



## FROM THE REGISTRAR



I'm pleased to report that the College continues to improve its operations and, to that end, at our Council meeting on February 25, 2022, Council passed the 2022 budget as well as a number of bylaw changes to support operational improvements. One such proposed bylaw change is to increase the Registration Examination fees to ensure the College's Registration Examination is cost neutral to the College and therefore sustainable. The examination fees have not increased since 2015 and are considerably below the true cost incurred by the College in maintaining rigorous and fair Registration Examinations as it is obligated to do. The proposed bylaw does not create full parity with the Registration Examination Fees of other health profession regulators but, if passed by Council following 60 days of circulation for feedback, it will allow the College to recover greater costs and close the gap. If you haven't already done so, please provide your feedback by clicking on this link: <https://cocoo.on.ca/members/current-consultations/>

I'm also very excited about our initiatives in Quality Assurance under the leadership of our new Manager, Registration, Examinations and Quality Programs, Christine Hickey. Christine comes to us with extensive experience in professional health regulation having worked for a number of years for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia as well as the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario and the College of Denturists of Ontario. The College will assess 5% of the membership in 2022 and new future initiatives to help support members in achieving excellence in practice are underway. The College recognizes the importance of supporting members in quality improvement and assurance, all towards fulfilling its mandate to protect the public.

I'm also very excited by Council's approval of the College's first strategic plan, approved at the February 25, 2022 Council meeting. The strategic plan will guide the College's operations over the next 3-5 years and focuses on the adoption of a podiatry model in the province as well as ensuring the College's sustainability. All future initiatives at the College will be aligned with the strategic plan and I invite all members to review the new plan. The College has and will continue to work with key stakeholders, including the Associations, to advocate for the modernization of chiropody and podiatry in the province to ensure the greatest protection of the public. As a regulator committed to protecting the public, the College has reached out to First Nations representatives as well as Northern and rural representatives, as those populations have traditionally been underserved generally in respect of in-person healthcare, and no more so than during the pandemic. Our goal is to ensure the College is doing its part to protect the public and, to that end, foster access to care provided by our members.

Finally, with the provincial government's announcement that the mask mandate will be lifted on March 21, 2022, I would like to recognize the significant efforts of our members in donning PPE, modifying their practices, and responding as needed to changing directives throughout the pandemic over the past two years to continue to provide excellent in-person footcare services to the public. Thank you.

All the best,  
Nicole