

Phase Three Completed

Competencies and Standards Drafted and close to 4000 Paramedics Participated in the Validation Survey



Wishing You Happy Holidays

As the year draws to a close, COPR is grateful for the many individuals who provided input into the new essential requirements. The pointed questions and frank discussions reinforced COPR's role in the profession and have helped to accurately describe what the public can expect from regulated/licensed Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs) and Paramedics with specific designations. COPR's harmonized and unified approach across Canada will support consistent paramedic practice, regulation, as well as education and its accreditation.

Since our last update in July 2022 the Canadian Paramedic Competence Framework (CPCF) and Canadian Paramedic Regulatory Practice Standards (CPRPS) have continued to develop and describe the essential regulatory requirements for entry level practice.

Consultation Process

To help ensure the content reflected current practice in Canada, several groups participated in reviews of the draft documents over the past 6 months, as guided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and consultant Dr. Susan Glover Takahashi. These included:

- Six meetings with the Subject Matter Expert Committee

- Two meetings with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Two meetings with the Critical Care Paramedic Consultation Group
- Two meetings with the Paramedic as Person Consultation Group at Dr. Glover Takahashi's recommendation based on research in health practitioner competence indicating this was an emerging role. Members included Paramedic Association of Canada's representative Dr. Elizabeth Donnelly and Caitlin Tavares.
- Meeting with the National Labour Mobility Consortia to reinforce the value of PERRs in facilitating registration of EMRs and Paramedics when moving from one province/territory to another.
- Consultant meeting between Dr. Susan Glover Takahashi (COPR lead consultant) and Dr. Alan Batt (Paramedics Association of Canada lead consultant)
- Presentations have also been made to COPR member Boards in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, the Ontario Ministry of Health, and the British Columbia EMA Licensing Board.
- Meeting with the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada as detailed below.

Collaboration with the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada (PCC)

At the Fall Stakeholder Advisory Committee, the PCC Representative Dale Weiss shared that in January 2023, they would be publishing a White Paper titled *Principles to Guide the Future of Paramedicine in Canada*. COPR's Lead Consultant Dr. Susan Glover Takahashi and PCC's Scientific Director Dr. Walter Tavares both academics at the University of Toronto, met and recommended alignment of the terms used in COPR's and PCC's documents. A meeting between PCC and COPR executive followed, and a formal collaboration was struck.

“With this paper, the PCC has outlined a timely call to action to the paramedic industry in Canada and its stakeholders. COPR is proud to heed the call. The paper reflects diverse perspectives from national thought leaders and their findings will help our organization in making informed recommendations to the benefit of the public, our healthcare system in Canada, and the wellbeing of the profession. Where appropriate, we will leverage the principles and enablers outlined in the White Paper in our own initiatives to ensure consistency and excellence in paramedicine.” – Tim Ford, COPR Board Chair

Validation Process

In late November/early December a national consultation survey was available where Canadian paramedics could verify and confirm that the documents' content reflect current and essential paramedic practice in four designations:

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

Results

Close to 4000 paramedics participated in the consultation survey with representation from all provinces, territories, and each designation. Analysis of the responses will be completed by early January 2023 and inform future revisions.

Educational and Exam Resources

With the development of the competencies and standards, a third document emerged. The purposes of the Educational and Examination Resources are to:

- assist paramedic regulators to have a common approach to scope of practice.
- describe knowledge and activities required in performing the role/competencies and meeting standards.
- support COPR in developing, defining, and describing each of the certification examinations (e.g., EMR, PCP, and ACP).
- assist educators and accreditors in developing and evaluating curricula to ensure that students graduate with the competencies necessary to provide safe and effective care for their intended designation (EMR, PCP, ACP, or CCP).

From March 1–3, 2023 COPR will hold a workshop with subject matter experts and stakeholders to review and refine these documents. It will be an in-person meeting held in Toronto and facilitated by CAMPROF Canada.

Timelines and Key Milestones

Phase One: Governance Established	Phase Two: Model Approved	Phase Three: PERRs Drafted	Phase Four: Validation Consultation	Phase Five: PERRs Approved
DONE	DONE	DONE	IN PROGRESS	ETA: April 2023

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