

COPR to Develop Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements for Paramedics

July 20, 2021

On behalf of the Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR), it is my pleasure to announce the launch of the Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements Project (PERRs) for paramedics. Approval of the project charter and related funding was received at the COPR Board meeting on June 16, 2021.

The PERRs project will describe the expectations for safe, effective, and ethical performance by paramedics. This work is intended to inform provincial regulatory practice standards and support the use of PERRs by educators, employers, and other key stakeholders.

COPR welcomes the development of these requirements as they will serve to support key COPR initiatives. These include administering the paramedic entry to practice examination for seven regulatory jurisdictions in Canada and serving as the single point of entry and organization responsible for the preliminary assessment of credentials for internationally educated paramedics.

PERRs will focus specifically on the current scope of practice and support labour mobility from one jurisdiction to another across Canada, for the four levels covered under the federal Agreement on Internal Trade which include:

1. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
2. Primary Care Paramedic (PCP)
3. Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP)
4. Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)

COPR staff and the Project Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from each COPR member jurisdiction, will work closely with SGT & Associates who have over 20 years of expertise in competency profile development. The PERRs will be approved by the COPR Board and reviewed every 5 years.

To ensure input and feedback at key strategic points, the following committees will be established:

- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Essential Requirements Committee
- Subject Matter Expert Committee

There will opportunities to participate in the PERRs project. Watch for more information in September.

COPR is looking forward to embarking on this project, as the results will inform each member's mandate of public protection. By sharing their knowledge of provincial and federal regulation COPR members will advance a harmonized approach to develop common, unified regulatory requirements for paramedics; the end result being consistent and best practices in regulation, enhance public safety and accountability, and facilitation of labour mobility of paramedics nationally.

Please read the below Fact Sheet for further details, and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions by emailing Chelsea Wilker at info@copr.ca.

Overview: Developing Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements for Paramedics



The Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR) is comprised of provincial self-regulating and government regulatory authorities. Embracing their legislated mandates of public protection and their joint responsibility to meet the requirements of the federal Agreement on Internal Trade, on June 16, 2021, the COPR Board of Directors approved the final project charter and funding to develop Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements (PERRs).

PERRs will describe the expectations for safe, effective, and ethical performance by paramedics to inform provincial regulatory practice standards and support the use of PERRs by educators, employers, and other key stakeholders.

PERRs will also support COPR's other functions of administering the paramedic entry to practice examination for seven regulatory jurisdictions in Canada and serving as the single point of entry and organization responsible for the preliminary assessment of credentials for internationally educated paramedics.

PERRs will reflect the current scope of practice and support labour mobility from one jurisdiction to another across Canada, for the four levels covered under the trade agreement which include:

- 1) Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
- 2) Primary Care Paramedic (PCP)
- 3) Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP)
- 4) Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)

The two-year project will launch in late summer with the first meeting of the Project Steering Committee comprised of representatives from each COPR member jurisdictions. The PERRs will be approved by the COPR Board and reviewed every 5 years.

To ensure input and feedback at key strategic points, the following committees will be established:

- 1) Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- 2) Essential Requirements Committee
- 3) Subject Matter Expert Committee

There will opportunities to participate in the PERRs project. Watch for more information in September.

Timelines and Key Milestones

Phase One: <i>Governance Established</i>	Phase Two: <i>Framework Approved</i>	Phase Three: <i>PERRs Drafted</i>	Phase Four: <i>Validation Consultation</i>	Phase Five: <i>Final PERRs Approved</i>
August – September 2021	October – December 2021	January – June 2022	July – December 2022	January – April 2023
Governance structure established with management and Project Steering Committee in place	Background paper prepared to inform preferred framework to guide development	PERRs drafted and reviewed by Subject Matter Expert Committee	Pan-Canadian Validation consultation and analysis	Final PERRS approved by COPR Board
Appointments to other committees completed	Essential Requirements Committee reviews and recommends proposed conceptual framework	Consultation with Stakeholder Advisory Committee	Results of validation consultation reviewed and adjustments to PERRs made	COPR member boards approval
	Project Steering Committee discusses and confirms final framework	Project Steering Committee approves draft for validation survey		PERRs translated to French, and both versions released

Dr. Susan Glover Takahashi (SGT & Associates) will guide the project bringing her expertise of developing regulatory competency profiles with several health professions for over 20 years as well as designing entry-to-practice and ongoing-practice assessment programs.

For further information on the project charter contact COPR Executive Director Chelsea Wilker.