



MINUTES

Transition Council

August 11, 2025

1:00 – 4:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Presiding Officer: Ms. Catherine Knipe

Members present:

- Dr. Patricia Alderson
- Dr. Kathleen Day Dunbar
- Ms. Cathy Hecimovich
- Ms. Lisa Langton, RVT
- Dr. Lena Levison
- Dr. Louise Kelly
- Dr. Clayton MacKay
- Dr. Sean Marshall
- Mr. Phil Nichols, RVT
- Dr. Alana Parisi
- Dr. Jessica Retterath
- Mr. Douglas Reynolds
- Dr. Sami Qureshi
- Dr. Yashvir Varma
- Dr. Wade Wright
- Dr. Michael Zigler

Regrets:

- Mr. John de Bruyn
- Ms. Kirsti Clarida, RVT

Appointed Officer: Ms. Jan Robinson, Registrar and CEO

Staff attending:

- 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 called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm and welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

2. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the agenda be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED

4. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

5. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the minutes of the meeting held on June 13, 2025, be accepted as circulated.”

CARRIED

6. Transition Council Evaluation

Council reviewed the evaluation from the June 13, 2025 Council meeting.

7. Review of Regulatory Concepts

7.1. Terms and Conditions for Chiropractors

Ms. Kali Pieters, Policy & Projects Coordinator joined the table. Ms. Pieters noted that at its May 14, 2025 meeting, Transition Council reviewed consultation feedback and additional information related to a proposed regulatory exemption for chiropractors. During this review and discussion, Transition Council raised additional questions related to the research and risk analysis behind the proposed exemption and spoke to their concern around opportunities to mitigate risks raised by members of the veterinary profession.

In recognition of the additional questions, the College revisited the historical work of a number of Councils that contributed to the current proposal and had two virtual

discussions with 44 veterinarians. The discussions reconfirmed the findings of the work of previous Councils’.

Based on the additional information gathered, and in response to the consultation feedback received, two additional terms, conditions and limitations were included in the proposed regulatory exemption for chiropractors for Council’s consideration. The first being Terms, Conditions and Limitations Required to be Met to Provide Authorized Activities (Changes Proposed) and Permitted Authorized Activities (No Changes Proposed).

Ms. Jan Robinson, Registrar added that this item was brought forward to the newly formed Transition Council Advisory Committee for feedback. She noted that discussions with the College of Chiropractors and the College of Veterinarians of Ontario continue to take place.

A fulsome discussion ensued, and the Registrar answered questions posed by Council.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That Council direct that the regulatory concept be approved for submission to OMAFA as presented.”

CARRIED

7.2. After-Hours Veterinary Care

Ms. Pieters introduced this agenda item noting that a regulatory concept related to after-hours veterinary care was included in the list of regulatory concepts that were circulated for public consultation from February – April, 2025. Quantitative responses and qualitative trends were noted.

Further information was gathered based on consultation feedback, including the inclusion of veterinary technicians in providing after-hours veterinary care and further guidance to be provided through policy. Transition Councils discussion and direction related to members’ obligations was incorporated into this regulatory concept.

A discussion ensued, and the Registrar answered questions posed by Council.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That Council direct that the regulatory concept be approved for submission to OMAFA as presented.”

CARRIED

7.3. Regulatory Exemptions for Members

The Registrar introduced this agenda item and noted that following public consultation a range of responses were received that indicated mixed agreement with the concept as presented. Further information was gathered since consultation and the College received a variety of additional information from different sources. As a result, Council was asked to

revisit each of the proposed pathways with an enhanced lens on consistency with the CVPO's overall responsibility to uphold and protect the public and its animals.

The Registrar provided an overview of the four pathways, and a discussion ensued. The Registrar answered questions posed by Council.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

"That Council directs that Pathway One: Members Working for the Crown or Under Another Piece of Legislation, be approved for submission to OMAFA as amended with the proposed revision."

CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

"That Council directs that Pathway Two: Veterinary Technician Members Working Under a Veterinarian Member's Treatment Plan be approved for submission to OMAFA as amended with the proposed revision."

CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

"That Council directs that Pathway Three: Veterinary Technician Members Working based upon a Written Referral from a Veterinarian Member, be removed from the regulatory concept related to member exemptions."

CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

"That Council directs that Pathway Four: Veterinary Technicians Members Employed by Non-Veterinary Animal Care Providers Operating under Certain Statutory Exceptions or Regulatory Exemptions, be removed from the regulatory concept related to member exemptions."

CARRIED

7.4. Regulatory Exemptions for Non-Members - PAWS

Ms. Pieters introduced this item noting that during public consultation, the College was contacted by the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) related to its administration of the *Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019 (PAWS)* and the ongoing work of its Animal Welfare Services division. This resulted in a series of conversations between the College and SOLGEN related to their area of Ministerial oversight and its administration in Ontario.

Conversations between the College and SOLGEN identified a potential need to clarify the role and responsibilities that Animal Welfare Services and Animal Welfare Inspectors have over an animal(s) or group of animals when they are removed or seized in accordance with the *PAWS Act* and the College confirmed the various circumstances where Animal Welfare

Services takes custody of an animal(s) or group of animals that it believes has been to an offence under *PAWS*.

A proposed regulatory exemption that clarifies that Animal Welfare Services qualifies as the owner of the animal(s) under the noted statutory exception as long as various conditions were met.

A discussion ensued and the Registrar answered questions posed by Councillors.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That Council direct that the proposed regulatory exemption be approved for submission to OMAFA as presented.”

CARRIED

7.5. Facility Accreditation

Ms. Pieters introduced this agenda item noting that a draft concept was developed to support the College's work in the facility accreditation area and to outline the specific supplementary components that are required in Regulation. The concept includes the proposed inclusion of a formally recognized definition of “Holder of Certificate of Accreditation,” proposed ability to grant extensions in writing, clearly requiring the payment of accreditation fees and carrying over language from Section 50 of Regulation 1093. A draft version of potential facility accreditation regulation language was provided.

A discussion ensued and the Registrar answered questions posed by Councillors.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That Council direct that the draft concept be approved for submission to OMAFA as presented.”

CARRIED

8. Proposed Approach to Existing Standards and Policies

Ms. Kali Pieters introduced this item noting that at its June 13, 2025 meeting, Council was presented with a proposed approach for streamlining the policy development process under the *Veterinary Professionals Act, 2024 (VPA)*. The approach proposes to divide the working into three main streams: changes to overall approach or direction, minor changes, or rescinding.

At the June meeting, Council indicated its support for the process and directed College staff to continue working on the details of this work, including the sorting of existing College policies into each stream. Since its June meeting, staff developed a list of existing College policies for sorting into the approved streams of work. A list of the policies was provided as well as a flow chart to help illustrate the proposed approach.

A discussion ensued and the Registrar answered questions posed by Council.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That Council direct that the proposed approach to existing standards and policies be approved as amended to include the addition of inter-professional collaboration.”

CARRIED

9. Miscellaneous

9.1. Updated Transition Council Workplan

Ms. Pieters introduced this item. Council was provided an updated work plan to assist Council with keeping track of the work that is currently under its direction as well as an overview of the work completed and work in progress.

9.2. Format for Regulatory Concept Submission to the Ministry

Ms. Pieters introduced this topic. She noted that following the completion of confirming the regulatory concepts for approval to OMAFA, College staff will develop a full Regulatory Concept Paper based on Transition Council's discussion and decisions. An example of the general format of the submission and a detailed example of the content to be developed for each regulatory concept was provided for Council's review.

Council provided general consensus on the format for Regulatory Concept Submission to the Ministry.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That Council direct that following the development of the Regulatory Concept Submission, the Paper will be shared with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Transition Council for confirmation prior to submitting it to the Minister.”

CARRIED

10. By-Laws

10.1. Elections Process

Ms. Shilo Tooze, Deputy Registrar joined the table. She noted that currently the College of Veterinarians of Ontario uses an election process for Council members. The province is divided into twelve districts and a veterinarian from each district is elected to serve on Council by those licensed members within each district. Ms. Tooze noted that in recent years, regulators have been using a more modern approach for selecting Board positions. The most common approach is a competency and attributed-based electoral process. Various consideration for competencies and attribute frameworks previously considered by Legacy Council and those used by other regulators was provided.

Ms. Tooze noted that should Council move away from districts, there is still the ability to designate Council positions for specific competencies or attributes that Transition Council feels are necessary in order to function as a Council. In consideration of the new College and the increased focus on teams, there is an opportunity to remove the barriers previously

experienced where individuals are only voting for those in their own district. Moving away from electoral districts allows for all licensed members to vote for all open Council positions.

A discussion ensued and Council provided support to move to a competency and attribute-based Council process and supported the list of proposed competencies and attributes.

Transition Council provided support to allow all licensed members to vote for all open Council positions.

10.2. Public Register

Ms. Tooze introduced this agenda item noting the requirements outlined in the *VPA* related to information provided on the public register. Ms. Tooze outlined other areas that could be included in the By-Laws related to the public register to enhance transparency for members of the public. These areas included: cautions and specified continuing education or remedial programs (SCERPS), findings of professional negligence or malpractice, criminal charges, findings and conditions of release and license numbers.

A discussion ensued and Ms. Tooze and the Registrar answered questions posed by Councillors.

Transition Council asked that College staff provide more in-dept definitions and further information on committee outcomes related to cautions and SCERPS.

10.3. Professional Liability Insurance

Ms. Tooze introduced this item noting that at its June 2025 meeting, Transition Council provided direction to include a requirement for licensed members to hold professional liability insurance in the By-Laws. In order to place the requirement in the By-Laws, College staff asked for direction on the following items: amount of coverage, deductible amount, tail insurance or extended coverage and individual coverage vs employer provided coverage.

A discussion ensued and Ms. Tooze answered questions posed by councillors.

Transition Council agreed that licensed members should hold professional liability insurance in the By-Laws. Transition Council asked that College staff provide further information on the proposed per occurrence and aggregate limit of a minimum of \$2M of coverage.

11. 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.

12. Next Meeting

- September 25-26, 2025

13. Adjourn

MOTION: It was moved,

“That the meeting of Transition Council be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 pm.



Ms. Catherine Knipe
Chair



Jan Robinson
Registrar & CEO



Alice Couto
Recording Secretary