



RPNAS Council
March 8, 2024, 830 - 1600
Via MS Teams

Present:

Yvonne Sawatzky, President
Michelle Cleland (present 830 – 858)
Ashley Lemus, Member-at-Large
Penni Caron, Member-at-Large
(absent from 10-11:08AM)
Jennifer Berjian, Member-at-Large
Rory Griffith, Public Representative

Staff:

Beverly Balaski, ED/Registrar
Lacey Bennett, Deputy Registrar
Beckie Olney, Nurse Practice Advisor
Amanda Brewer, Reg Coord/Office Support

Regrets:

Russ Marchuck, Public Representative
Leslie Gamble, Member-at-Large

1. Call to order – meeting called to order at 8:32

- Quorum - established
- 1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement
- Read by Yvonne

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to accept Agenda as presented

Moved: Penni Seconded: Ashley **Carried**

3. Assessment for Conflict of Interest

- No conflicts declared

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2023

Motion to accept minutes as presented

Moved: Rory Seconded: Ashley **Carried**

5. Finance Committee – Bob and Bev (9 – 1030)

5.1 ScotiaWealth Investment Overview (Tyler Taylor)

- Update given on Bridging Finance account. Very conservative portfolio. Phasing out of high-risk investments is well underway. Has gone from 10% of portfolio to 3%.

5.2 Committee update provided – Karen Messer-Engel provided written report.

5.3 Overview of Q4 Finances – Bob and Bev provided overview of Q4 finances.

Motion to approve Q4 finances as presented

Moved: Rory Seconded: Ashley **Carried**

5.4 Approval of 2023 Financial Audit

- The audit was conducted by MWC for the first time. Audit went smooth with results indicating all finances presented fairly and a determination of a “clean” audit. Bob reviewed the statement of financial position, statement of operations, statement of

net assets and statement of cash flows. Notes for the financial statements were reviewed. Audit has 3 recommendations:

1. RPNAS to file past taxes (as a not-for-profit not required in the past), however, recommendation is to file under voluntary disclosure program.
2. Create a general reserve fund for unanticipated expenses.
3. Increase discipline reserve fund by \$50,000 – from \$250,000 to \$300,000 to ensure adequate finances available for this purpose.

Motion to approve 2023 financial audit as presented

Moved: Rory Seconded: Penni **Carried**

Motion to accept auditors recommendation to file taxes 2018 - 2023

Moved: Penni Seconded: Rory **Carried**

Motion to create a restricted general reserve fund in the amount of \$200,000.

Moved: Rory Seconded: Jenn **Carried**

Motion to increase the Discipline reserve fund by \$50,000 from \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Moved: Rory Seconded: Jenn **Carried**

6. Guest Greg Gettle, ADM Ministry of Health (10-1030)

- Greg joined at 10AM
- Introduced council and staff
- Greg provided his background and highlighted his ministry portfolio priorities.

7. SEIU West Lawsuit

- Bev advised by lawyer Jesse Buydens that RPNAS had been named in a lawsuit by SEIU West many years ago. RPNAS staff cannot find any documentation regarding this matter
- Jesse advised that lawsuit has been dropped

8. RPNAS Council composition and Appointment Process

- Bev provided details of regulatory trend of moving away from election of members to Council. Currently best practice is to have Council appoint members
- This would allow for RPNAS to look for specific board knowledge and avoid the misconception that Council represents members needs versus our mandate of protection of the public

Motion: to adopt an appointment process for future Council members based on an established competency matrix and selection criteria commencing in January 2025 for implementation for the appointment of the 2025 Council members.

Moved: Jenn Seconded: Rory **Carried**

9. RPNAS Nominations Process

- As elections will no longer be occurring the current nominations process will no longer be required

10. Regulated Health Professions Act

- Update provided by Bev
- Currently 26 health professions with different Acts
- Government is proposing a single umbrella Act for all professions with individual regulations and bylaws
- Advised that government will not be presenting in spring assembly and have postponed to presenting it in the fall session. This will allow further time to review consultation submissions

11. Proposed Bylaws

- Legislation updated in May 2023 no longer requires member approval for bylaws
- Consultation with stakeholders, including members, still necessary
- As discussed at Dec 2023 meeting Bylaw to allow additional attempts for RPNCE has been drafted
- Discussed supervised practice as means to address members who do not meet practice hour requirements. A Bylaw will be developed in this regard.
- Bylaws being finalized and will be shared with Council for approval prior to consultation

12. AGM date, structure

- AGM and Council meeting to be held on same day
- Annual meeting to be held May 8, 1300 – 1400 hrs.

13. SHA Guideline Review Update

- RPNAS provided feedback on the numerous practice Guidelines
- Lacey is developing Beyond Entry-level Competencies document to assist with understanding of RPN role

14. RPNAS Name change to a College

- Application to ISC has been sent
- Permission is required from Advanced Ed to use “College” and from Executive Council To use “Saskatchewan”. Once approval obtained from ISC will sent letter of request to the required government agencies

15. Professional Conduct Committee Report

- Bev provided update on PCC
- Discussed issues of document acquisition from SHA – RPNAS lawyers have scheduled meeting with SHA privacy officer to resolve delays
- Backlog of cases is being caught up

16. Discipline Committee Report

- Currently no cases referred to discipline committee

17. Stakeholder Meeting Update provided

- Monthly meetings with Provincial Chief Nursing Officer
- Attendance at monthly senior nurse leaders meeting

18. Exam Transition to LOFT

- Lacey gave brief history of RPNCE and transition to Linear on the fly testing (LOFT)
- Outlined difference between computer adaptive and LOFT
- Because of lowered security risk, exams can now be scheduled in a 5 day window instead of over 1-2 days
- Council will be kept up to date as progress is made to transition in May 2024

19. Reinstatement Fee

- Briefing provided by Lacey
- In the interest of fairness RPNAS is requesting to lower the reinstatement fee to match application fee
- Workload for new application vs returning member applications is similar

Motion to lower reinstatement to \$200 effective January 1, 2025

Moved: Rory

Seconded: Jenn

Carried

20. Council Governance Matrix Monitoring

- Key decisions of past meetings being reviewed and to include in the Matrix

21. Executive Director/Registrar Report

21.1 Strategic Plan Update

- Report provided by Bev

21.2 Organizational Risk Assessment

- Positive progress has been made in lowering organizational risk

22. Review 2025 Council Dates

- March 6 & 7
- May 7
- September 4 & 5
- December 5

23. In-Camera

- Council entered in-camera at 12:25
- Council exited In-camera at 12:28

24. Next Meeting

- Next meeting is May 8 in Regina at the Hampton Inn

25. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Moved: Rory

Meeting adjourned at 12:29 PM



Yvonne Sawatzky, President



Beverly Balaski, Executive Director