out the powers of an investigation committee on consideration of a complaint referred to it.

**SECTION 35** provides for the investigation committee to establish procedures related to mediation and sets out duties of the mediator and the investigation committee in relation to mediation.

**SECTION 36** provides that evidence of statements made by a participant or the mediator in mediation are not admissible in a legal proceeding without the consent of the participant or the mediator, as the case may be. It also provides that a mediator is not a competent or compellable witness in a legal proceeding in respect of information related to the mediation.

**SECTION 37** sets out notice requirements where an investigation committee refers a complaint to an investigator.

**SECTION 38** sets out the investigation powers of an investigation committee or an investigator. It empowers an investigation committee to impose terms or conditions on the registration of any registrant who fails to cooperate in an investigation.

**SECTION 39** requires an investigation committee to provide the Registrar with status updates in respect of an investigation.

**SECTION 40** requires an investigator or investigation committee to prepare an investigation report after conducting an investigation. It requires an investigator to provide his or her report to the investigation committee. It requires the investigation committee to serve a copy of the report on the complainant and the respondent.

**SECTION 41** sets out the powers and duties of the investigation committee after considering the findings set out in the investigation report.
SECTION 42 provides for the Registrar to make an interim order suspending a registration or imposing terms and conditions on a registration, where the Registrar has reasonable grounds to believe that the conduct of registrant poses a demonstrable risk of harm to the registrant’s clients or patients or to the general public.

SECTION 43 requires the Minister to appoint a hearing committee on the request of an investigation committee and sets out the required composition of a hearing committee and the required qualifications of the chair, and sets quorum. It requires a member of a hearing committee to immediately disclose any conflict of interest and refrain from participating in any consideration of the matter. It also provides that a hearing committee and any member of a hearing committee has the powers, privileges and immunities of a commissioner appointed under the Public Inquiries Act.

SECTION 44 requires a hearing committee to hold a hearing in accordance with the rules of natural justice within 45 days of the referral of a matter to it and give notice to the parties at least 30 days before the hearing of the date, time, place and subject matter of the hearing. It permits a hearing committee to retain legal or other assistance in conducting a hearing. It acknowledges the respondent’s right to appear, be represented by legal counsel, and examine, cross-examine and re-examine witnesses at a hearing. It also provides that a hearing committee may proceed in the absence of the respondent where he or she has received proper notice of the hearing but failed to attend.

SECTION 45 sets out powers of a hearing committee and provides that a hearing shall be open to the public subject to exceptions set out in the section. It empowers a hearing committee to make an order to protect the identity of a witness where his or her testimony is of a confidential or sensitive nature. It provides that a failure by a registrant to comply with a subpoena issued by a hearing committee or one of its members may be held to constitute professional misconduct. It also provides that a hearing committee is not bound by strict rules of evidence.

SECTION 46 sets out the conduct of a respondent that may be found to constitute professional misconduct and incompetence.

SECTION 47 requires a hearing committee to determine, on concluding a hearing, whether or not the conduct of the respondent constitutes professional misconduct or incompetence. It sets out the orders a hearing committee may make, provides for service of a determination and any order and provides that it remains in effect pending appeal, subject to an
order of the Supreme Court. It empowers the Registrar to suspend a respondent’s registration without further hearing where the respondent fails to comply with an order of an investigation committee or a hearing committee.

**SECTION 48** requires the Registrar to publish an order of an investigation committee or a determination and order of a hearing committee, subject to any publication ban ordered by the hearing committee. It also requires the Registrar to publish a notice of the imposition of terms and conditions on, or the suspension or cancellation of, a registration by an investigation committee or hearing committee.

**SECTION 49** provides a right of appeal to a complainant respecting the dismissal of his or her complaint and to a respondent respecting an interim order of the Registrar or a determination or order of a hearing committee. It also sets out the powers of the Supreme Court on hearing an appeal.

**SECTION 50** prohibits a corporation other than a health profession corporation from carrying on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant.

**SECTION 51** sets out an application process and eligibility requirements for a permit. It also requires a health profession corporation to notify the Registrar respecting certain circumstances that might impact continued registration.

**SECTION 52** provides for the Registrar to impose terms or conditions on a permit. It also provides the terms or conditions are not effective until notice of them is served on the affected health profession corporation.

**SECTION 53** sets out the information the Registrar is required to keep a record of in respect of each health profession corporation. It requires a health profession corporation to notify the Registrar without delay of changes in respect of certain information. It also sets out information in respect of a health profession corporation that the Registrar is required to disclose on request to any person.

**SECTION 54** sets out the information the Registrar is required to include on a permit. Where any of that information changes, the Registrar is required to update the records and issue a replacement permit. It provides that where a permit is suspended or cancelled, the permit becomes invalid and shall be returned without delay. It also
requires a health profession corporation to produce its permit on request and to display it if required to do so by the regulations.

SECTION 55 sets out an application process and eligibility requirements to renew a permit. It also provides for the Registrar to extend a permit past its expiry date, by not more than 30 days, to allow the health profession corporation to apply for renewal.

SECTION 56 provides for a health profession corporation to request the cancellation of its permit.

SECTION 57 provides for the Registrar to refuse to consider an application for a permit or to renew a permit, where the applicant has an outstanding charge for an offence or is under investigation by a professional regulatory body, until the matter is resolved. It provides for the Registrar to refuse to issue or renew a permit where the Registrar determines that the applicant doesn’t meet the eligibility requirements. It also provides for the Registrar to suspend or cancel a permit in certain circumstances.

SECTION 58 requires the Registrar to give notice of his or her decisions or actions under section 57 and provides that a suspension or cancellation under that section is not effective until notice has been served on the affected person.

SECTION 59 provides a right of appeal to the Supreme Court respecting the imposition of terms and conditions on a permit, a refusal to consider an application for or issue or renew permit, and the suspension or cancellation of a permit. It also sets out the powers of the court on hearing an appeal.

SECTION 60 permits a health profession corporation to carry on business under its own name or as part of a partnership under a name that meets the requirements set out in the regulations. It provides that a health profession corporation is subject to all applicable laws relating to the confidential and ethical relationship between a registrant who practises a regulated health profession through the corporation and a client or patient of the registrant. The duty of confidentiality between the registrant and the client or patient also applies to all shareholders, directors, officers and employees of the health profession corporation. It also provides that a health profession corporation is jointly and severally liable with a registrant who practises a regulated health profession through the corporation for any fines, costs and expenses that the registrant is ordered to pay under this Act.
SECTION 61 prohibits a shareholder of a health profession corporation from entering into a voting trust agreement, proxy agreement or any other type of agreement vesting voting rights in another person who is not a registrant.

SECTION 62 provides for the admissibility in evidence of a certificate issued by the Registrar as proof of its contents without proof of the office or signature of the Registrar. It also provides for the admissibility in evidence of a copy of a certificate issued by the Registrar as proof of the original without proof of the office or signature of the Registrar.

SECTION 63 limits the liability of persons involved in the administration of this Act for actions taken or not taken, in good faith.

SECTION 64 sets out rules related to the service of notices, orders or other documents under this Act or the regulations.

SECTION 65 prohibits a registrant from practising a registered health profession in contravention of any terms or conditions on his or her registration or while his or her registration is suspended.

SECTION 66 prohibits a health profession corporation from carrying on the business of providing the professional services of a registrant in contravention of any terms or conditions on its permit or while its permit is suspended.

SECTION 67 requires a person who employs or engages an individual to provide the professional services of a registrant to ensure that the individual has a valid registration. It also requires a person who employs or engages a registrant to report to the Registrar, in writing, the suspension or termination of the registrant’s employment or engagement for misconduct, incompetence or incapacity and to provide a copy of the report to the registrant. It also prohibits a person who employs or engages a registrant from knowingly permitting the registrant to contravene this Act or the regulations.

SECTION 68 prohibits a person from knowingly giving false information in an application, statement or report under this Act or the regulations.

SECTION 69 prohibits a registrant or health profession corporation from engaging in advertising that is untruthful, inaccurate or otherwise capable of misleading or misinforming the public.
SECTION 70 provides that a contravention of the Act, the regulations or an order is an offence and subject to a fine not exceeding $50,000 on conviction. It also provides that every officer, director or agent of a corporation who directs, authorizes, assents to, acquiesces in or participates in the commission of an offence by that corporation is also guilty of the offence and subject to a fine not exceeding $50,000 on conviction, regardless of whether the corporation has been prosecuted or convicted of the offence.

SECTION 71 sets out a limitation period of two years on the prosecution of offences under this Act or the regulations.

SECTION 72 provides for the Supreme Court to grant an injunction restraining a person from continuing to contravene this Act or the regulations.

SECTION 73 authorizes the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make regulations about matters listed in the section.

SECTION 74 provides that where, immediately before a health profession was designated as a registered health profession, a person was authorized under another enactment to practice the health profession or use a title related to the health profession, the person is deemed to be registered in the register for that registered health profession and any document evidencing the authorization is deemed to be a certificate of registration. Any terms and conditions on the authorization apply to the registration and it expires on the date the authorization was to expire.

SECTION 75 provides that where, immediately before a health profession was designated as a registered health profession, a practice or disciplinary matter was pending under another enactment governing persons authorized to practise the health profession or use a title related to the health profession and was set for a hearing within 60 days, the matter shall be concluded under the other enactment as though this Act had not come into force, subject to an agreement to the contrary by the parties.

The section provides that where, immediately before a health profession was designated as a registered health profession, a practice or disciplinary matter was pending under another enactment governing persons authorized to practise the health profession or use a title related to the health profession and was not set for a hearing within 60 days, the matter shall be referred as a complaint to a hearing committee under this Act and concluded under this Act.
The section provides that a complaint made under this Act regarding conduct that occurred in whole or in part before the health profession was designated as a registered health profession, shall be dealt with under this Act. The section also deems a direction, decision, action, determination, finding, recommendation or order made or carried out under another enactment in relation to a person authorized to practice a health profession or use a title related to a health profession under that enactment, that was in effect immediately before the health profession was designated as a registered health profession, continues in effect until it ceases to have effect according to its terms, or is varied or terminated under this Act.

SECTION 76 provides for the commencement of this Act on proclamation.
BILL NO. 72

Registered Health Professions Act

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SIGNATURES:

______________________________
Honourable H. Frank Lewis, Lieutenant Governor

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Honourable Francis (Buck) Watts, Speaker

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Clerk

______________________________
Honourable Robert L. Henderson
Minister of Health and Wellness

GOVERNMENT BILL

2017
2nd SESSION, 65th GENERAL ASSEMBLY