



STAFF REPORT

Title: College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta - Practice Readiness Assessment

Meeting Date: January 17, 2023

Executive Summary:

The City of Cold Lake has received an update from Dr. Michael Caffaro, the Assistant Registrar of Registration for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA).

The letter describes the CPSA's Practice Readiness Assessment (PRA), for foreign doctors moving to Canada who do not have complete Canadian credentials. The PRA consists of two parts. The first is a three-month assessment where the foreign doctor will work under the direct supervision of a CPSA-approved assessor. From there, the doctor will move to his or her community of choice and begin a three-month assessment during which time they can work more independently, known as a Supervised Practice Assessment.

The CPSA has introduced a pilot project that will allow foreign trained doctors who have received similar training to that obtained in Canada to proceed directly to the three-month Supervised Practice Assessment. It is hoped that this effort has foreign-trained doctors establishing their own practices in their chosen communities more quickly.

Dr. Michael Caffaro's letter is attached to this report for council's review.

Background:

At its regular meeting held on November 23, 2022, Council authorized a letter on behalf of the City of Cold Lake to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA). The letter, addressed to Dr. Scott McLeod, CPSA registrar and dated November 25, 2021, sought clarification in regards to the process of transitioning doctors who are new to Canada into the Alberta healthcare system, after concerns about the process were raised by local physicians.

A reply was received from Dr. Michael Caffaro, the Assistant Registrar of Registration for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA), dated December 1, 2021. The reply described the process and stated that the CPSA was taking steps to break any log jams in the process by training additional assessors.

Council voted to accept this response as information. Dr. Michael Caffaro's recent letter comes as an update to the community in light of the new pilot project it describes.



Alternatives:

- The Committee may accept this letter as information.
- The Committee may recommend that council authorize additional correspondence on this matter.

Recommended Action:

Administration recommends that the Corporate Priorities Committee accept the letter as information.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No

Submitted by:

Kevin Nagoya, Chief Administrative Officer