

## FAQ

# *Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA) FAQs*

1. When will the [Act](#) come into force?

The *HPOA* received Royal Assent in November 2022 but is not yet in force. It

5. What will the governance structure for CPSBC look like under the

CPSBC will continue to have a board and committees that report to the board. The superintendent will be responsible for selecting and recommending board members to the minister of health. The minister of health is responsible for appointing all board members. Board members have a fiduciary duty to colleges and the public.

6. What committees are required under the ?

There will be two legally mandated decision-making committees under the *HPOA*: an investigation committee and a licence/permit committee. Other committees may be formed at the discretion of the board. A board member cannot be a member of the investigation or licence/permit committee.

7. How will the complaints process be different under ?

CPSBC will continue to handle the intake of complaints and subsequent investigations; however, it will no longer determine disciplinary outcomes. Under the *HPOA*, a discipline tribunal will be formed led by an independent director of discipline. The director will be appointed by the minister of health and will be housed within the superintendent's office. The director will create independent panels to determine disciplinary action for misconduct. The discipline panel must consist of one licensee, a member of the public and a specialist in the area of concern. Colleges will be responsible for enforcing the disciplinary orders decided by the discipline panel.

8. Will complaints against licensees be made public?

No, only disciplinary actions and summary protection orders (limits, conditions, suspensions) will be published on a licensee's profile in CPSBC's online directory. Complaints that are unfounded will be dismissed. Complaints that do not result in disciplinary action, warnings and advice will not be published or made public. Colleges will, however, be able to acknowledge that they have received a complaint or disposed of a complaint in order to respond to public sources like the media.

9. How will bylaws and practice standards be created for CPSBC?

Under the *HPOA*, all eligibility, ethics, practice and accreditation standards must become bylaws, which ensures that action can be taken if a contravention occurs. The board will have to seek the advice of professional standards advisors for bylaws about eligibility, ethics and practice standards. The professional standards advisor 1 0 0 1 8 5 9 Tm0 g()JTJEQq0.(e)-(p)5