

*The Health Statutes Amendment Act* (Bill 46) required health profession regulators in Alberta to cease association activities. The College continues to receive questions from registrants regarding the differences between the roles of a Regulatory College and those of a Professional Association. This document provides clarification on the distinction between Colleges and Associations.

## Difference Between College & Association

<b>COLLEGE</b>		<b>ASSOCIATION</b>
The appointed College Council works to protect the public interest and regulate the profession	<b>Mandate/Purpose</b>	The elected Association Board represents and serves as the voice for its members
Accountable to the Government of Alberta and Albertans	<b>Accountability</b>	Accountable to its members
Registration is mandatory to practice in Alberta	<b>Registration vs. Membership</b>	Membership is encouraged
Sets registration requirements and administers a continuing competence program	<b>Competence &amp; Professional Development</b>	Facilitates or provides continuing education programs and professional development opportunities.
Only regulated members may use the protected titles physiotherapist, physical therapist, and acronym PT	<b>Protected Title vs. Credentials</b>	May offer continuing education credentials to physiotherapists who have completed specific education programs
Establishes the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethical Conduct. Educates registrants about and enforces professional obligations. Legislatively barred from contract negotiations.	<b>Activities</b>	Provides member benefits such as advocacy, and professional liability insurance. Negotiates contracts on behalf of its members.
Advocates on behalf of the public interest	<b>Advocacy</b>	Advocates on behalf of the interests of its members and the profession's interest
Administers a complaints process as established in the Health Professions Act.	<b>Responding to Complaints &amp; Concerns</b>	The Association has no role in addressing complaints. The Canadian Physiotherapy Association provides access to professional liability insurance and legal advice for members

