

Moving Rapidly on Developing Pan-Canadian Essential Regulatory Requirements for Paramedics (PERRs)



We've launched and Phase One is Complete!

The COPR Board is pleased that the project remains on target. [Since August](#), we've successfully:

- Held two Project Steering Committee meetings to ensure good governance and processes.
- Appointed 27 committee members from across Canada representing the growing diversity of paramedic roles and practices.
- Completed an international/national environmental scan on competency profiles to inform the structure the PERRs framework.
- Held the first Essential Requirements Committee meeting to begin exploring definitions and frameworks.
- Held two meetings to exchange information with the CSA Group/Paramedic Association of Canada (PAC) team leading the development of a National Occupational Standard for Paramedics. Our lead consultant is also in communication with their technical consultant to enable alignment of the projects where appropriate.

Announcing Our Appointments

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprised of representatives of each COPR member organization, acts as the main oversight body for project governance and process. Members include:

Eugene Johnson	Director, British Columbia Medical Assistants Licensing Branch
Tim Ford	Registrar, Alberta College of Paramedics
Jacqueline Messer-Lepage	Executive Director, Saskatchewan College of Paramedics (PSC Chair)
Trish Bergal	Executive Director, College of Paramedics of Manitoba
Carrie Hassberger	Manager, Certification & Patient Care Standards, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Steve Legault	Coordinator of Pre-Hospital Clinical Affairs, Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec
Karl Kowalczyk	Executive Director, College of Paramedics of Nova Scotia
Matthew Leyenaar	Provincial Coordinator, Emergency Medical Services Board, Prince Edward Island Department of Health and Wellness
Ken Driscoll	Registrar, Newfoundland and Labrador Paramedicine – Regulation

The PSC thanks everyone who submitted an expression of interest to sit on a committee. We had a terrific response with over 100 people putting their names forward for just 27 positions. This made the Project Steering Committee’s appointment decisions very challenging.

Essential Requirements Committee (ERC)

Comprises regulatory and educational representatives who will review options and make recommendations on the preferred framework(s) for PERRs. Members include:

Annie Brothwell, BC	Dan Countryman, ON	Ian McEwan, AB
Jennifer Bacon, AB	Shania Bugbee, NL	Tammy Leach, SK
Karl Kowalczyk, NS	Len Rostotski, SK	

Subject Matter Expert Committee (SMEC)

These individuals have a good understanding of entry-level paramedic practice (for all levels) in Canada and will provide the “content expertise” necessary for the development of PERRs. Members include:

Ann-Marie Paquet, YK	Cari Evenson-Carleton, SK	Craig Kennedy, NL
Laura Hirello, NS	Oliver Oxbury, BC	Pauline Marcelo, ON
Paul Nairn, MB	Sheldon Thunstrom, AB	Ryan Brown, NS

Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)

Each stakeholder group were asked to forward names for representation on the SAC. These representatives will provide input/feedback to the Steering Committee at key strategic points. Members include:

Ron Bowles	Society for Pre-Hospital Educators of Canada
Derek Cassista	Paramedic Association of New Brunswick
LCol Monica Ott	Canadian Armed Forces
MWO Jean-Sebastien Morin	Canadian Armed Forces
MWO Aimee Randell (alternate)	Canadian Armed Forces
France Parisien	Health Standards Organization, Equal Program Accreditation
Dale Weiss	Paramedic Chiefs of Canada
Pierre Poirier	Paramedic Association of Canada
Tim Ford	Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators
Donna Denney	Public Representative

In addition to lead consultant Dr. Susan Glover Takahashi, COPR Executive Director Chelsea Wilker will sit

ex-officio on the committees and COPR Administrative & Examination Coordinator will be the note taker.

Timelines and Key Milestones

Phase One: Governance Established	Phase Two: Framework Approved	Phase Three: PERRs Drafted	Phase Four: Validation Consultation	Phase Five: Final PERRs Approved
August – September 2021	October – December 2021	January – June 2022	July – December 2022	January – April 2023
<p>Governance structure established with management and Project Steering Committee in place</p> <p>Appointments to other committees completed</p> <p>DONE!</p>	<p>Background paper prepared to inform preferred framework to guide development</p> <p>Essential Requirements Committee reviews and recommends proposed conceptual framework</p> <p>Project Steering Committee discusses and confirms final framework</p>	<p>PERRs drafted and reviewed by Subject Matter Expert Committee</p> <p>Consultation with Stakeholder Advisory Committee</p> <p>Project Steering Committee approves draft for validation survey</p>	<p>Pan-Canadian Validation consultation and analysis</p> <p>Results of validation consultation reviewed and adjustments to PERRs made</p>	<p>Final PERRS approved by COPR Board</p> <p>COPR member boards approval</p> <p>PERRs translated to French, and both versions released</p>

For further information on the project contact COPR Executive Director [Chelsea Wilker](#).