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The CMRTO has a new website We're even on Facebook!

Check out our new website at www.cmrto.org! As part of our new communication strategy, CMRTO has enhanced our website to provide the public and MRTs with information in ways that are convenient and useful: For example, we've made it easier to navigate so you can find what you need faster.

However, functionality of the Online Member Service and the public register remain the same, only the appearance has changed.

In part, the redesigned website is meant to facilitate a move over the next three years away from depending on print publications in favour of more web-based communications and e-versions of our current publications and other communications tools that provide information faster and more frequently.

We've even begun to use social media including interactive engagement tools such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. We launched the CMRTO Facebook page in October 2014. MRTs and CMRTO staff enjoyed watching the Registrar, Linda Gough, on Facebook as she conducted the communications workshops across the province. If you haven't already, be sure to 'Like' and 'Follow' us, and visit the website to see all the exciting changes!

Nomination for election of members to Council

MRTs registered in the electoral districts 2, Radiography (eastern district), and 5, Radiation Therapy (all of Ontario) can now nominate candidates for election to Council. The CMRTO has mailed the notice of election and nomination forms to the members who are eligible to vote in these districts. Nomination forms must be received by the CMRTO no later than Thursday, January 8, 2015.

As a reminder, the details for the election in districts 2 and 5 are below:

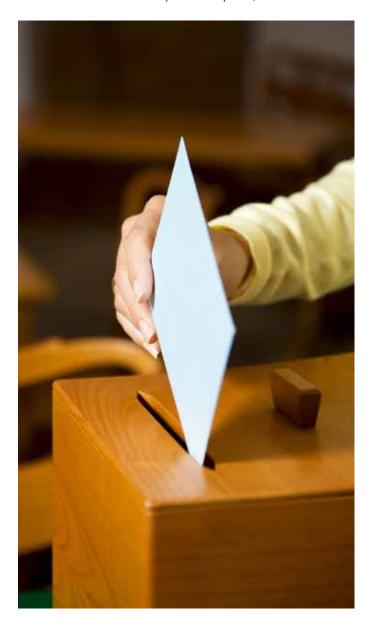
Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2015

Place: CMRTO

375 University Avenue Suite 300, Toronto

ON M5G 2J5

Time: Ballots must be received at the CMRTO no later than 4:00 p.m. on April 8, 2015.



Communications Workshops

Throughout October 2014, the CMRTO's Registrar, Linda Gough, presented a series of well received communications workshops at 11 locations around the province. More than 450 MRTs were able to attend in person.

The workshops were intended to help MRTs understand the new CMRTO guidelines on how to communicate effectively with their patients and their families, to review the CMRTO's new communication strategy and the new website, as well as provide an update on the CMRTO quality assurance program. Linda receieved positive feedback on the new guidelines for communicating with patients and on the CMRTO publication, 'What you must know about... communicating with patients'.

For those members who were not able to attend, videos of the workshops are available on the CMRTO's YouTube channel at your convenience. There is a link to the videos on www.cmrto.org.

A new way to communicate!

You can now use the CMRTO's new communications email address (communications@cmrto.org) to request communication and publication information. You can request hard copies of CMRTO publications, like the WYMKA mentioned in the above article in this issue of Insights, or report any issues regarding the website to us using this email.

Transparency Report

In October 2014, the Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, requested all of Ontario's health regulatory colleges to submit a report to the Minister outlining their transparency initiatives to ensure that all Ontarians have access to information that is relevant, timely, useful and accurate. Colleges have been asked to make transparency a priority in their strategic plans, to develop and establish measures that will increase transparency regarding college processes and decision-making, and to take steps that will make more information available to Ontarians.

CMRTO has always taken - and continues to take - initiatives that confirm our commitment to making accountability and transparency the keystones of our decision-making and our strategic direction.

Council has completed a comprehensive review of its governance structure and practices, the goal of which was to ensure the CMRTO is meeting or exceeding current expectations for accountability and transparency in its governance. In 2013, we expanded the information available on the public register about MRTs and approved a new strategic plan. In 2014, Council approved a new communications strategy for the next three years.

On November 28, 2014, the CMRTO submitted its report to Minister Hoskins. The report sets out the CMRTO's transparency initiatives and how they will add to and strengthen the existing measures that we have in place to enhance transparency. Please visit the What's New section of the CMRTO website to read the Minster's directive and our report to the Minister on transparency measures and initiatives.

Tax Receipts

Starting in 2015, the CMRTO will no longer be mailing out hard copies of tax receipts to MRTs. You will be able to access the current year's receipt as well as the two previous years' receipts by logging in to your Online Member Service account and clicking on 'My Tax Receipts'.

The process is as simple as selecting the receipt you need, and hitting print! You can access your records when you need them, as many times as you need to. This is another part of the CMRTO's continued efforts to introduce new online features and services and simplify processes for MRTs. Your receipt for the 2014 tax year will still be mailed to you.

Reminder: Completing your Quality Assurance Portfolio

Reminder for all members

Each year, each member of the CMRTO is required to complete the Quality Assurance (QA) Portfolio, and complete and record at least 25 hours of continuing education and professional development activities. All members are required to do this even if they have not been randomly selected to submit their QA Portfolio to the Quality Assurance (QA) Committee for assessment. The QA year runs from January 1 to December 31. MRTs are required to retain a copy of their completed QA Portfolio for five years.

Reminder for members who are required to submit their QA Portfolios to the CMRTO for assessment

MRTs who have been selected to submit their QA Portfolio were notified by a letter dated June 5, 2014, informing them of the requirement to submit their quality assurance records for the year January 1 – December 31, 2014 to the QA Committee for assessment no later than January 9, 2015.

For the 2014 QA program, MRTs have a choice about how to submit their quality assurance records: MRTs must submit either the ePortfolio electronically, or the QA Portfolio (print version) by mail.

For those members who have been notified that they are required to submit their QA Portfolios to the QA Committee for assessment, the 'Submit to CMRTO' button on the ePortfolio has been available since September 1, 2014.

Getting the Results

The QA Committee will meet at the end of January 2015 to assess the QA Portfolios of the members who are required to submit them. Following that meeting, these members will be sent a letter from the Chair of the QA Committee by mail informing them of the assessment results. Those members who submitted an ePortfolio will also have access to the assessment results electronically in the summary page of the ePortfolio.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Annette Hornby, Director of Quality Assurance by telephone: 1.800.563.5847 or 416.975.4353, or email: qa@cmrto.org.

Illegal practice

The title "medical radiation technologist" (MRT) is an important tool for the protection of the public. It informs the public that an individual MRT is qualified to practise medical radiation technology in Ontario. The online public register of MRTs provides the public and employers with detailed information about the registration status of MRTs in Ontario, whether an individual MRT is allowed to practise medical radiation technology in Ontario and whether there are any restrictions on his or her practice.

The authority to use the protected title "medical radiation technologist" is one of the most important privileges granted to members of the CMRTO under the Medical Radiation Technology Act. One of the ways the CMRTO protects the public of Ontario is to take legal action against individuals who use the title "medical radiation technologist" or hold themselves out as qualified to practise in Ontario when they are not registered as members of the CMRTO. But we depend on members and the public to bring forward any cases in which someone is using the title "medical radiation technologist" or appears to be holding him or herself out to be qualified to practise in Ontario as an MRT, without being registered with the CMRTO. It is the responsibility of the CMRTO to protect the public of Ontario from unqualified practitioners by making sure that only those qualified are allowed to practise as MRTs in the province.

We take very seriously reports that individuals who are not members of the CMRTO are using the title "medical radiation technologist" or may be holding themselves out as persons qualified to practise in Ontario as an MRT. Individuals who are accused of contravening this law can face court proceedings. Please contact the CMRTO if you are aware of any individuals who are not registered with CMRTO and are practising medical radiation technology, using the title "medical radiation technologist" or holding themselves out to be qualified to practise as radiation technologists.

Employers are strongly encouraged to use the online public register of MRTs to verify the membership status of every MRT they employ. The public register can be accessed on the CMRTO website.

Suspended Members

The following are the people whose certificates of registration were suspended between August 1, 2014 and November 30, 2014 for failure to pay their fees in accordance with section 24 of the Health Professions Procedural Code.

A person whose certificate of registration has been suspended is not a member of the CMRTO unless and until the suspension is removed.

14823 Melanie Choquette

10747 Ali Eidan

14206 Somphong Keophithoune

15068 Tzu Yi Wu

CMRTO 375 University Avenue, S

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The mission of the CMRTO is to serve and protect the people of Ontario through self-regulation of the profession.

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Legal Counsel Ms. Debbie Tarshis, WeirFoulds LLP

Auditor

Ms. Marilyn DeMara, KPMG LLP

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