

## Fair Registration Practices Act (FRPA) Review Office Update:

The Office of the Fair Registration Practices Act (FRPA) is delivering on its promise to conduct more outreach activities to demonstrate Government's commitment to ensuring fair access to Nova Scotia's regulated professions and demonstrating the need to embrace newcomers in the global economy. In partnership with ISANS, the FRPA Review Office will deliver a session on International Qualification Recognition at the upcoming Atlantic Immigration Conference: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives, which will be held at Saint Mary's University from 18-20 May.

The FRPA Review Officer also plans to join Fairness Commissioners across the country in a plenary session at the CNAR Conference in Toronto, 1-3 November, to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of Ontario's Fair Access to the Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act and explore the way forward for transparent, objective, impartial and fair registration practices.

## Breakfast Meetings

Please join us for what promises to be an informative and action-packed FRPA Breakfast Meeting on Wednesday 18 May from 8-10am at the Best Western Chocolate Lake Hotel.

The agenda for the meeting includes an update from the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration and some time for Q&A. The second half of the Breakfast Meeting will feature a panel presentation on the Internationally Educated Engineers Bridging Program, sponsored by the Department of Labour and Advanced Education and delivered by the Immigrant Services Association (ISANS) of Nova Scotia and Engineers Nova Scotia.

Please also make room in your calendars for upcoming fall/winter breakfast meetings!

- o Wednesday, 14 September
- o Wednesday, 7 December

RSVP by email to the Review Officer:  
[cara.spittal@novascotia.ca](mailto:cara.spittal@novascotia.ca)

## FQR Working Group Update

Through collaborative efforts, the FQRWG has undertaken the following activities:

- o Launched the Renewed Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy, which includes surveys of regulatory bodies, national associations, and Fairness Commissioners.
- o Completed occupational action plans for audiologists and speech language pathologists, midwives and geoscientists.
- o Undertook Pan-Canadian research to explore uptake, navigability and effectiveness of pre-decision/pre-arrival information on FQR assessment and recognition.
- o Completed scans of Educational Credential Assessment, language assessment and bridge-to-licensure programs.
- o Developed and collected a trades-specific inventory of workplace integration initiatives for internationally trained tradespeople.

For more information on FQRWG, please contact: Paroo MacKinnon, FQRWG Secretariat, at 902-424-4464 or [paroo.mackinnon@novascotia.ca](mailto:paroo.mackinnon@novascotia.ca).

## Conferences

[Save these dates for 2016!](#)

**Atlantic Immigration Conference: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives**

18-20 May  
Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21  
[For more information, click on this link!](#)



**CNAR Conference and Pre-conference Events**

1-3 November, Toronto, ON  
The Toronto Marriot Downtown Eaton Centre Hotel  
Check it out online: <http://www.cnnar.ca/en/events>



**Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation, Annual Education Conference**

15-17 September, Portland, Oregon



## Multi-stakeholder Work Group Update

The Multi-stakeholder Work Group model is a collaborative approach to tackling the challenges of international qualifications recognition. The initiative continues to be led by ISANS but efforts are underway to align it more closely with the Office of the Fair Registration Practices Act.

The two newest multi-stakeholder work groups are in the professions of Social Work and Teaching. At the Social Work table, we're grappling with challenges related to the assessment process and an early meeting included the Canadian Association of Social Workers. We're also exploring the possibility of gap training through the university. At the Teachers' table, work group members have rolled up their sleeves and started to develop an orientation program to increase the contextual awareness of internationally trained teachers.

Other more well established work groups continue to meet and provide forums for lively discussion, advocacy and active collaboration.

For more information or to explore the idea of organizing a work group in your field, please contact: Jan Sheppard Kutcher, at 902-424-4637 or [jan.sheppardkutcher@novascotia.ca](mailto:jan.sheppardkutcher@novascotia.ca).

## Upcoming Events • Action Items

**Public Lecture: Immigration to Atlantic Canada: Historical Reflections, John Reid, Department of History, SMU**  
**Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, 18 May, 8pm**  
**Chair: James Morrison, SMU/RNSHS**  
**Welcome: Marie Chapman, Executive Director, CMIP**  
[For more information, click this link!](#)

**Refugees Welcome Here: Lunch, Launch & Workshop**  
**Presented by the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia in partnership with Amnesty International & Canadian Council for Refugees**

**Monday, 2 May 12-4pm**  
**Please RSVP to [info@isans.ca](mailto:info@isans.ca)**  
[For more information click this link!](#)

- o Please note that Annual data entries for 2015 were due on February 15, 2016 and there are still a number outstanding. If you are having difficulty submitting this information please contact the FRPA Review Officer.

## Review Schedule

FRPA Reviews are currently underway with the following regulatory bodies:

- o Engineers Nova Scotia
- o Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology
- o Nova Scotia College of Physiotherapists
- o Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists
- o Nova Scotia Dental Technicians Association

Due to technical problems encountered with the FRPA database, the review process is currently on hold. We are procuring IT support and aim to resume review activities within a month.

## 2015 FRPA Review Reports

- o Nova Scotia Securities Commission
- o Nova Scotia Dietetic Association
- o Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists
- o Registered Professional Foresters Association of Nova Scotia
- o Nova Scotia Real Estate Commission
- o Nova Scotia Teacher Certification

## Links

- o [FRPA Review Office](#)
- o [Labour and Advanced Education](#)
- o [RPL and Labour Mobility Unit](#)
- o [Multi-stakeholder Work Groups](#)
- o [Nova Scotia Office of Immigration](#)
- o [Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia](#)
- o [Nova Scotia START](#)
- o [Careers Nova Scotia](#)
- o [World Education Services \(see esp. WES Resources\)](#)

## Contact

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