



Orthotics Prosthetics Canada

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## NEW ERA BEGINS FOR PROSTHETIC AND ORTHOTIC PROFESSION

CAPO and CBCPO merge to create OPC

Ottawa, ON, December 15, 2014– The Canadian Association for Prosthetics and Orthotics (CAPO), incorporated in 1954, and the Canadian Board for Certification of Prosthetists and Orthotists (CBCPO), incorporated in 1972, have amalgamated to form Orthotics Prosthetics Canada (OPC). OPC takes effect January 1, 2015, and its role is to protect the public and advance the profession of prosthetics and orthotics through quality standards of practice, professional credentialing, education and awareness. Please update any references you have for CAPO or CBCPO to OPC.

*OPC President, Dan Mead C.P.O.(c) stated, “The concept of CAPO and CBCPO coming together has been an initiative that we have looked at for quite a number of years. The amalgamation of CAPO and CBCPO to form OPC will have many direct and indirect benefits. Resources will become more efficient and will be more effectively utilized to enhance the core purposes of the new organization.”*

The initiatives that have traditionally been undertaken by CAPO and CBCPO will continue to be provided. CBCPO will continue to exist as an arm’s length credentialing body to manage the certification and registration of clinicians and technicians and confer the designations of: Certified Orthotist C.O.(c); Certified Prosthetist C.P.(c); Certified Prosthetist and Orthotist C.P.O.(c); Registered Technician Orthotics R.T.O.(c); Registered Technician Prosthetics R.T.P.(c); and, Registered Technician Prosthetics and Orthotics R.T.P.O.(c). Other primary roles for OPC includes the establishment of standards for the profession and ensure ethical conduct by its professionals.

The CAPO and CBCPO organizations have been utilizing the same administrative resources and with a combined Orthotics Prosthetics Canada, significant duplication will be eliminated. The resource savings will translate into more effectiveness in the many functions OPC will perform.

**About the profession:** Prosthetic and Orthotic certified clinicians and registered technicians provide quality care and specialized expertise to increase the physical independence and mobility of Canadians.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact:

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