



NAMRT NEWS

Winter 2007



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are now just 3 months away from the 56th Annual NAMRT/NSDMS Conference and General Meeting. I hope many of you are planning to come to Gander this year as the 2007 conference committee has been working extremely hard to make this a conference to remember. A very important part of the conference is the Annual General Meeting. Please be sure to attend, this is your opportunity to participate and share your thoughts on ongoing issues and initiatives. One of the things we will discuss at the meeting is the Continuing Education pilot project. We are hoping to launch the project later this year and need the full support of members. In preparation for the pilot project, the NAMRT has developed a small needs assessment survey for members. This is a very short survey that can be accessed at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=518533221409> and completed in just one minute. Please take a moment to complete this survey if you haven't done so already.

I am also pleased to inform you of our upcoming participation in a Health Human Resources project conducted by The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). The project involves the development of new national, supply-based databases and reporting systems for five regulated health professions. The project is being funded by Health

Canada, and includes phased development over a five-year period from 2004 to 2009. The five professions that will be the focus of the project are Medical Radiation Technology, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, and Medical Laboratory Technology. The five new databases that will be created at the end of this study will be immensely important for HHR monitoring and planning for the future. The data for this study will be obtained from you, so please keep the importance of this project in mind when asked for information in the future. A representative from CIHI will be at the conference to give a presentation to members on this very important initiative.

Lastly, I would like to encourage all members to take an active role in your profession and your professional association. Whether that means getting involved in educational activities in your local hospital or volunteering on a committee, it doesn't take much time and everyone will benefit, especially you! Nomination forms and essay/exhibit entry forms have been sent out with this newsletter and are also available on the website at www.namrt.ca.

Looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

Sincerely,
Elysia Eckert-Maret, BSc. RTT

Continuing Education

At the 2005 AGM in Grand Falls, the executive was given the mandate to explore a continuing education program. In the fall, members were asked to volunteer with a Continuing Education Working Group. One person did come forward and the group has met on a couple of occasions. The first step has been to look at the continuing education programs in other provinces. To date, we have examined the programs in New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. It is important that our program be achievable and accessible for all MRT's in this province. As part of the process, we have put together a short survey for our members. We encourage all members to participate. There are two ways of accessing this survey. If you have computer and internet access, then you can complete it online at : <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=518533221409>

If you do not have internet access, copies of the survey are being mailed with this copy of the newsletter. Pick one up, fill it out and drop it in the mail to:

NAMRT- Continuing education survey
 Po Box 29141
 Torbay Road Post Office
 St. John's, NL
 Canada A1A 5B5

We also want a couple of more people to be a part of the working group. We are looking for representatives from RT, NM and MR—from both rural and urban areas. Please contact Elysia (elysiaclaire@hotmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

Annual General Conference Awards Competition

Rules and Regulations

EXHIBITS AND ESSAYS

ELIGIBILITY

- A. Participants MUST be registered technologists, technicians and students who are members in good standing with the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Medical Radiation Technologists.
- B. The application should be postmarked no later than thirty days prior to the date of the Annual General Conference.
- C. The following NAMRT members may not participate in the competition: President, Vice president, Secretary -Treasurer, Immediate Past president, Director (CAMRT), exhibit chairperson, or exhibit judges.

APPLICATION

- A. Application forms are available from the NAMRT President or from the NAMRT website **www.namrt.ca**
- B. Application forms must be forwarded to the NAMRT within the deadline date.
- C. All applications should be accompanied by a copy of the applicant's current Association Membership card if applicable.
- D. Applicants may submit only one (1) exhibit

NAMRT Mentoring Award

The NAMRT Mentoring Award was established by the members of the NAMRT at the 54th Annual General Meeting. This award was designed to honour a member of the NAMRT who, in the opinion of the Executive, has made a significant contribution to the profession and its members in the field of education and mentoring. As a record of having received this award, recipients will receive a certificate and a cash prize.

Nomination and Selection

Recipients are nominated by a peer and selected by the NAMRT Executive. Requests for nominations will be sent to Newfoundland and Labrador Healthcare institutions in February of each year, with a request that the NAMRT Executive receive the nominated names no later than 30 days prior to the Annual General Conference and General Meeting. The award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

Blair Metcalfe Receives Provincial Mentorship Award 2006

The Newfoundland Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NAMRT) has recently instituted a new provincial Mentorship Award to be presented to a member who is recognized by the membership as having made a significant contribution to the profession. The Health Sciences team is proud to announce that the inaugural recipient of this award is Blair Metcalfe, program coordinator for the Medical Radiography program at CNA's Prince Phillip Drive Campus.

Originally from overseas (i.e. Bell Island), Blair has been a registered technologist (radiography) since 1972. Employed as an MRT by St. Clare's Hospital for many years, Blair has been the quintessential "all-around guy", from general duty/tomography, to clinical instructor, to manager. He completed advanced certification, and holds diplomas in post-secondary education as well as departmental management. He currently serves the national professional body (CAMRT) on its degree advisory committee, as well as the Canadian Medical Association as a valued and frequently-recruited accreditation team member.

Under his tutelage, there are currently over 200 registered diagnostic imaging specialists across the country employed in this rapidly-growing, ever-expanding field of diagnostic and therapeutic wizardry. As the scope of practice expands almost daily for these practitioners, so do the entry-level skills, knowledge and attitudes that must be brought into the high-stress, high-tech work environment by program graduates.

Blair's credibility as a practitioner couples with his ability as both instructor and coordinator to make him an excellent choice for this recognition. Even more significant is the fact that this professional body is comprised largely of former students who currently view him as a valued and much-loved colleague, mentor and friend.

A few quotes from his endorsement letters from former students:

"He's a cross between Father Knows Best and Yoda!"

"I tried for two years to stump him on something...it can't be done!"

This doesn't mean there aren't still a few skeletons in his closet...

Congratulations, Blair!