

By-Law Q and A

What is being proposed?

The proposed by-law will permit the College to post the results of out-of-premises inspections. Since 2010, the College has had the authority to inspect these premises. Since then, more than 250 premises have been inspected.

What kind of information will be posted?

When a premises is inspected, it receives one of the following outcomes: a pass, a pass with conditions or a fail.

The by-law amendment proposes that the following information be included on the College's website:

- An alphabetical list of all premises
 - The name and address of each premises
 - The current outcome of inspections of the premises (pass, pass with conditions, fail)
 - Date of outcome
- The posted information will include only what is current from the date the by-law goes into effect (on or about January 31, 2013.)
- For example, if a premises:
- Passed its inspection in July 2012, the information shown will be a pass as of the date the by-law goes into effect as that is the active status.
 - Passed with conditions in July 2011, and all conditions have been addressed and the premises is a pass with no conditions when the by-law goes into effect, the information shown will be a pass when the by-law goes into effect.
 - Passed with conditions in July 2011, and there are still outstanding conditions to be addressed, the information shown will be a pass with conditions as of the date the by-law goes into effect.
 - Met all conditions after the by-law came into effect, the history would show as follows:

Example website entry:

*ABC Care Centre
123 Main St, Suite 1656
Citytown, Ontario*

| Date | Outcome/Status | Details (proposed section) |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| July 2013 | Pass | View PDF |
| February 1, 2013 (date by-law goes into effect) | Pass with conditions | View PDF |

When will this go into effect?

This consultation will be closed January 25, 2013. Plans are underway to have a special meeting on or about January 31, 2013 for Council to consider the feedback and decide whether to pass the by-law. If approved, the by-law would come into effect the day of the special meeting and appear on the website shortly thereafter.

How long will information remain on the public register?

At this time, all history from the date the by-law goes into effect will remain on the public register about each premises indefinitely. Council will consider this issue further to determine the appropriate length of time it should remain on the register.

What happens when there are changes to the conditions or to a fail grade?

This information will be added to the history. In the example above, the conditions identified may have included some changes to medical record keeping, or drugs on hand or resuscitation equipment. Those specific conditions could be provided in the *Details* section. Once the conditions are met, it could be noted on a subsequent date in a subsequent entry in the *Details* section. We would like your feedback about including this type of information on the website.

Why is this being done?

Over the first two years of the Out-of-Hospital Premises Inspection Program, the College identified a number of areas for improvement. Increasing transparency of the program by sharing inspection results with the public was one of the key priorities identified; but without the by-law change, this information cannot be released.

When a premises fails, is it shut down outright or are they simply barred from performing the specific procedures for which they were failed?

Premises that fail an inspection are ordered to stop performing procedures, covered under the regulation, until the concerns that have been identified in the assessment have been addressed. This doesn't necessarily mean the premises is closed. If a physician is also providing other services that are not captured under the OHP program, they are permitted to continue to provide those services.

Will results of premises inspections be available retrospectively, particularly in the case of fails, dating back to when the program was launched in 2010?

Council did not decide to make information public from the beginning of the program recognizing that early in the program when the new and rigorous standards were established, some premises needed time to come up to the new standards and have worked very hard to do so. Prior to 2010, there were no specific articulated standards for premises to follow. Council felt the most important information for the public is what is current and all outcomes and status from the date the by-law goes into effect.

Council also strongly believes that the purpose the program was to ensure patient safety and high quality care in the premises and patients can be confident that any premises is meeting the very high standards set by the program.

Why is the consultation period only 30 days?

This is an abridged consultation period (30 days). Council asked the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care for this shorter circulation period recognizing the importance of moving forward as quickly as possible. The Minister approved the abridgement. Please get your feedback to us quickly so it can be considered by Council at its next special meeting.