

## **Notice of Bylaw Amendments: Background**

The College has had a category of registration known as 'Interim' for many years. The purpose of the category was, primarily, to mitigate undue or significant delays caused by the national examination schedule for individuals seeking registration. The clinical examination was offered only twice per year, which had the potential to delay the opportunity to apply for full registration. While considering more efficient approaches to register qualified applicants, a goal of the College is to register applicants as full registrants as quickly as possible.

The Board has considered the issue of interim registration carefully and at this time recommends eliminating the category. To meet the goal stated above the clinical evaluation will be offered four times per year in British Columbia by the University of British Columbia. This will minimize the clinical examination delay for UBC graduates as well as graduates of other Canadian programs and international graduates.

It is in the public interest to have registrants fully licensed to practice having met all registration requirements. The College has also heard from interim registrants that it is in the individual registrant's interest as well. Interim licensing comes with public perception, billing, and employment challenges.

The interim category is also challenging to administer due to the language in the bylaw itself. As an example, if an individual is unsuccessful on a particular examination their permit is to be cancelled. Otherwise, it is cancelled after a maximum of 15 months. These rules are inconsistent with regulation in all other provinces and provide no remedy when a permit is cancelled.

The Board has considered the argument that having an interim category allows individuals to gain confidence or get more clinical experience prior to attempting a clinical examination. While this may be in the interest of individuals, it is not within the mandate of the College to facilitate clinical experience for exam preparation nor is it aligned with the public interest.

A final issue that may be pandemic related and short-lived, yet real, is that many supervisors report supervision fatigue and are no longer taking physical therapy students or they are unwilling to supervise interims.

Comments can be submitted to the following by **October 6, 2022**

College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia  
Registrar and CEO  
[bylaws@cptbc.org](mailto:bylaws@cptbc.org)

**and/or**

Professional Regulation and Oversight Branch  
Ministry of Health  
1515 Blanshard Street  
PO Box 9649 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9P4  
Email: [PROREGADMIN@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PROREGADMIN@gov.bc.ca)