



MINUTES

Transition Council

December 5, 2024

9:00 – 4:00 pm

Council Chamber

2-71 Hanlon Creek Blvd.

Guelph, ON

Presiding Officer: Ms. Catherine Knipe

Members present:

- Dr. Patricia Alderson
- Dr. Claire Beauchamp
- Ms. Kirsti Clarida, RVT
- Dr. Kathleen Day Dunbar
- Ms. Cathy Hecimovich
- Dr. Louise Kelly
- 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. Wade Wright
- Dr. Michael Zigler

Regrets: Ms. Lisa Langton, RVT

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



Transition Council

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. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the agenda be adopted with some agenda items to be reordered.”

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 November 28, 2024, be accepted as circulated.”

CARRIED

6. Regulation Concept Development

Ms. Sarah Kirby, Director, Policy and Ms. Kali Pieters, Policy & Projects Coordinator joined the table. Ms. Kirby advised that Council was being asked to review some concepts for the first time, while other agenda items would contain aspects of previously discussed topics that were flagged for further consideration or review.

Ms. Kirby clarified for Council the definitions of initiate, order and delegation. Council recommended that for future documents examples of initiate, order and delegation be provided for further clarity.

6.1. Authorized Activities - Acupuncture

Ms. Kirby introduced this topic noting that at its November 12th meeting, Council raised additional questions related to the reasoning and risk analysis behind the proposed recommendations and larger comments and considerations related to additional training requirements in performing acupuncture on animals.

Ms. Kirby outlined the additional information gathered and answered various questions related to Chiropractors and animal rehabilitation.

Ms. Kirby outlined the authorized activities under consideration, including performing a procedure below the dermis and she listed the proposed qualifications that would be required for each category.

For chiropractors, they would be required to be a member of the College of Chiropractors of Ontario (CCO), adhere to all CCO standards including those related to obtaining 200 hours in both animal chiropractic and human acupuncture, and at least 35 additional hours in chiropractic acupuncture on animals.

For a person offering animal rehabilitation, they would be required to have at least 125 hours of training in animal rehabilitation, and at least 35 additional hours in therapeutic acupuncture on animals.

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

For the proposed regulatory exemption for chiropractors, Council requested that staff clarify the standards that the College of Chiropractors of Ontario (CCO) would be adhering to and to confirm that animal training is in addition to human training.

For the proposed regulatory exemption for animal rehabilitation, Council's direction was to not expand acupuncture to persons in animal rehabilitation.

6.2. Practice of Clinical Veterinary Medicine by Members

This topic was discussed with agenda items 6.5, 6.6 and 6.7.

A fulsome discussion ensued, and Transition Council determined that an updated and unified approach to the topic of RVT businesses, VCPR / Informed Client Consent, After-Hours Care, and Clinical Veterinary Medicine was required to ensure fulsome and well-rounded consideration.

6.3. Regulatory Exemptions for Members

Ms. Kirby introduced this topic. An overview of the relevant sections of legislation, regulation, by-law, and policy related to the regulatory exemptions for members (both current and future) were outlined and provided in the package.

Ms. Kirby outlined the two proposed recommendations that were developed for potential inclusion in the regulatory concept related to the authorized activities model, including that certain members be permitted to perform authorized activities outside of an accredited veterinary facility an allowance only extended in specific circumstances.

A discussion ensued and Council directed that the recommendations be incorporated into the regulatory concept on the authorized activity model as presented.

6.4. Mandatory Quality Assurance Program

Ms. Kirby introduced this topic. An overview of the relevant sections of legislation, regulation, by-law, and policy were provided in the package.

Ms. Kirby outlined the two proposed recommendations related to mandatory quality assurance, including adding several definitions to assist with clarity around the program, its oversight and its application. The definitions of assessor, program and stratified random sampling were provided by Ms. Kirby. The second recommendation was to outline different aspects of the program, including assessors, continued professional development, self-assessments and peer and practice assessments.

A discussion ensued and the Registrar answered questions posed by Council. Council provided a general consensus on the proposed recommendations.

6.5. Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship and Informed Client Consent

This topic was discussed with agenda items 6.2, 6.6 and 6.7

A fulsome discussion ensued, and Transition Council determined that an updated and unified approach to the topic of RVT businesses, VCPR / Informed Client Consent, After-Hours Care, and Clinical Veterinary Medicine was required to ensure fulsome and well-rounded consideration.

6.6. After-Hours Veterinary Care

This topic was combined with agenda items 6.2, 6.5 and 6.7.

A fulsome discussion ensued, and Transition Council determined that an updated and unified approach to the topic of RVT businesses, VCPR / Informed Client Consent, After-Hours Care, and Clinical Veterinary Medicine was required to ensure fulsome and well-rounded consideration.

6.7. Research and Considerations Related to RVT-Owned Businesses

Ms. Kirby introduced this topic and stressed to Council that discussion on this topic was preliminary. Council was provided with an internal analysis of potential options for RVT-owned businesses, including the methodology and core principles, the reasoning for the continuation of members to practice clinical veterinary medicine from an accredited facility, and the reasoning for the continuation of the current approach to the veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR).

Ms. Kirby outlined the four options for RVT businesses, including allowance for a veterinary technician member to perform lower-risk clinical activities and certain authorized activities outside of an accredited facility in accordance with a treatment plan created by a veterinarian member, a hub and spoke model, contract and non-licensure. Pros and cons to each of the four options were provided and can be found in the package.

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

Transition Council determined that an updated and unified approach to the topic of RVT businesses, VCPR / Informed Client Consent, After-Hours Care, and Clinical Veterinary Medicine was required to ensure fulsome and well-rounded consideration.

7. Work Plan Progress Report

The Registrar provided Council with an updated work plan timeline. She reminded Council that the work plan is subject to change.

8. 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.

9. Date of Next Meeting

- January 9, 2025

10. Adjourn

MOTION: It was moved,

“That the meeting of Council be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.



Ms. Catherine Knipe
Chair



Jan Robinson
Registrar & CEO

Alice Couto

Alice Couto
Recording Secretary