

Draft Bylaws Overview

Permits

This bylaw part only applies to physical therapy and optometry as other professions regulated within CHCPBC cannot practice through a Health Profession Corporation.

Under the new bylaws related to permits for Health Profession Corporations:

- Health Profession Corporations are overseen by the new Permit Committee.
- The Permit Committee may review, renew, impose limits and conditions or revoke applications and permits for Health Profession Corporations.
- Permits expire on March 31 of each year unless directed otherwise by the Permit Committee.
- Application and annual fees for Health Profession Corporations permits are in the bylaws' schedules.
- For Health Profession Corporations whose Permit expired, licensees can renew them until May 31 by paying a late fee and submitting the required documents. After May 31, licensees seeking to renew their expired Health Profession Corporations Permit must re-apply as if they were a new applicant.
- Permit applicants may seek a reconsideration of an adverse decision (refusal).
- Health Profession Corporations are required to maintain liability insurance or professional liability protection or both. Failing to maintain coverage must lead to notifying the College and ceasing to operate as a corporation.
- Health Profession Corporations' names are approved by the Registrar or Permit Committee. Prior approval is also required for name changes.
- Health Profession Corporations amalgamating must obtain prior approval from the Permit Committee.
- Only active licensed healthcare professionals (physiotherapists and optometrists) can own voting shares in a company that controls Health Profession Corporation.
- Health Profession Corporations must designate a licensee as the primary contact with the College for communication purposes.
- Health Profession Corporations cannot engage in business activity that creates a conflict of interest for optometrists or physical therapists that own shares or are directors, senior officers or employees.

Additionally, the College is taking the opportunity during this transition to harmonize and bring consistency to Health Profession Corporations requirements for physical therapy and optometry. Therefore, the new bylaws have unified requirements for both professions related to:

- Professional liability protection or insurance (s.7.12 to 7.14)
- Corporation names and approval (s.7.5 to 7.11)

The full part of the draft bylaws is available here: <https://chcpbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2025-05-20-draft-bylaws-part-7-consultation.pdf>