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This report describes the work and activities of the College's fiscal year from March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2023 unless otherwise indicated. It highlights the major accomplishments toward key objectives articulated in the Board's strategic plan, and reflects the commitment and dedication of many who give their time and expertise to deliver on the College's mandate.

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The chairs of each of the College's committees are required by statute to submit a written report of their committee's specific activities and accomplishments to the Board. These reports can be viewed on the <u>College</u> <u>website</u>.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC is located on the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the x m kw y m (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and S lílw ta / Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, whose historical relationships with these lands continue to this day.

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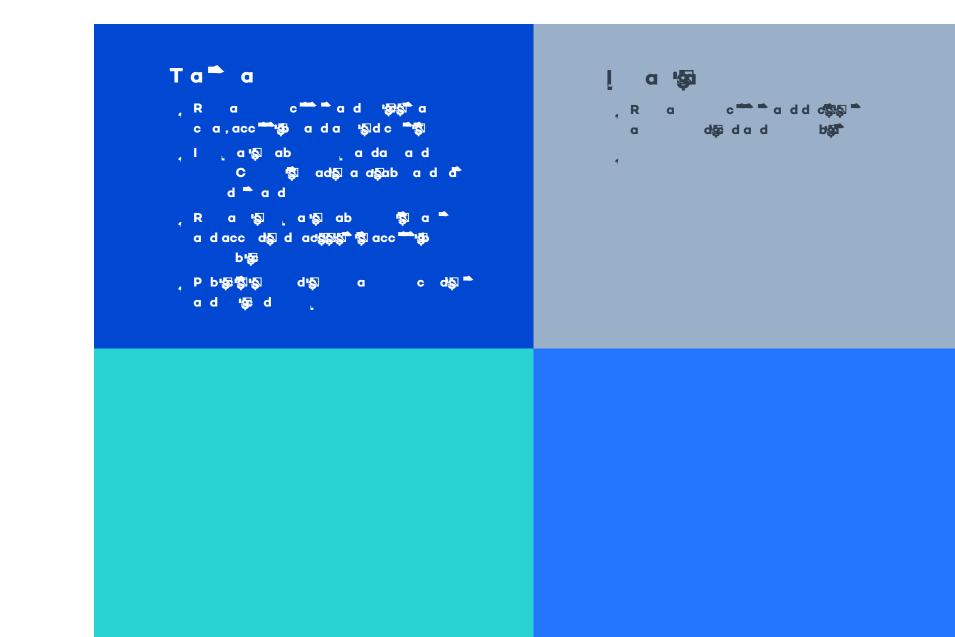


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The College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia regulates the practice of medicine under the authority of provincial law. All physicians and surgeons who practise medicine in the province must be registrants of the College. The College's overriding interest is the protection and safety of patients. The role of the College is to ensure physicians and surgeons meet expected standards of practice and conduct.

The primary function of the College is to ensure that BC's physicians and surgeons are qualified, competent and fit to practise medicine. The College manages processes for responding to complaints from patients and for taking action if a physician or surgeon is practising in a manner that is incompetent, unethical or illegal. The College also administers a number of quality assurance activities to ensure physicians and surgeons remain competent throughout their professional lives, and patients receive care in accredited diagnostic and private medical/surgical facilities.



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As we move into another year, it is important to reflect on both the challenges and the progress from the previous year. In 2022/23, our collective resolve and resilience were again put to the test as the COVID-19 pandemic entered its third year.

COVID-19 a d 😓

The College continued to support the efforts of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) when she required all health regulators to verify the vaccine status of each registrant by March 31, 2022. This mandate necessitated a swift response, and the College was fortunate to be able to reallocate human resources to address the administrative impact and meet the Order within the prescribed time frame.

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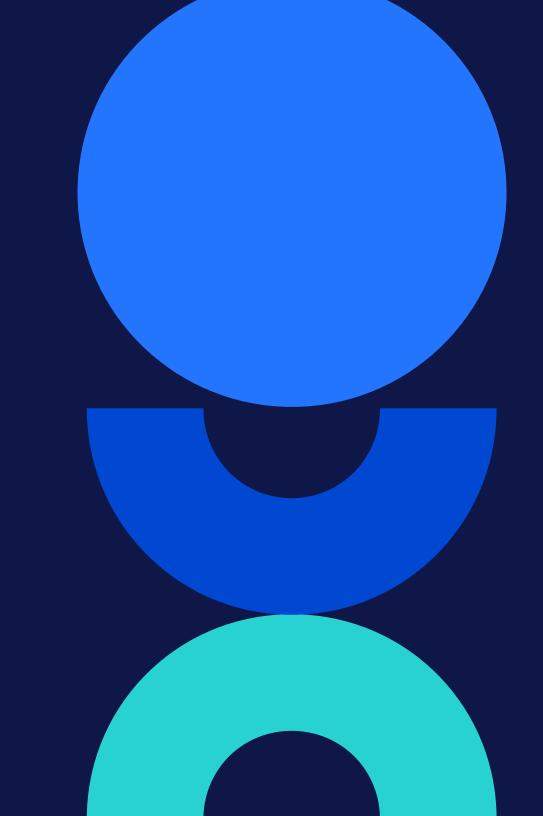
The College remains steadfastly committed to becoming a more equitable, diverse and inclusive organization, and eliminating the cycle of Indigenous-specific racism that is embedded in the province's health-care system. We are also committed to inviting Indigenous voices and integrating the principles of cultural safety and humility into our governance, organizational culture, strategic plan and operations.

In May 2022, we had the privilege of participating in an Indigenous blanket ceremony with the BC College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM) where Elders accepted and welcomed the two colleges' *Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-racism* practice standard into Indigenous laws.



B.A P T a, **MD**, **FRCPC** President H SM.O , MD Registrar and CEO a concern for many British Columbians, and the College is working in partnership with government to find innovative, sustainable solutions to address BC's health human resourcing challenges.

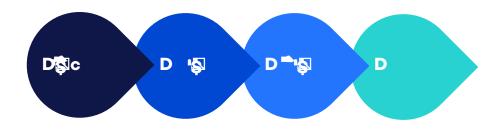
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The College launched its new brand in April 2023 after a rebranding process that began in October 2021. As part of the rebranding, the College replaced its crest, a distinctly colonial symbol, with a new logo that reflects the College's current-day values of accessibility and inclusivity for all British Columbians.

The rebranding process was a multi-year project and was divided into four phases:



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A critical first step of this project was the discovery phase, which involved extensive research on the current perceptions and needs of the College's audiences, including registrants, members of the public, College board members and staff, and colleagues from other health and regulatory organizations. The feedback gathered in this phase informed the rest of the project.

The following groups participated in workshops, one-onone interviews and surveys:

- 2,198 registrants
- 1,055 members of the public
- 14 partner organizations

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The second step of the project involved looking inward. College employees and board members met to review the results of the discover phase and have conversations about the College's purpose, mandate and actions.

This work culminated with the development of a brand strategy to guide the rest of the project. The brand strategy also serves as a guide for College employees.

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Phase three of the project involved working with a design team to translate the brand strategy into a comprehensive visual identity. Through an iterative process that involved









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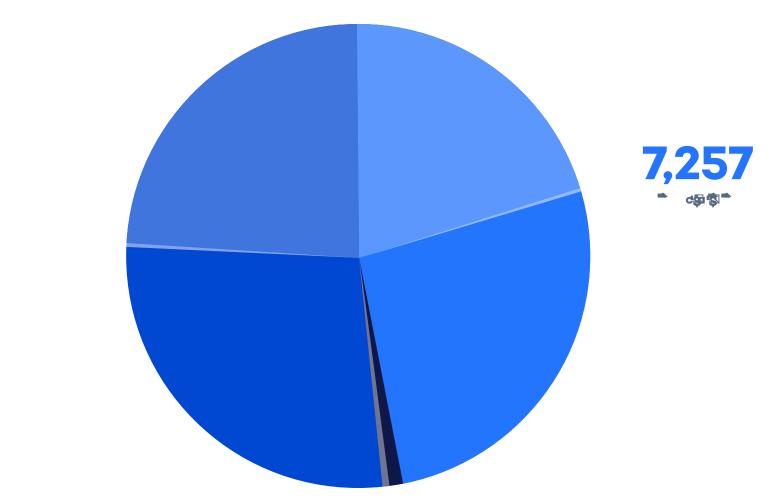
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Physicians and surgeons must meet the College's legislated registration requirements to obtain a licence to practise medicine in British Columbia. The College carefully reviews an applicant's education, training, and relevant practice experience, as well as any outstanding investigations, disciplinary actions or restrictions from other jurisdictions, to ensure that only qualified, competent and ethical physicians and surgeons are granted registration. Under the *Criminal Records Review Act (CRRA)*, all registrants of the College must undergo a criminal records check (CRC). CRCs are administered by the Criminal Records Review Program, which is operated by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Applicants who meet all of the requirements of the full class of registration may begin independent medical practice within their scope anywhere in the province.

The College welcomes applications from physicians and surgeons who have obtained their medical degree or their doctor of podiatric medicine degree from another country. International medical graduates (IMGs) are often registered in the provisional class of licence as an interim step so that they can apply their knowledge and skill to the care of patients while under sponsorship by a health authority and supervision by a qualified registrant. To advance to the full class of registration, physicians and surgeons in the provisional class must complete Canadian qualifying exams, or they may be eligible to participate in a comprehensive workplace assessment within a specified period of time.



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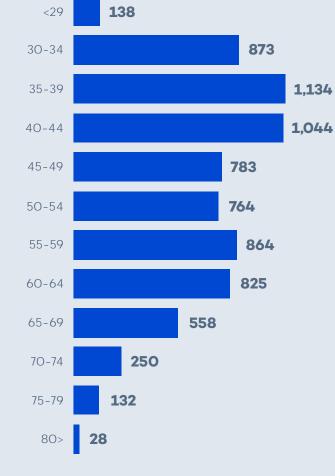


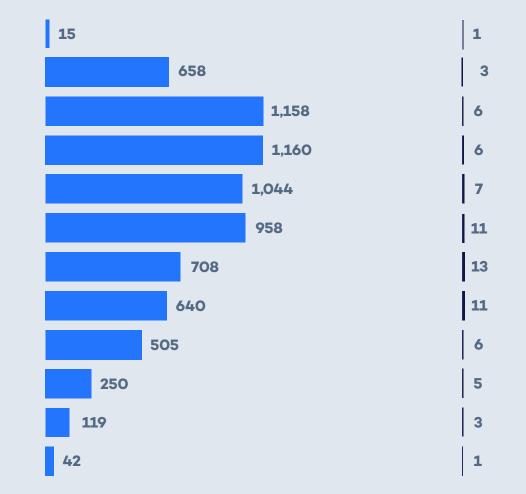












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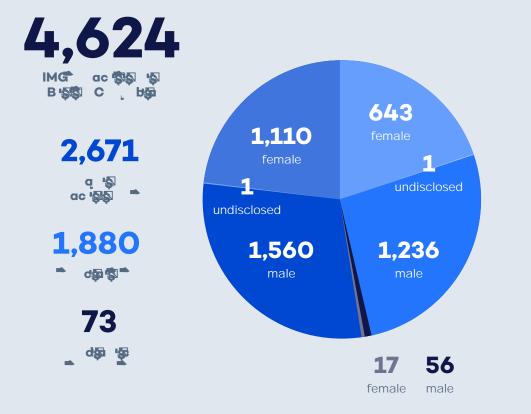
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Anatomical Pathology	56	85	0	141
Anesthesiology	188	462	0	650
Cardiac Surgery	1	22	0	23
Cardiology	1	7	0	8
Cardiothoracic Surgery	0	1	0	1
Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery	0	3	0	3
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	1	0	0	1
Community Medicine	3	10	0	13
Dermatology	43	42	0	85
Developmental Pediatrics	0	1	0	1
Diagnostic Radiology	129	282	0	411
Emergency Medicine	93	145	1	239
Endocrinology and Metabolism	0	1	0	1
Forensic Psychiatry	1	0	0	1
General Pathology	17	40	0	57
General Surgery	96	187	0	283
Hematological Pathology	20	19	0	39
Hematology	1	2	0	3
Internal Medicine	174	255	0	429
Medical Biochemistry	4	6	0	10
Medical Genetics	11	4	0	15
Medical Genetics and Genomics	5	1	0	6

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Medical Microbiology	14	18	0	32
Medical Oncology	3	3	0	6
Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine	0	1	0	1
Neurology	76	122	0	198
Neuropathology	1	7	0	8
Neurosurgery	4	48	0	52
Nuclear Medicine	2	8	0	10
Obstetrics and Gynecology	199	106	1	306
Occupational Medicine	2	1	0	3
Ophthalmology	60	164	1	225
Orthopedic Surgery	45	248	0	293
Other*	794	1,142	1	1,937
Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery	18	84	0	102
Pediatrics	234	125	0	359
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	46	82	0	128
Plastic Surgery	40	83	0	123
Psychiatry	366	432	0	798
Public Health and Preventive Medicine	13	15	0	28
Radiation Oncology	44	58	0	102
Rheumatology	1	1	0	2
Urology	17	96	0	113
Vascular Surgery	0	11	0	11
Gada	2,823	4,430	4	7,257

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For the purposes of the Annual Report, an international medical graduate is determined by the jurisdiction where the medical degree was obtained, not by country of birth.

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	Note: Applications and the granting of registration may occur in different fiscal years.
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*Clinical observers are IMGs who are not eligible for registration. The clinical observership licence serves as a bridge allowing IMGs to observe and learn in a practice setting under a registrant's direct supervision. The goal is to provide IMGs with an informal educational experience, allow them to become familiar with the provincial medical system and gain a competitive advantage when applying for a residency program to eventually pursue a licence for independent practice.

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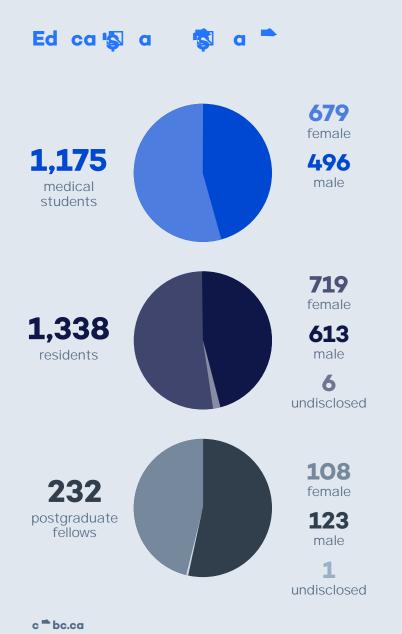
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On November 27, 2022, the BC government announced plans to increase the number of IMGs practising in BC by

- expanding the Practice Ready Assessment program,
- introducing a <u>new associate physician class of licensure</u> that will allow some IMGs who are not eligible for full or provisional licensure in BC to work in community-based primary care settings under the direction and supervision of an attending physician, and
- introducing a new restricted class of registration that will allow physicians who are diplomates of the American Board of Pediatrics (AMP), the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM), or the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) to practise medicine in BC.

On January 13, 2023, the <u>College Bylaws</u> were updated to include the associate physician – community primary care class and the USA certified class.

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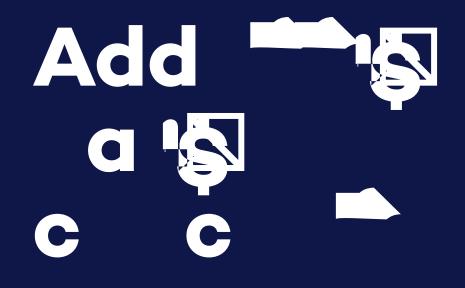


H a P K S R S B a d (HPRB) Registration matters



Pursuant to the *Health Professions Act*, a registrant or an individual seeking to become a registrant may apply to the HPRB for a review of a decision of the Registration Committee (reviewable registration decisions) within 30 days of the day on which written notice of the decision was delivered.

All of the decisions made by the HPRB can be found at www.hprb.gov.bc.ca.



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Safeguarding the public is the mandate of the College. The comprehensive review of each complaint filed with the College ensures a just and fair process for patients and registrants involved in complaints proceedings. Every complaint filed with the College is reviewed by the Inquiry Committee composed of registrants and members of the public.

Through its investigation, the Inquiry Committee determines the best means to conclude the matter in the public interest. If the Inquiry Committee is critical of the registrant, the *Health Professions Act* provides three options for resolution depending on the seriousness of the concern:

- 1. Informal resolution through correspondence, interviews, and/or educational activities
- 2. Formal consequences, short of discipline, including reprimands and practice restrictions
- 3. Referral to the registrar with direction to issue a citation and begin disciplinary proceedings

Most complaints that prompt the issuing of a citation are ultimately resolved through consent orders. If a consent resolution is not possible, the matter proceeds to a hearing before the Discipline Committee. Common themes of complaints:

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- Over or under prescribing medication
- Incorrect diagnosis that may put a patient at risk
- Failure to perform a physical examination

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- Inappropriate communication and rudeness
- Undue delay in transferring medical records or completing reports
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- Inadequate conduct during a sensitive exam
- Inappropriate social or business relationship with a patient

An overview of the process for filing a complaint against a registrant is available in nine languages and can be found on the <u>College website</u>.

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C:Son Assessment, diagnosis and treatment Diagnosis – delayed/incorrect Documentation/medical records	506 202 54 4
Informed consent Informed complication Medical complication Patient communication – care related Physical examination Prescribing Referrals/consultation Surgical complication Team communication – care related Treatment – procedure Clinical – other	4 21 31 7 2 87 2 57 1 4 30
C d c Advertising Breach of confidentiality Conflict of interest Disclosure of medical records Discrimination – BC human rights Discrimination – clinical complexity Discrimination – lindigenous specific IME/insurance forms and third-party repo Office management – environment/staff/ Patient/team communication – unprofess Unprofessional behaviour Conduct – other	other 128
B da Sexual misconduct – physical contact/tou Sexual misconduct – relationship Sexual misconduct – behaviour/communio Boundary – other	1
O Duty to report Contravention/indictable offense Failure to comply with practice condition Unprofessional conduct Competence to practice Failure to cooperate Bylaw contravention – other	HPA 44 32.2 4 33(4)(a) 4 33(4)(b) 12 33(4)(c) 7 33(4)(d) 3 4-11 (College Bylaws) 5

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Pursuant to section 33(4) of the *Health Professions Act*, the Inquiry Committee is authorized to investigate the practice of a College registrant, on its own motion, where concerns regarding competency or conduct are identified. This investigation (referred to as a practice investigation) may include a review of clinical and practice records and the quality of medical and surgical care provided.

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Advice	/written criticism	33(6)(b)	1
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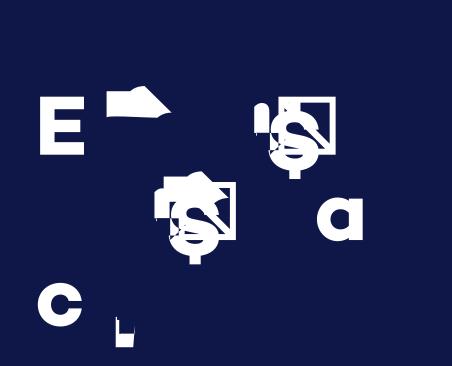
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H a P R S B a d (HPRB) Complaint matters



The Health Professions Review Board (HPRB) can independently review certain decisions made by health profession regulatory colleges. A person filing a complaint can apply for a HPRB review if they believe the investigation was inadequate or if the decision was not reasonable. All of the decisions made by the HPRB can be found at www.hprb.gov.bc.ca.

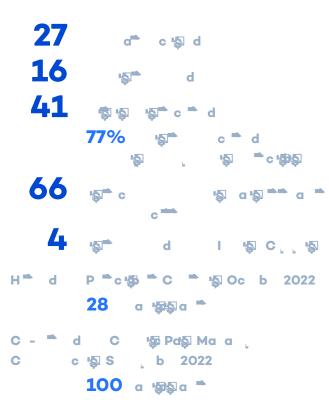




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The College's quality assurance programs ensure that registrants remain competent through continuing professional development, adhere to practice standards and professional guidelines, and fulfill the duties and obligations outlined in the Canadian Medical Association's *Code of Ethics and Professionalism*. The programs are collegial, supportive and designed to proactively assess and educate registrants by highlighting areas of excellence and identifying opportunities to guide lifelong learning.



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The Controlled Prescription Program aims to reduce inapproro5> BDC 7059 0.09 0.286 scn/S5



All registrants who provide community-based care in private offices or multi-physician clinics, or work as longand short-term locums, will participate in the Physician Practice Enhancement Program (PPEP) at some point in their career. During a PPEP assessment, a registrant may be required to participate in five assessment components:

- · peer practice assessment of recorded care
- multi-source feedback assessment
- review of their PharmaNet prescribing profile
- office assessment
- physician interview with feedback and coaching

PPEP assessments provide external evaluation using multiple measures to assess performance, knowledge, and skills. Assessments also provide initial educational support for registrants to ensure they meet appropriate and current standards of practice throughout their professional lives. **365**

on-site 67% remote

33%

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Di 😨 1 Vancouver Island, South	26	13	0	39
🔯 🥵 2 Vancouver Island, Central and Northern	42	14	0	56
Ds 😼 3 Vancouver and surrounding area	62	39	0	101
DS 15 4 Fraser	131	48	1	180
Ds 5 Thompson-Okanagan	34	32	0	66
DS 5 6 Kootenays	29	5	0	34
DS 57 Northern	21	3	0	24
Gada	345	154	1	500



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The College's Physician Office Medical Device Reprocessing Assessments (POMDRA) initiative assesses the reprocessing of reusable semi-critical and/ or critical medical devices in community-based physician offices. Support and education are provided to registrants and office staff so they can continue to provide safe care to their patients.

POMDRA is based on the requirements outlined in the Ministry of Health's *Best Practices for Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization for Critical and Semi-Critical Medical Devices* (2011) and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) medical device reprocessing standard. POMDRA applies to registrants who practise in a solo or multi-practitioner community-based setting. It does not apply to clinical offices or outpatient clinics affiliated with a health authority or hospital, which have their own evaluation processes.



157 on-site completed 62 remote

completed

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The College administers two programs that accredit all of BC's diagnostic and private medical/ surgical facilities. The College's accreditation programs establish accreditation and performance standards, procedures and guidelines to ensure the delivery of high-quality health system services.

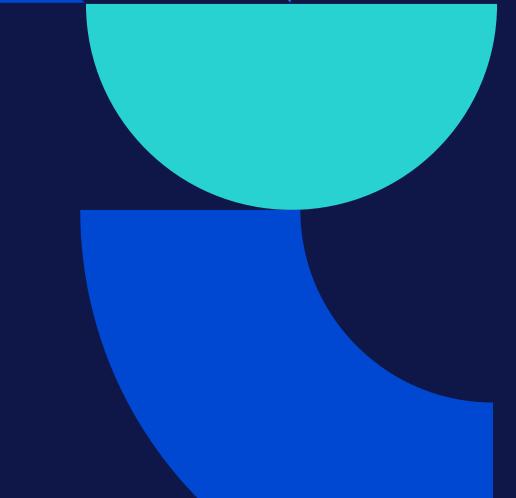
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The Diagnostic Accreditation Program has 24 accreditation programs covering diagnostic imaging, laboratory medicine, neurodiagnostic services, pulmonary function and polysomnography.

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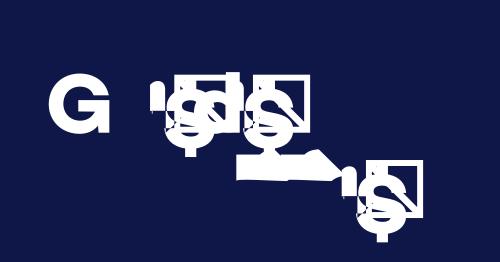






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A top priority for the College is to work collaboratively with key partners such as government, universities, hospitals, associations, and other organizations to address provincial and national issues such as:





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The College is committed to sharing information and consulting widely with registrants, the public, the Ministry of Health, and its health partners on matters of mutual interest and importance. In 2022/23, the College engaged many in the development and ongoing review of various practice standards and professional guidelines.

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Consulting with registrants during the development of new or revised practice standards provides insight into various perspectives on specific issues, including how to apply standards in a clinical setting. Hearing directly from patients helps guide the development of public resources which clearly explain aspects of standards that relate to them.

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The College published a series of <u>videos</u> in collaboration with the BC College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM) to further support the



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The following public resources were developed or revised, and published on the College website:

- Advertising and Communication with the Public
- <u>Virtual Care</u> translated into eight of the most commonly spoken languages in BC

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The following registrant resources were developed or revised, and published on the College website:

• Advertising and Communication with the Public

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R =	2023	2022	
Annual registrant and incorporation fees Annual accreditation fees Application fees Other income Investment income Rental income	\$ 28,076 5,871 1,834 1,297 589 113	\$ 27,052 5,119 2,195 839 1,301 208	
	37,780	36,741	
E Salaries and benefits Assessmen 20 accreditations and reviews General and administrative Amortization Professional fees Occupancy costs Information technology Board and committees Librar11Tf-010050Tex4C.04Tw00917ogy	22,118 3,633 2,427 2,152 1,980 1,370 1,348 1,149	20,511 3,448 1,836 ₄ 2,208 1,150 1,534 1,265 992	



For the year ending February 28, 2023

(Expressed in thousands of dollars)

Note: Allocations of expenditures by function are unaudited figures.

	FY	2022	FY	2023	I c (D c)	% c a
Accreditation Programs	\$	5,855	\$	5,968	\$	113	2%
Board and Ex23 utive.111 O Td[FY 2)7 (0)31	(2)8 ((3)] [J/Spa	an<	3 (8921</td <td>.444</td> <td>0 Td()T</td> <td>jEMC 23)53 O Tdβc5</td>	.444	0 Td()T	jEMC 23)53 O Tdβc5

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The following provides a high-level summary of progress made in 2022/23 towards the key goals of the four pillars in the strategic plan.

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 All board members and many committee members have taken training in cultural safety and humility, implicit bias, trauma-informed practice and administrative fairness.

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- Board members formally renewed their commitment to cultural safety and humility at their June 2022 retreat in a blanketing ceremony where other health leaders served as witnesses and Elder Sulksun (Shane Pointe) led the proceedings.
- The College continued its critical review of the complaint process to identify opportunities to make it safer and more accessible for Indigenous Peoples. The process is expected to be completed in 2023.

 A new College brand and visual identity that reflects the values of inclusivity and accessibility was approved by the Board in November 2022 to replace the College crest.

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• Work is under way with the Ministry of Health to develop a structure for associate physicians to work in primary-care settings and to find innovative solutions to address the province's health human resourcing challenges.

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- The transition from in-person workshops to online learning modules was launched to reach more registrants across the province, and to provide them with flexible course formats and content.
- The BC Public Advisory Network held two meetings and continued to provide valuable feedback on regulatory matters.

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The role of the College and its authority and powers are set out in the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996, c.183, the Regulations and the Bylaws made under the Act. A Board of 10 peer-elected registrants and six members of the public appointed by the Ministry of Health govern the College. Under the legislation, the College has many committees made up of board members, medical professionals and public representatives. Committee members review issues and provide guidance and direction to the Board and College staff, ensuring a well-balanced and equitable approach to regulation. The daily operations of the College are administered by the registrar and CEO, and other medical and professional staff.



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Dr. B.A. Priestman (President) Mr. T.T.S. Mann (Vice-president) Dr. C.S. Leger (Treasurer)

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District 1:Dr. J.T. WaleDistrict 2:Dr. J.J. KingsleyDistrict 3:Dr. R.R. AbrahamsDr. C.S. LegerDr. C.Y.C. NguanDistrict 4:Dr. B.A. PriestmanVacantVacantDistrict 5:Dr. W.D. SandenDistrict 6:Dr. A. Du PreezDistrict 7:Dr. P.D. Rowe

A 🥵 d b'§s 👗

Ms. J.W.E. Dyson Dr. M.L. Greenwood, PhD Mr. T.T.S. Mann Ms. H.A. Muller Ms. S.F.J. Ross Mr. L.R. Yip

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Dr.Jryn Dr.D70 (.Gr)3u15 (a15 (and)3 (ni)8 (s)5 (t)35 (e)10 (n)] JO -1 Dr.Gr. llst18 (e ,)K57(. R)Cr) Bac ('Ş): M[®]. H.A. M , M . G. K 'S[®] ad, KC, D . J.J. KS[®] , D . M.L. G d, P D, M . M. E , M[®]. J.W.E. D[®] , D . D.A. U , D . S. McD a d, D . M.J. M a , D . A. D P , M . L.R. YS, M[®]. C. d B 'S

F ('S)): M.T.T.S. Ma, D.B.A. P'S, a, D.H.M.O, D.W.D.Sad, D.C.S.L, D.R.R. Abaa, , M.S.F.J. R, D. D.G. Pdd



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The Board establishes standing committees made up of board members, subject matter experts and public representatives who review issues and provide guidance and direction to the Board and College staff, ensuring a balanced and equitable approach to professional regulation.

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Dr. B.A. Priestman •** Mr. T.T.S. Mann •/* Ms. J.W.E. Dyson •* Dr. J.J. Kingsley D 🕏 d 与 k 🖏 C 🚬 k 🖏 R 🗐 a 🚬 b 🏛

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