

## **Stakeholder Consultation Questions**

### **Proposed Health Profession Regulatory Reform**

**Q.1. In general do you support reform for the legislative framework governing self-regulating health professions in Saskatchewan as proposed in the attached consultation package? Why or why not? Please provide your reason(s) below.**

**Q.2. As referenced in the “Summary of NIRO Regulatory Reform Proposal” document included in the attached consultation package, NIRO has submitted a proposal to reform the legislative framework for regulated health professions, which includes the following:**

- **The authority to address a practitioner's fitness to practice;**
- **Empowering regulatory bodies to suspend or restrict a member's ability to practise while a complaint is under investigation;**
- **Enabling council to adopt bylaws without membership approval;**
- **Allowing council to adopt bylaws that establish panels from the investigation committee and the discipline committee to address hearings or investigations;**
- **Giving investigation committees the authority to properly investigate complaints;**
- **Allowing regulatory bodies to continue their investigations of members where the member's conduct is potentially criminal in nature;**
- **Authorizing regulatory bodies to establish processes for selecting members of council in bylaw rather than legislation;**
- **Authorizing regulatory bodies to use non-disciplinary alternatives to address concerns about behaviour that do not warrant formal discipline; and**
- **Ensuring legislation governing NIRO members contains a "duties and objects" clause.**

**Do you have any comments or questions regarding one or more of the NIRO proposal referenced above? Please provide your comments/questions below.**

**Q.3 In addition to the NIRO proposal, the following additional proposals have also been submitted that complement the NIRO proposal:**

**a. College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan**

- **Proposal from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, which includes seven proposals to amend *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, which are intended to:**
  - **Address a practitioner's fitness to practice;**
  - **Empower the CPSS to restrict a member's ability to practise while a complaint is under investigation (currently the CPSS does have the authority to temporarily suspend a member's licence but there is no authority to impose restrictions where that would be more appropriate);**
  - **Give the CPSS's investigation committees the authority to properly investigate complaints. Although the CPSS has more investigative authority than other NIRO members, these provisions are not as robust as provided for physician regulators in other provinces;**
  - **Allow the CPSS to inform the appropriate legal authorities where the regulator becomes aware of a member's potential criminal conduct during an investigative process;**
  - **Authorize the CPSS to establish processes for selecting members of council in bylaw rather than legislation;**
  - **Authorize the CPSS to use non-disciplinary alternatives to address concerns about behaviour that do not warrant formal discipline; and**
  - **Include a "duties and objects" clause in the legislation.**

**Do you have any comments or questions regarding one or more of the proposals referenced above regarding the CPSS proposal with respect to *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*? Please provide your comments/questions below.**

**b. Other Supplemental Proposals:**

- The following proposals were submitted to complement the NIRO proposal but are specific to each of the following regulators:
  - Proposal from the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Association of Saskatchewan (RNPAS) to increase the number of allowable public representatives on their council from one to three;
  - Proposal from the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA) to change the regulator's name to College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan (CRNS); and
  - Proposal from the Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (SASLPA) to change the regulator's name to the Saskatchewan College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists.

Do you have any comments or questions regarding any of the other supplemental proposals referenced above that were submitted by the RPNAS, SRNA and SASLPA? Please provide your comments/questions below.

**Q.4. (a) In your opinion what do you see as the possible impacts, both positive and negative, resulting from reforming the legislative framework of regulated health professions? Possible impacts may include (but would not necessarily be limited to):**

- Increased accountability to the public
- Greater education and awareness among practitioners and the public regarding the role of self-regulating professions (i.e. public protection mandate)
- Other

Please include any additional comments below.

**Q.4.(b) What steps/options would you recommend to help address any impacts you identified above?**

**Q.5. Do you have any additional questions regarding regulatory reform for self-regulating health professions?**

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