

Most questions at the 2021 AMM were answered during the question and answer panel. Please see the video of the day that is available through the original registration link, the College's Facebook page or the College's YouTube channel. The following are the remaining questions/comments that were not answered or addressed.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:42

When are you going to increase pcp scope to be as good as or better than other provinces? especially pain management for rural areas, as most als is up to or more than an hour away. other provinces do

We are increasing the scope of the PCP to more fully reflect the restricted activities granted to under the PPR. Pain management, specifically controlled substances, require more substantive training, as well as changes to our regulations and federal approval under the controlled drug and substances act. So, there will not be Morphine or Fentanyl added to the scope of the PCPs anytime soon. If you asked this question, we would be interested in knowing more about which provinces allow PCPs to administer opioids - please email us communications@ABparamedics.com.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:44

Has the college given any thought to doing more con-ed programs similar to the canned program offered through Grant McEwan a few years ago?

The College continues to work to identify and approve opportunities for continuing education. These programs are offered by several providers across the province who have the resources to develop comprehensive learning opportunities. The College does not have any connections to these program providers and receives no financial compensation for approving their programs. For the College to develop continuing education, it would require an online learning management program, which we currently do not have access to – however, as we look into new database programs, we hope to be able to look into the development and offering of CE in the future.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:08

Why is the criminal record check through backcheck and applicants cannot use their current valid record checks through police/RCMP?

Ensuring all applicants go through the same platform for their criminal record check ensures the College receives the same information, in the same format and in a timely manner. The record checks are also provided directly to the College, ensuring the information is verified. Additionally, many applicants report that the Backcheck (record provider) is a cheaper option than having to go through their local detachment.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:10

Will members be able to submit continuing competence activities through the new app?

With a new database for the College, we're hoping to improve the current process for recording activities for CC credits; and we are looking into the possibility of linking the app to the database to be able to facilitate this further. We know that recording credits in the current system is a challenge, and we're working to improve it as quickly as possible.

Kevin P • 25 May 2021 14:00

Sounds like the college needs to honestly look at the PPR. ACPs and CCPs are being held at bay while we change PCP scope. Seems like the easy road. Will the college consider this bigger job?

1 Comment:

ACP's are not being held at bay, this just sounds like an acp moaning about a long due update to pcp scope.

The PCP designation is currently the most restricted of the three designations the College regulates. The changes to education that will enable PCPs to practice to their full scope as outlined in the PPR have been in the works for well over a year now. These changes take time, but we're happy to be able to be rolling out the new education standards by September 2022. We will continue to work with educators and continuing education providers to identify education/training opportunities to remove restrictive conditions and permit practitioners to practice to the full list of restricted activities authorized in the PPR.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:00

As an EMR is there a timeline I have to get my nitrous oxide restriction removed? And is there options for places?

1 Comment:

There's no time-line but private institutions may stop offering gap-training course leaving your only option to either keep the limited scope or fully upgrade to PCP to remove it.

There is no timeline to have this restriction removed. If you choose not to take the training, the restriction will stay in place. Currently there are a limited number of educational institutions offering this training if you are interested in having this condition removed, and we will update the website as more become available.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:08

Why are there not many approved courses that are free?

Education that meets the standards set out by the CC committee and approved by Council takes time and money to develop, and those that provide this education should be compensated for it. Even if we were to develop our own training programs, there are costs associated with that that need to be recovered. On our website, there are some programs that are free, and we continue to add to our approved list frequently.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:09

Does the College get "kick-backs" from what the approved courses charge members?

No. Absolutely not.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:09

Can the College return to plastic member cards?

As the College re-issues member cards every year, and will replace a members' card free of charge, there is no current plan to change the type of card offered.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:10

Is the College still working to develop a degree program?

The College continues to work with educators and other jurisdictions in areas appropriate for a regulator.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:27

Why are some members with clear unprofessional conduct/wrong doing allowed to practice without restriction?

We are not clear on this question, as members who are found guilty of unprofessional conduct are required to practice within any sanctions imposed by the Hearing Tribunal. A Hearing Tribunal is made up of regulated members of the profession (not Council or College staff) and members of the public appointed by the government. Occasionally, if there is a clear risk to the public as a regulated member is going through the complaints process, a restrictive condition will be placed by the Complaints Director – however, this is replaced by the findings/sanction of the Hearing Tribunal.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:46

With some Health Care designations they are opening up the ability for their members to make their own educational webinar. Once approved members can pay like \$5 to get credits and watch it.

1 Comment:

Members can make money for doing webinars and it is very cheap for other members who need credits. Costs the college nothing.

The College has consistent standards for approving activities for continuing education. This ensures there is no bias when reviewing opportunities. [View the criteria, here](#). Anyone who believes their education program/training/webinar/etc. meets these criteria can apply to have their activity reviewed for approval.

Peter Dry • 25 May 2021 19:45

With the increased scope of the community Paramedic and the increase demand for these teams is there going to be a community paramedic designation?

No. Community paramedic is not a recognized/official designation. There are only three approved designations recognized by the PPR:

- Advanced Care Paramedic, ACP
- Primary Care Paramedic, PCP
- Emergency Medical Responder, EMR

The Critical Care Paramedic, CCP is a protected title under the HPA, but the designation is not one that we can register within the current wording of the PPR. This could change if we were to undergo a legislative review of the PPR, but that is not likely to happen soon.

Even if all four approved designations were to become enabled, there is no ability to *create* a new designation. The only way that the College could recognize this would be to develop it as a specialty title, as outlined within the PPR Section 15(2).

Additional Questions asked of the panel and answers committed to during the broadcast:

Since many employers require yearly Heart and Stroke BLS provider training, why is it not an approved CE training? (1:16:40)

This was a Competence committee decision made after the CPR mandatory training in 2017. We can ask the committee to look into this further.

With a pulse on the profession globally, where do you see the profession in 5 and 10 years, specifically in terms of technology, interdisciplinary team integration, research and practice (1:22:46)

Please see the June President Message for this response.

Can the College put a document that clearly outlines what each designated level can do; other than saying refer to the NCOP (1:35:33)

We are working on a Scope of Practice document, but we want to complete the work on the Standard of Practice prior to moving on to this.

Make it possible to earn credits with research assignments as in years before...or online quizzes. Will you do that? (1:38:03)

The Competence committee and the College has moved away from this method of earning credits as it no longer reflects the intent of continuing professional development.

Answered through the Panel – for these answers, please review the AMM video

Anonymous • 22 May 2021 13:08 • ANSWERED

Is there anyway that the college could add an area on the Member's area to add in a copy's of the Certificates, like the LPN's do. This will help when it comes to being Audit

1 Comments:

Anonymous • 25 May 2021, 13:21

Great idea my 2 other designations have this feature as well

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 12:39 • ANSWERED

Why are there not many approved courses that are free?

Russ • 25 May 2021 13:33 • ANSWERED

Can the college get organizational access to AHSEMS.com to help members gain resources for continuing competence courses? Not all of us work for AHS as paramedics...

3 Comments:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:46

APA con eds are terrible. Their swab course was terrible quality.

Eric H • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:45

There's ConEd available from the Alberta Paramedic Association

Russ • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:44

\$100 currently per person

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 12:40 • ANSWERED

Is the College still working to develop a degree program?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:13 • ANSWERED

Why is the point weightings for con ed so out to lunch? For the amount of required points, the courses are given much to little points compared to the 2 other designations I have points reporting for

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 12:43 • ANSWERED

What is the timeline to add Medications to the PCP scope? Can we get a solid date because it has been talked about for years now with no change

1 Comment:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:38
September 2022!

Anonymous • 23 May 2021 12:19 • ANSWERED

A year had passed so Where are we in the progress of increased PCP education and scope of practice?

1 Comment:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:38 • Shown
September 2022 can't come quick enough!

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:31 • ANSWERED

With PCP (BLS) being the predominant level in Alberta according to your numbers given by Tim, Why does the college seem to only focus on the ALS advancement while Alberta BLS is severely lacking?

1 Comment:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:46
rural BLS are constantly waiting up to or more than an hour for als-pain management,
increase the pcp scope to include that like other provinces have,

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 12:40 • ANSWERED

Can the College return to plastic member cards?

Carissa • 25 May 2021 13:59 • ANSWERED

As someone who has take two maternity leaves of 18 months, and continued to pay full registration, will the college ever adopt a non practice permit like RNs do.

Kevin P • 25 May 2021 13:42 • ANSWERED

When is Alberta going to adopt a Paramedic Degree program and catch up to the rest of progressive programs?

Daryn Watson • 25 May 2021 13:59 • ANSWERED

Make it possible to earn credits with research assignments as in years before...or online quizzes. Will you do that

Russ • 25 May 2021 13:30 • ANSWERED

insurance topic - would be nice to differentiate between an "in-scope" vs an "out-of-scope" practitioner. not everyone has the exact same insurance needs...it shouldn't be 1-size-fital-all approach...

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:18 • ANSWERED

Can the college put a document that clearly outlines what each designated level can do; other than saying refer to the NCOP

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:09 • ANSWERED

With the College leaving PAC, does that mean my insurance with Marsh is no longer valid?

Daniel Levesque • 25 May 2021 13:41 • ANSWERED

Tim talked of increasing the PCP scope of practice, is there any increase in ACP scope?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:43 • ANSWERED

Is there a timeline for critical care paramedics in Alberta?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:53 • ANSWERED

Why is there no training provided by AHS to private/industrial companies to keep up with the scope of practice changes. And why is industrial EMS consistently ignored?

JJ • 25 May 2021 14:15 • ANSWERED

Can a more indebt report for the finances of the college be transparent to members? Any plans to reduce registration fees or nonpractice be introduced of \$50 like Saskatc? Can you provide a fee matrix

1 Comment:

Matthew Aspden, Staff - Director of Finance • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 14:25

The College aims to be fiscally transparent, and the full audited financials as well as a department-by-department expense breakdowns and descriptions can be found in the annual report. In the 2019/2020 annual report the financial disclosures are covered from pages 26-35. As Wendy mentioned, the current registration fee will be decreasing from \$525 to \$510 for the next renewal cycle, and we do not expect a increase in the next couple of years. As Tim mentioned, other fees like non- practicing membership is something that we discuss, but currently there is no plan to implement one at this time.

Tonya • 23 May 2021 12:10 • ANSWERED

With the EMR scope and training advancing. I'm also wondering when will the EMR scope get more advance training such as IV Maintenance like in BC or been able to do more advanced airways.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:09 • ANSWERED

What is being done for updating the member portal? It is not intuitive/very confusing to navigate and updating continuing competence credits does not always save the first time.

Kevin P • 25 May 2021 13:49 • ANSWERED

I am curious about scope creep. I honour PCP scope increase, but when will there be consideration for ACP scope and training increase? at some point there will be no difference.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:50 • ANSWERED

Why have we not moved to a 2 year PCP program?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:52 • ANSWERED

Since many employers require Yearly Heart and Stroke BLS Provider training, why is it not an approved CE Course?

1 Comment:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:53

It's a self directed study option.

Amber • 25 May 2021 13:41 • ANSWERED

Will updating our skills as a PCP be affordable or will we have to pay hundreds of dollars per competency?

1 Comment:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:45

As a PCP I am more than happy to pay for whatever I need to lift restrictions.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:11 • ANSWERED

Other professions such as police require a mental health evaluation prior to training, as this is a mentally challenging profession has the college thought of this step and to stop hero complexes?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:11 • ANSWERED

On the member survey, there was a question about fire department being required to be registered with ACP, is there any more information on this and why?

Peter Symons • 25 May 2021 14:02 • ANSWERED

Provided that Covid is over will next years meeting be in person or will it stay on line.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:10 • ANSWERED

There may be no plans now but along with the 5-10 year question, is there any hope for a national registration. If so is moving Alberta away from PAC a step away from this?

1 Comment:

Anonymous • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 14:22

Health care is regulated by provinces - there can't be a national register

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:17 • ANSWERED

Why I listen to the AGM for 1.5 hours and get 6 Credits. When I take a Webinar from Exective Links (Nurse Links) for 2 hours and only get 2 credits. The Nurses Recognize this type of training.

Kevin P • 25 May 2021 13:43 • ANSWERED

I have appealed to the college at least twice enquiring about getting CE credits automatically applied to courses that have CME granted by other agencies like the American College of Physicians?

Brian • 25 May 2021 13:57 • ANSWERED

With a pulse on the profession globally, where do you see the profession in 5 and 10 years, specifically in terms of technology, interdisciplinary team integration, research and practice.

Daryn Watson • 25 May 2021 14:13 • ANSWERED

I would like to refresh some skills without fear of judgement at future ACOP workshop sessions and to also earn credits. Will ACOP make that possible?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:20 • ANSWERED

Are there any plans to evaluate the clinical competency of newly registered members to bridge the gap not assessed by the COPR exam?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:07 • ANSWERED

What is the long term sustainability of the current college structure given the decreased revenue streams over the past year?

1 Comment:

Matthew Aspden, Staff - Director of Finance • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 14:06

Recent decreases in revenue streams have also come with a decrease in expenses as well. With the College operating at a surplus in 2020, and with an expected surplus in 2021 and beyond, the College is sustainable long term. Over the next year, Administration will be working with Council to determine what a healthy reserve balance would be, and use the annual surpluses to achieve that amount over the next few years. Further to cement the current sustainability and as mentioned by Wendy, fees will be decreasing from \$525 to \$510 for the next renewal cycle, and is expected not to increase for at least a couple years.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:42 • ANSWERED

There seems to be a movement to increasing BLS scope. When will we finally see a 2 PCP education program

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 13:50 • ANSWERED

Why is there such variability between programs? A PCP education from a one year program far exceeds that of a four month program. We need consistency to mitigate practitioner frustrations.

Kevin P • 25 May 2021 13:50 • ANSWERED

When will the college consider requiring ACPs to be degree holders? maybe we can get program development if it becomes required. generally people will do the minimum

1 Comment:

Kevin P • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 14:12

Nursing made a change decades ago. diploma nursing went away and degree nurses became the norm. i doubt this was simply at the choice of the educators.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 12:40 • ANSWERED

Does the College get "kick-backs" from what the approved courses charge members?

1 Comment:

Matthew Aspden, Staff - Director of Finance • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:57 • Shown

The College does not receive "kick-backs" from the Educators. They do pay a fee each year depending on the type of program they offer, but it is the same amount for each educator. This fee is to help the College recover some of the costs of program approvals and reviews so that it isn't passed on to the members through membership fees.

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 14:16 • ANSWERED

As the college is the one who approves programs, why are you approving 4 month PCP programs then?

Anonymous • 25 May 2021 11:09 • ANSWERED

Has the college considered a transparent fee structure showing projected increases?

1 Comment:

Matthew Aspden, Staff - Director of Finance • Allowed on 25 May 2021, 13:38

Great question. This is our goal going forward. As Wendy mentioned: the fees starting next registration cycle have decreased from \$525 to \$510 and while they are subject to review each year, we don't expect an increase from that over the next couple years. While Inflation will continue to increase our costs year over year, eventually resulting in a need to increase fees, we plan on providing ample notice to members on any increases.