

**MOTION FROM THE FLOOR SUBMISSION**

<b>Item for:</b> Council	<b>Date:</b> April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019	
<p><b>Topic:</b> Physiotherapy Competency Exam (PCE) Requirement in Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Est. Time Req:</b> 30 (min)</p>		
<p><b>This item is for:</b>    <b>Decision</b>        <b>Discussion</b>        <b>Information</b></p>		
<p><b>Overview:</b> The current requirement for completion of both the written and clinical components of the Physiotherapy Competency Examination (PCE) for University of Saskatchewan MPT graduates is creating several challenges for employers, new graduates, and MPT students. We would like discussion and input from the SCPT membership regarding whether the PCE is still necessary, still relevant for licensure, and whether it continues to serve the intention of ensuring new graduate PTs are safe health care providers.</p> <p><b>The Issue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failure rates, particularly for U of S graduates taking the Clinical Component of the PCE for the first time, have been disproportionately high over recent years</li> <li>- Given that new graduate physical therapists practice under supervision for several months following successful completion of the Written Component, employers of U of S physiotherapy graduates consistently express surprise and disbelief at the large number of these graduates who are subsequently unsuccessful in completing the Clinical Component of the PCE. The common sentiment is that these U of S graduates are practicing as “safe and effective entry-level practitioners” and yet many of them fail the clinical exam.</li> <li>- Saskatchewan employers, especially those based in hard to recruit rural and remote regions of the province, are having challenges recruiting and retaining SK- trained graduates. With only a maximum of 40 students graduating, and PT shortages in neighboring provinces (MB, AB, BC), it is imperative that the SCPT consider the implications of having reduced access to physical therapy services and potential impacts on the health and safety of the public</li> <li>- The additional stress and anxiety in addition to financial hardship created by going through the exam process, especially if required to repeat the exam, takes a substantial toll on new graduates taking the exam (and MPT students in the U of S program). Having this additional psychological and financial burden has the potential to negatively impact not only the wellness of the applicants, but the safety and effectiveness of the care they provide</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested Action:</b> Convene a working group task force to explore this issue in more depth. Discussion to consider one or more of the following: 1) removing the requirement for passing both the written and practical component of the PCE; 2) advocating and support from SCPT for more transparent reporting of reasons for failures; 3) thorough and transparent review of the practical exam process, marking criteria and site/ examiner variability</p> <p><b>Submitted by (Mover):</b> <b>Peggy Proctor</b></p> <p><b>Supported by (Secunder):</b> <b>Brenna Bath</b></p> <p><b>Attachments:</b> N/A</p>		

