

COPR to Develop Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements for Paramedics

July 20, 2021

On behalf of the Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR), it is my pleasure to announce the launch of the Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements Project (PERRs) for paramedics. Approval of the project charter and related funding was received at the COPR Board meeting on June 16, 2021.

The PERRs project will describe the expectations for safe, effective, and ethical performance by paramedics. This work is intended to inform provincial regulatory practice standards and support the use of PERRs by educators, employers, and other key stakeholders.

COPR welcomes the development of these requirements as they will serve to support key COPR initiatives. These include administering the paramedic entry to practice examination for seven regulatory jurisdictions in Canada and serving as the single point of entry and organization responsible for the preliminary assessment of credentials for internationally educated paramedics.

PERRs will focus specifically on the current scope of practice and support labour mobility from one jurisdiction to another across Canada, for the four levels covered under the federal Agreement on Internal Trade which include:

1. Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
2. Primary Care Paramedic (PCP)
3. Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP)
4. Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)

COPR staff and the Project Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from each COPR member jurisdiction, will work closely with SGT & Associates who have over 20 years of expertise in competency profile development. The PERRs will be approved by the COPR Board and reviewed every 5 years.

To ensure input and feedback at key strategic points, the following committees will be established:

- Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Essential Requirements Committee
- Subject Matter Expert Committee

There will opportunities to participate in the PERRs project. Watch for more information in September.

COPR is looking forward to embarking on this project, as the results will inform each member's mandate of public protection. By sharing their knowledge of provincial and federal regulation COPR members will advance a harmonized approach to develop common, unified regulatory requirements for paramedics; the end result being consistent and best practices in regulation, enhance public safety and accountability, and facilitation of labour mobility of paramedics nationally.

Please read the attached Fact Sheet for further details, and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions by emailing Chelsea Wilker at info@copr.ca.