



MINUTES

Transition Council

November 12, 2024

Virtual Meeting

Presiding Officer: Ms. Catherine Knipe

Members present: Dr. Patricia Alderson
Dr. Claire Beauchamp
Ms. Kirsti Clarida, RVT
Dr. Kathleen Day Dunbar
Dr. Louise Kelly
Ms. Lisa Langton, RVT
Dr. Lena Levison
Dr. Clayton MacKay
Dr. Sean Marshall
Mr. Phil Nichols, RVT
Dr. Alana Parisi
Dr. Sami Qureshi
Dr. Jessica Retterath
Mr. Douglas Reynolds
Ms. Rena Spevack
Dr. Yashvir Varma
Dr. Michael Zigler

Regrets: Ms. Cathy Hecimovich
Dr. Wade Wright

Appointed Officer: Ms. Jan Robinson, Registrar and CEO

Staff attending:
Ms. Sarah Kirby, Director, Policy
Dr. Kim Lambert, Associate Registrar, Regulatory Programs
Ms. Kali Pieters, Policy & Projects Coordinator
Ms. Shilo Tooze, Deputy Registrar
Ms. Alice Couto, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Ms. Catherine Knipe, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and welcomed Councillors.

2. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

4. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the November 7th meeting to be approved at the next Transition Council meeting.

5. Insurance Matters

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario move to go in-camera to discuss agenda item 5.0 – Insurance Matters.”

A discussion on insurance matters took place in camera. No minutes were taken due to confidentiality.

6. Concept Work Related to the Authorized Activities Model

Ms. Jan Robinson, Registrar introduced this topic noting that at the last Council meeting, focus was on the authorized activities component of the Veterinary Professionals Act. The discussions were around veterinarians and veterinary technicians which was described as intra professional teamwork. The focus of the concepts being put before Council was on other groups that provide animal health care, also referred to as inter professional groups.

The Registrar stressed that this work is based on years of discussions with various groups in animal health care.

5.1. Forms of Energy

Ms. Sarah Kirby introduced this topic noting that the College undertook a significant research and risk-based review and assessment of the use of forms of energy. The review occurred from 2019 to 2021 and resulted in Legacy Council's approval of both a policy and position statement on this topic.

An overview of the relevant sections of legislation, regulation, by-law, and policy related to forms of energy (both current and future) was provided and can be found in the package.

Ms. Kirby noted that the College outlined a risk-based continuum that places forms of energy within three categories. The first category was designed to oversee forms of energy that had been determined to have high levels of risk of harm or potential harm associated with their use on animals. The second category was designed to oversee forms of energy that had been determined to have moderate levels of risk of harm or potential harm associated with their use on animals. The third category was designed to distinguish the forms of energy that had been determined to have lower risk of harm or potential harm when used on animals and were permitted to be used by a veterinarian or non-veterinarian as long as the non-veterinarian did not represent themselves as practicing veterinary medicine.

A fulsome discussion ensued, and the Registrar answered questions posed by Council. A general agreement was received by Council on the proposed recommendations for this concept.

5.2. Chiropractors

Ms. Sarah Kirby introduced this concept and stressed that the analysis provided was based on years of discussion and ongoing engagement with several interested parties. In completing the work, it became clear that there are many shared foundations and characteristics found both in the practice of veterinary medicine and human chiropractic. Despite the similarities, however, it also became clear that there are fundamental differences that separate these two professions. Ms. Kirby outlined two proposed recommendations that were developed based on extensive research and conversation, including legal advice. The first proposal is that a regulatory exemption be developed for members of the College of Chiropractors of Ontario. The authorized activities under consideration include, chiropractic diagnosis of disorders and dysfunctions, chiropractic acupuncture, spinal manipulation, manipulating the tailbone and applying or ordering Class IV lasers or radial shockwave without sedation.

The second proposal was the additional recommendation for qualifications under regulatory exemption, including at least 200 hours of specific training in animal chiropractic, at least 35 additional hours in chiropractic acupuncture and knowledge, skill and judgement requirements.

A fulsome discussion ensued, and the Registrar answered questions posed by Council. A general agreement was received by Council on the proposed recommendations, however, Council asked staff to provide additional information prior to approving the inclusion of acupuncture in the exemptions for chiropractors.

6.3. Pharmacists

Ms. Sarah Kirby introduced this concept noting that the analysis provided involved ongoing engagement with several interested parties. In completing the work it became clear there is a need to ensure the ongoing ability for pharmacists to dispense, compound and sell drugs for animals in accordance with a veterinary prescription and that the public remains interested in their ability to obtain veterinary drugs from pharmacists. Ms. Kirby outlined the three recommendations pertaining to a regulatory exemption for pharmacists. She provided a list of the authorized activities under consideration, including compounding, dispensing or selling a drug and dispensing a drug for the purpose of renewing a veterinary prescription. Ms. Kirby outlined the proposed qualifications, including, only being permitted to perform these activities upon receipt of a prescription from a veterinarian member, the pharmacist cannot make any therapeutic substitutions or adaptations to the veterinary prescription and the pharmacist cannot provide any information or education related to the drug when therapeutic knowledge is required. Examples related to a proposed regulatory exemption for pharmacists was provided and included in the package.

A fulsome discussion ensued, and the Registrar and Ms. Kirby answered questions posed by Council. A general consensus was received by Council on the proposed recommendations for this concept, with feedback provided by Council to staff for further consideration on specific details related to refills and communication with veterinarians when prescriptions are refilled.

6.4. Animal Rehabilitation

Ms. Sarah Kirby introduced this topic noting that regulation development process in this area included ongoing engagement with several interested parties. Ms. Kirby outlined the proposed recommendations related to a regulatory exemption for certain Persons. Those being providers with human-based training and additional skillsets in animal rehabilitation and providers with veterinary-based training and additional skillsets in animal rehabilitation. She reviewed the authorized activities under consideration, including therapeutic acupuncture and applying or ordering Class IV lasers or radial shockwave without sedation. Proposed qualifications were provided, and a fulsome discussion ensued.

A general agreement by Council was received for the direction of the animal rehabilitation concept with comments and feedback provided to staff for further consideration in relation to acupuncture.

6.5. Mass Culls

Ms. Sarah Kirby introduced this topic and outlined the proposed recommendations related to a regulatory exemption for Persons, including providers of mass culls of livestock and poultry. Ms. Kirby outlined the authorized activities under consideration, including, administering a substance by inhalation and/or monitoring of such inhalation and communicating to an individual the death of an animal(s) or group of animals. The proposed qualifications were provided, and a discussion ensued.

A general agreement by Council was received. Further clarification was sought related to alternate forms of euthanasia.

6.6. Farriers/Hoof Trimmers

Ms. Sarah Kirby introduced this topic and outlined the proposed recommendations related to a regulatory exemption for Persons, including providers of farriery and hoof trimming services. Ms. Kirby outlined the authorized activities under consideration, including, performing a procedure below the dermis if it remains within or below the coronary band and within the structure of the hoof. Ms. Kirby outlined the proposed qualifications, including specific training and knowledge, skill and judgement requirements.

As there were no questions, Council provided general agreement for the direction of this concept.

6.7. Presentation of Draft Concept Language

Ms. Jan Robinson introduced the topic and asked Council for feedback on the format in which the concepts were presented. Two partial draft concepts were developed to support the Transition Council in outlining its recommendations for OMAFA for inclusion in a regulatory concept on the authorized activity model. Included in the package was a draft concept chart – forms of energy and a partial draft concept chart – authorized activities.

The Registrar noted that at the December meeting all concepts will be presented to Council.

7. Confidentiality

Councillors were reminded that Council meetings are public meetings.

Information discussed in in-camera sessions must be kept confidential by all in attendance. All budget/financial/strategic alignment documents are not to be shared outside of the meeting as these documents are working documents of Council and not public material. Any inquiries regarding the package can be directed to the website where the public package is posted.

Minutes of the Council meeting are not approved until its next meeting.

8. Date of Next Meeting

- November 28, 2024, 8:30 – 11:00 am (Virtual)

9. Adjourn

MOTION: It was moved,
“That the meeting of Council be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am



Ms. Catherine Knipe
Chair



Jan Robinson
Registrar & CEO



Alice Couto
Recording Secretary