

Transparency — A College Value



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COLLEGE VALUES

Public Interest

Integrity

Collaboration

Accountability & Transparency

There is a growing societal value, if not expectation, for increased transparency in public institutions and organizations such as regulatory bodies which have a public mandate. Transparency and accountability are core values that have been articulated by Council to guide College behavior and decision-making. These two values are intrinsically linked because accountability relies on being transparent in governance actions, decision-making and reporting on outcomes.

In an effort to embody the core value of transparency and to be more open about its decisions and processes, Council has directed that a new transparency policy replace a policy on confidentiality. The new direction will clearly state that College documents are public documents unless there is a compelling reason to keep them confidential. Criteria will be developed to clarify the limited circumstances when information would be considered confidential, such as personal and health information protected by law. Once this new policy is finalized, the College will use its website as the repository of information to keep stakeholders — the public, members, government, educators and collaborative partners — informed about the College's governance, management and profession regulation activities.

Council meetings have always been open to anyone who wishes to attend. Meeting dates are posted on the website under *Public Meetings & Hearings*, at the top of the home page. This is also where you will find the links to the meeting agendas and, in the future, to the documents prepared to support Council decision making.

Other tools that provide transparency into the organization are:

- the College website;
- annual reports available online;
- *résumé* newsletters; and
- annual workshops with College updates and an opportunity for members to ask questions about its activities.

The College invites scrutiny from all stakeholders. We strive to earn and maintain public and member trust in governing the College and regulating Registered Dietitians in Ontario.