

Presidents Annual Report (2008-2009)

This year has been a year of change for the NLAMRT. Our president Mary Ann Housell resigned her presidency in January due to personal reasons and I have tried to fill-in in her stead since then. Also our Board of Directors representative to the CAMRT, Irene O'Brien, will be resigning her position as of September 09. Loretta Metcalfe has stepped forward to continue in this vitally important role. On behalf of the executive we would like to thank Loretta for taking on this challenge and wish her every success.

Provincially we have been putting a lot of focus on our by laws and updating our refresher guidelines. We are also introducing new currency requirements in the interest of public safety and to help technologists maintain their skills. There has been a lot of discussion on these issues and we think we have proposed some excellent measures to enhance the level of service we provide to this province. There is still work to be done however and we encourage the membership of the NLAMRT to give us their feedback and thoughts, as these measures will affect the entire MRT community in this province.

Due to recommendations put forth by the Cameron Inquiry into faulty hormone receptor testing the government of NL is considering introducing a blanket legislation that will regulate various professions. It involves the creation of one board made up of membership from each of the groups to be governed to deal with licensure, regulation, misconduct and entry to practice. While this is very preliminary it will have considerable impact on our association and profession, as we would be one such group to be affected by the creation of this legislation. The NLAMRT will be giving their viewpoints and concerns when dialogue is underway between the various groups and the government in the coming year.

The NLAMRT is still in the process of developing a Continuing Education Program. We did not receive a great response to the pilot project that was started in 2007. A random sample of our membership was selected to track their education credits. This year we intend to send the forms out to the entire membership and we encourage everyone to take part in this very important initiative, as this may become a mandatory requirement for registration with the NLAMRT in the future.

On a national level the Agreement on Internal Trade was signed by all the provinces in November 08. This brings us a step closer to full labour mobility across Canada which would enable any worker who is qualified in a province/territory to be granted access to employment opportunities in their occupation in other provinces/territories without the need for further assessment or testing. It is intended to eliminate barriers and achieve mutual recognition of qualified workers across Canada. There are still many issues to be resolved and the NLAMRT will continue to work in collaboration with the various provincial organizations on this considerable initiative.

This year has been quite overwhelming at times but very fulfilling as well. I didn't always make all the deadlines or attend all the meetings but I hope I have served the association well in my short time as president. I look forward to continuing that service to in my original role as vice president for the next year to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalie Farrell, RTR
President
NLAMRT