

Modernizing the Provincial Health Profession Regulatory Framework



Ministry of
Health

- Role of the Steering Committee on Health Professional Modernization
- Results from public consultation
- Recommendations on modernization

Steering Committee on Modernization of Health Professional Regulation

- Established to provide advice on an approach to modernize the regulatory framework for health professions in response to the Cayton report
- Chair: Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
- Member: Norm Letnick, health critic for the official Opposition
- Member: Sonia Furstenau, health critic and house leader for the BC Green Party caucus

First phase of consultation

- Held for one month (May 9, 2019 to June 14, 2019). Over 300 written submissions.
- Resulted in November 27, 2020 release of *Modernizing the provincial health profession regulatory framework: A paper for consultation*.

Second phase of consultation

- Held for over one month (November 27, 2019 to January 10, 2020).
- 1,480 written submissions, including 255 unique submissions and 1,225 writing campaign/form letters
- 4,018 online surveys
- 24 meetings with a total of nearly 50 health-sector partners and organizations

- Today we are announcing the release of the Steering Committee's final report:
Recommendations to modernize the provincial health profession regulatory framework.

Objectives of Reform

1. Improve patient safety and public protection
2. Improve efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory framework
3. Increase public confidence through transparency and accountability

Elements of Regulatory Reform:

1. Cultural safety
2. Improved governance
3. Reduction in the number of regulatory colleges
4. Strengthening oversight of regulatory colleges
5. Simplifying and increasing transparency in the complaints and disciplinary process
6. Enable information sharing

Recommendation:

- **Work should be undertaken to determine how cultural safety and humility should be supported by the regulatory framework.**

Recommendations:

- No elections - All board members appointed through a competency-based process
- Equal number of public and professional board members
- Smaller boards
- Consistent board member compensation

Current State: 20 Colleges

Chiropractors	1,322
Dental Hygienists	4,012
Dental Technicians	995
Dental Surgeons	10,432
Denturists	268
Dietitians	1,400
Massage Therapists	5,241
Midwives	379
Naturopathic Physicians	771
Physicians and Surgeons	13,724

Nursing Professionals	59,493
Occupational Therapists	2,649
Opticians	1,011
Optometrists	851
Pharmacists	8,941
Physical Therapists	4,436
Podiatric Surgeons	87
Psychologists	1,346
Speech & Hearing	1,864
Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncturists	2,361

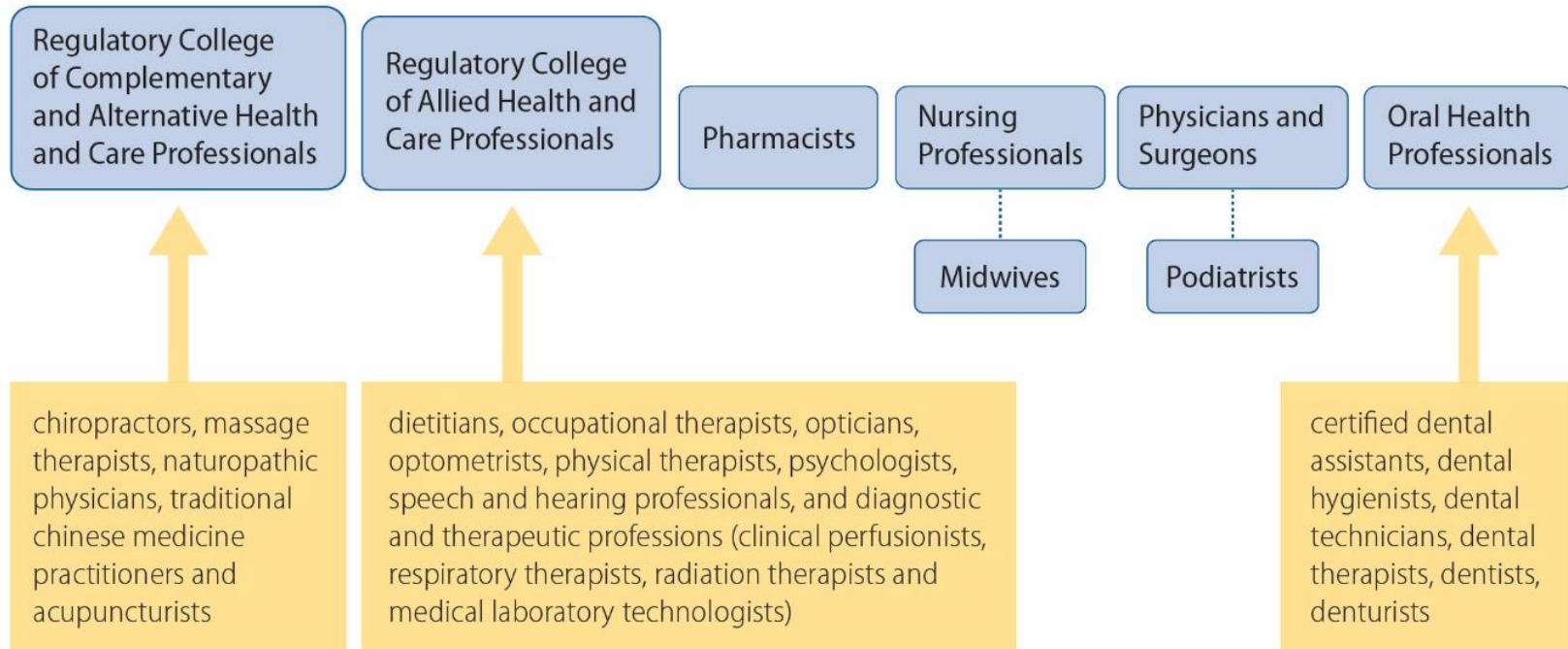
* As of Sep. 1, 2020 there will be 18 regulatory colleges due to amalgamation of the College of Podiatric Surgeons and College of Physicians and Surgeons on Aug. 31; and College of Midwives and College of Nursing Professionals on Sep 1.

Recommendation:

- Reduce the number of regulatory colleges from 20 to six
 - Increase public protection; improve efficiency and effectiveness of regulation

Fewer regulatory colleges

Recommended arrangement of regulatory colleges



Recommendations:

- Creation of a new oversight body
- Functions of oversight body include:
 - Setting performance standards for regulatory colleges
 - Auditing regulatory colleges
 - Public reporting on regulatory college performance
 - Overseeing a competency-based appointment process for regulatory college board members
- Health Professions Review Board remain separate from the oversight body

- No de-regulation
 - All health professions which are now regulated will continue to be regulated
 - Streamlined process for regulation of new professions with no requirement to create a college to regulate new professions.

Recommendations

- **Improve transparency** to increase public confidence that colleges will address complaints in the public interest
- **New discipline process to separate investigation and discipline stages** of complaints

Recommendation:

- That **health profession regulatory colleges be enabled to share information** (between each other and with other agencies) where necessary for public safety and protection.

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