



Message from the FRPA Review Officer:

Hello! I would like to extend a warm welcome to Melinda MacIsaac, the newly appointed Research and Statistical Officer for the FRPA Review Office. Melinda comes to us from Mi'kmaq Services in the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development. She has a special interest in adult education from a

variety of previous employment experiences and is currently reading for a Master's in Adult Education at Mount Saint Vincent University.

Now that the data tool has been updated, the FRPA Review process has resumed with 5 regulatory bodies. It is expected that these reviews will be completed and published by early October. At the upcoming FRPA Breakfast Meeting, scheduled for Wed. 14 Sept. at the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, the next round of FRPA Reviews will be announced. New and exciting professional development activities, aimed at supporting your efforts to comply with FRPA, will also be broadcasted at the meeting.

The FRPA Review Office is currently drafting the FRPA Annual Report for 2015-16 for submission to the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia in fall 2016. The Annual Data that Nova Scotia regulators provide to the FRPA Review Office enables us to identify progress made and areas for improvement. Please note that regulatory bodies which have not submitted Annual Data for 2015 are currently in contravention of the Fair Registration Practices Act.

In keeping with our promise to promote fair-access issues in Nova Scotia and across Canada, the FRPA Review Officer will join Fairness Commissioners from across the country to deliver a plenary session at the CNAR Conference in Toronto, 1-3 November, to celebrate the 10th 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 an informative and action-packed [FRPA Breakfast Meeting on Wed. 14 September, 8-10am, at the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, 2021 Brunswick Street.](#)

The agenda for the meeting includes an update from the FRPA Review Office on the fall/winter FRPA Review Schedule, an announcement on upcoming professional development opportunities, and more!

The feature presentation will be a workshop conducted by the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) on *Immigrants in the Workplace: Pre-arrival, Workplace Culture and how to Enable Success.*

Please make room in your calendars for upcoming breakfast meetings:

- o Wednesday, 7 December, 2016
- o Wednesday, 1 March, 2017

RSVP and communicate dietary concerns by email to the Review Officer: cara.spittal@novascotia.ca

Foreign Qualification Recognition Working Group (FQRWG) Update

The FQRWG launched the 2016 Monitoring and Evaluation survey of regulators, national associations, and fairness commissioners in January 2016. The data from these surveys will generate baseline information that can be used to measure progress in foreign qualification recognition systems and will shed better light on the challenges and successes of FQR systems. We also hope it will inform direction on where greater resources and investments would be advisable for future projects.

A follow-up workshop will be held in Ottawa on September 20, 2016 to share findings with a representative group of the survey respondents, discuss lessons learned and identify strategies to improve FQR data collection. The question of timeliness to a first assessment decision will also form a part of the broader group discussion.

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

Upcoming Events

2016 International Credential Evaluation Labs
26-28 October, 2016

Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Toronto, ON
For more information and to register, [click here.](#)



CNAR Conference and Pre-conference Events

1-3 November 2016, Toronto, ON
The Toronto Marriot Downtown Eaton Centre Hotel
Check it out online: <http://www.cnar.ca/en/events>



Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation, Annual Education Conference
15-17 September, Portland, Oregon



Multi-stakeholder Work Group Update

Each of the 12 multi-stakeholder work groups held productive meetings last spring. One challenge being addressed at these tables is gap-filling. Examples of this work include:

- Conducting exploratory research into solutions for professionals with educational gaps (Nursing)
- Organizing workshops to address common gaps (Dental Professionals)
- Advocating for increased post-secondary involvement in gap filling (Law)

In some professions, programming is curtailed by low numbers, so sustainability may depend on outreach to other Atlantic provinces and beyond (Dietetics). In other professions, our efforts in Nova Scotia are inspiring other provinces to take action (Engineering). Finally, plans are underway to organize new work groups in Respiratory Therapy and Accounting/Financial Professions. So the work continues, and after a summer recess we are revving up for the fall. Stay tuned!

For more information, please contact: Jan Sheppard Kutcher, at 902-424-4637 or jan.sheppardkutcher@novascotia.ca.

Action Items

- o Annual data entries for 2015 were due on February 15, 2016 and there are still a number outstanding. If you have not submitted Annual Data to the FRPA Review Office, you are currently in contravention of the Fair Registration Practices Act.
- o The RPL and Labour Mobility Unit is currently accepting applications for International Qualification Recognition (IQR) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Program Funding. For more information and Program Guidelines, [click here.](#)

FRPA Ad Hoc Advisory Group

Regulatory Body Representation

- o Kara MacGregor, Principle, MAC Interior Design
- o Jaqueline Mullenger, Director, Education & Credentials, Nova Scotia Barrister's Society
- o Richard Sharpe, Manager, Client Services, Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency
- o Vacant, Registrar/Director, Teacher Certification
- o Cathy Rose, College of Registered Nurses, Policy Consultant
- o Martin Gillis, Registrar, Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia
- o Patti Towler, CEO/Chief Legal Officer, Chartered Professional Accountants of Nova Scotia
- o Dana Sharkey, Executive Director, Cosmetology Association of Nova Scotia
- o Bruce Holmes, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Regulated Health Professions Network
- o Frank Richardson, Registrar, Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical Association

Government Representation

- o Diane Gordon, Director, Adult Education Division, Department of Labour and Advanced Education
- o Rachel Henderson, Director of Strategic Policy and External Relations, Nova Scotia Office of Immigration
- o Michelle MacDonald, Senior Legislative Policy Analyst, Department of Health and Wellness
- o Melinda MacIsaac, Research and Statistical Officer, FRPA Review Office

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

Links

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

Contact

Cara Spittal, Ph.D.
Review Officer - Fair Registration Practices Act
902-424-0191 T; 902-456-2699 C
cara.spittal@novascotia.ca