



Update on the Professional Reliance Review

September 5, 2018

The [Final report](#) was released by the BC government on June 28, 2018. The College has posted updates specific to the Professional Reliance Review and supporting information on the [College website](#).

Over the course of the summer the College - along with our sister professional regulatory associations - has committed substantial time and resources to work with Ministry staff to identify the best way to achieve the outcomes that we have all agreed upon. Specifically, improving capacity, transparency, accountability and most importantly improving the public confidence in the system.

At a meeting on August 22nd with Minister Heyman, Executive Director Christine Houghton reiterated concerns that the scope of the proposed changes could lead to a fundamental erosion of self-regulation and unintentionally have a negative impact on the ability of the professional regulators to protect the public interest.

To be clear, the College is absolutely committed to improving the model, and we welcome enhanced oversight and transparency, but for self-regulation to be effective and accountable government must ensure that the proposed legislation and oversight office:

- Limits the office to governance issues alone and define those powers within the Act,
- Maintains the independence of the office,
- Maintains professional voices through (merit-based) election processes and ensure that statutory committees maintain their accountability to the regulator,
- Leverages existing government infrastructure and expertise to minimize costs and maximize capability, and
- Safeguards against any changes that will undermine the capacity and accountability of professional regulators.

Again, it is important that all College members pay attention to these significant reforms being proposed. We will continue to work with government and our partners as we move forward on this critical initiative and - within the restrictions of the non-disclosure agreement



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with government - we will continue to keep you apprised of developments. Please contact Christine Houghton at executivedirector@cab-bc.org with any comments or questions.