

Paramedic Association of Manitoba

Understanding

PROFESSIONAL SELF-REGULATION





Presentation Outline

- Purpose of regulation
- What is Professional Self-regulation
- Why Self-regulation
- Responsibilities of regulatory body
- > Impact on Paramedics and Profession
- ➤ Wrap-up



Purpose of regulation

Services, occupations and professions are regulated for one reason...

to protect the public





Purpose of regulation

PUBLIC PROTECTION

- Governments regulate services and activities to "ensure level playing field" between experts and public
- Government develops rules for transactions between service provider and public
- Common approach to regulating professions is self-regulation





What is Professional Self-regulation



Profession "controls" the activities of it's members...

in the interest of public protection



What is Professional Self-regulation

- "Partnership" with Government to formally regulate the profession
- Legislation provides the framework for a profession to regulate member activities
 - Legal authority to "govern" members transferred from government to profession
 - Profession expected to develop, implement and enforce rules to protect public
 - ensure competent and ethical practitioners
 - Members accountable for their practice/conduct
- "Gold standard" of professional status
 - Considerable responsibility





Members of a specialized profession possess the knowledge, skills and judgment to best regulate the profession...to ensure

public protection

and

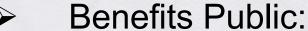
accountability





- As knowledge and specialization within a profession grow, it becomes more difficult for Government to determine and monitor standards
 - the professional members become the experts
- ➤ Based on premise that members of profession posses skills, knowledge and judgment to best regulate
- Self-regulation is widely regarded as characteristic of a profession
- Self-regulation benefits the public, the profession, practitioners and government





- Regulatory model places public interest first
- Accountability for competence and professionalism through regulator
- ➤ Public representation appointed to governing board or council
 - through legislation and government oversight





- Benefits Profession:
 - > Recognition of professional status
 - credibility/respect/legitimacy within public, political and health sectors
 - Greater autonomy and control
 - determine entry requirements
 - set practice standards
 - > Increased flexibility in establishing regulations
 - government processes often time-consuming
 - ➤ Increased access to Government





- Benefits Practitioners:
 - > Peers set standards
 - > Peer evaluation
 - Increases professional opportunities for practitioners
 - Prestige of professional status
 - potential financial rewards over time





- Benefits Government:
 - > Minimizes government role
 - Government seen to be acting in interest of public protection
 - Increases flexibility in establishing regulations
 - government processes often timeconsuming
 - Insulates government somewhat from actions of professions
 - > Transfers regulatory cost to profession





Responsibilities of regulatory body

Protect the public...

by ensuring that practitioners are qualified, competent and ethical





Responsibilities of regulatory body

- > Standards for entry to practice
 - education
 - licensing
- Continuing practice standards
 - license renewal
- Conduct and discipline of members
 - professional ethics and conduct
 - protection of the public
- On-going competence of practitioner members
 - continuing competency program
- Accountable to public and Government



Professional Self-regulation: Impact on Paramedics

- Members accountable for their practice
 - Adherence to codes/standards
 - Maintain competence and conduct
- Responsibility to the profession
 - Participation in professional governance, committees, professional development, promotion...
- Registration associated with regulatory College
 - Saskatchewan 2009 \$175.00
 - New Brunswick 2009 \$290.00
 - Alberta 2009 \$325.00



Professional Self-regulation: Impact on Profession

- Enhanced credibility as a profession
- Responsible to develop and enable standards for education and practice
- Oversee complaints resolution
- > Ensure continuing competence of practitioners
- Offers title protection
- Require liability protection
- Partnerships with government, employers, educators, other health professions and public:
 - human resource planning, policy and evaluation
 - innovations in regulation and practice
 - expanded roles for paramedic profession



Professional Self-regulation... Wrap-up

- Responsibility to regulate members in interest of public protection
- > Self-regulation is a privilege...not a "right"
- "Gold standard" of professional status
- Acknowledges the expertise and professionalism of paramedics
- Provides opportunity for professional growth and development

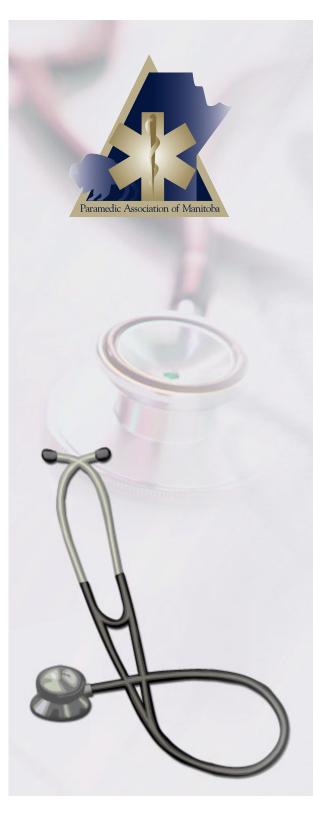




Professional Self-regulation... Wrap-up

Additional resource links:

- "Understanding Professional Self-Regulation"
 <u>www.paramedicsofmanitoba.ca/self-regulation.asp</u>
- Professional Self-Regulation SRNA www.paramedicsofmanitoba.ca/self-regulation.asp
- The Regulated Health Professions Act www.gov.mb.ca/health/hprri/
- Saskatchewan College of Paramedics www.collegeofparamedics.sk.ca



Questions???

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