

What's happening at the College of Acupuncturists of Alberta.

Update for Members

December 2022



As the holiday season nears, and a new year approaches, I am proud and excited to announce that the College will be publishing a Strategic Plan as well as an associated Business Plan early in 2023.

My hope is that these plans convey the College's determination to ensure a bright future for the acupuncture profession in Alberta. We know that there are great and exciting times ahead. More details on these plans can be found in this newsletter and I will be sending out a full announcement once they are published.

As always, please reach out with any questions or comments you have for me or the College at info@acupunctrealberta.ca.

Erin Stroud
Executive Director & Registrar

FACEBOOK

Follow Us

Do you follow us on [Facebook](#) yet? The College uses our Facebook page to post updates, announcements, and information about what the College is up to. Following us on Facebook is an easy way to stay current and share in our excitement as we make changes at the College.



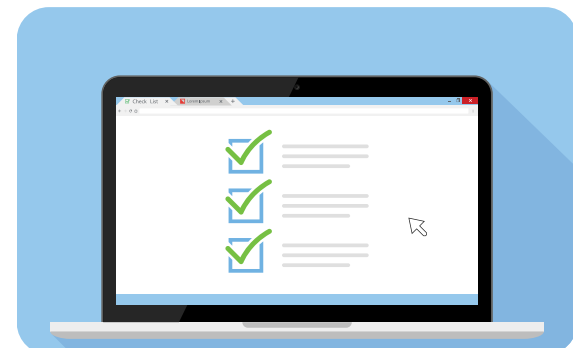
CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

College Closed December 26-January 2

During the Christmas season, the College will be closed from Monday, December 26 to Monday, January 2, with staff returning to the office on Tuesday, January 3.

I would like to wish all of our members a safe, happy, and joyous holiday season and look forward to working together in the new year.

2023-24 RENEWAL CYCLE

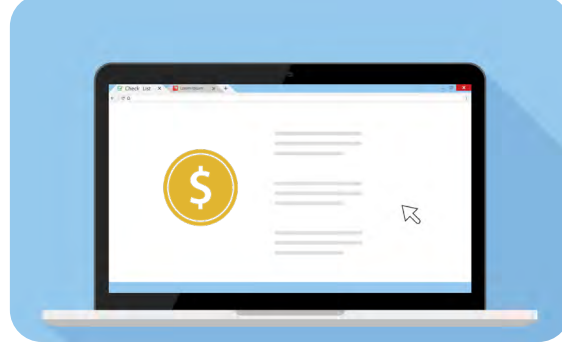


Registration Renewal Opens 1 February 2023

Registration Renewal for the 2023-24 cycle is coming up early in the new year. Registration will open February 1, 2023 and close on March 31, 2023. You can expect additional information coming early in the new year regarding supports that will be made available to members to assist with the renewal process on the Member Portal.

2023-24 Renewal Fee Due in a Single Payment

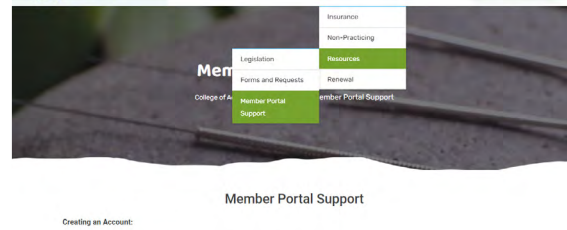
I would like to take this opportunity to remind members that membership renewal fees for the 2023-24 cycle will be the same as last year - \$1200. However, this will be required to be paid in full in a single payment.



Q&A Document Now Available

On November 23 & 24, the College held webinars on filling out and submitting your Continuing Competency Program (CCP) form.

In order for all members to have access to the same information, we have published a Q&A document on the College's [Member Portal Support](#) page that covers the questions that were asked during those webinars.



Member Portal Support

We have added a [Member Portal Support](#) page to the College's website where members can go to find all supports available for their Member Portal. Additional content will be added to this page throughout 2023, and more will be added in future years as additional functionality is introduced to the Member Portal.

Q&A

WEBINAR

Fill In and Submit Your CCP Form

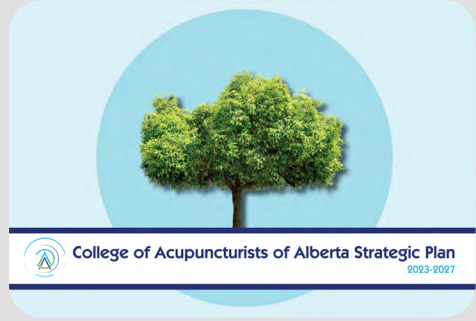
College of Acupuncturists of Alberta

MAKING THE COLLEGE STRONGER

Our Vision for the Future

Strategic Plan

I am proud to announce that the College's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan will be published on our website in early 2023. In this plan, the Council and I worked together to drill down to the core of what we envision for the College in the next five years. This sense of purpose helped us create a plan that is simple and concise. I believe that a clear and focused strategy will keep us all motivated and driven towards compelling and important goals that will strengthen the acupuncture profession in Alberta.



Business Plan

As a complement to our Strategic Plan, we will also be publishing our 2023-25 Business Plan in early 2023. This document sets specific goals that the College plans to achieve in the near term that move us towards accomplishing our bigger strategic objectives. Moving forward, our Annual Reports will report on our progress towards these goals on a yearly basis.



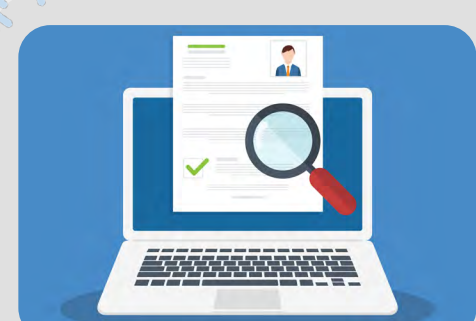
2020-21 Annual Report

I am happy to let you know that we have published our 2020-21 Annual Report to the Minister of Health. We have also published this document on the College's [website](#). Take a look to read about updates on our business goals, learn about our Regulatory Committees activities, see exam and registration data, and more.



Council Appointments

In November, the College initiated a recruitment process to find Council and Regulatory Committee members. I would like to thank all those members who took the time to apply. We are now moving onto the selection process. I will update you as we move through this process and candidates are selected.



A WORD FROM COLLEGE STAFF

Conduct Corner



Andrea Snow
Complaints Director

I know that complaint outcomes can oftentimes be utilized as educational opportunities for those working in the acupuncture profession. That is why we are launching Conduct Corner, a place to highlight learnings that arise in the complaints department at the College.

In a recent case, an acupuncturist did not recognize the signs of "pneumothorax", did not take the right steps to ensure patient safety, and did not sufficiently document this information. In addition, the patient file did not contain sufficient health history or informed consent for treatment and was missing other fundamental information to support the safe treatment of the patient.

What acupuncturists can learn from this case:

- 1. Recognize the signs:** a patient you are treating experiences shortness of breath and pain immediately after an acupuncture treatment.
- 2. Take action:** your responsibility as an acupuncturist is to appropriately assess and act on the situation.
- 3. Document:** once you act, you must clearly and sufficiently document all details about the adverse reaction and what you did.

Recognizing the signs, acting, and documenting will not only ensure the safety of the patient, but it may become a mitigating factor if there is a complaint against you or in cases where the patient decides to pursue legal action.

For more information on how you can ensure the safety of a patient, refer to the following standards of practice: [Patient Records](#), [Code of Professional Conduct](#), and [Standards of Competency and Practice](#).

Congrats to Our New Acupuncturists

At the end of October, the College held our Fall 2022 Alberta Acupuncturists Registration Examinations (AARE). I would like to recognize the training institutions and all of the students who challenged the exams for their hard work and dedication.

In an effort to increase transparency, the College is publishing the pass rates for AARE. The Fall 2022 AARE pass rates were:

- Pan-Canadian Exam: 88%
- Safety Exam: 97%
- Modalities Exam: 93%
- Acupuncture Points Exam: 88%

I would also like to note that the Alberta pass rate of 88% for the Fall 2022 Pan-Canadian exam was higher than the national pass rate of 83%.

A special congratulations to all students who passed the exams and are expected to become acupuncturists early next year! We look forward to working together with you to improve the health of Albertans through acupuncture.



Frank Yeh
Director of Competency and Education

