



2016 Annual Activity Summary

AMRTRC is the Alliance of the provincial medical radiation technologist (MRT) regulators, formed to ensure public protection by advancing MRT regulation, professional standards, patient care, and regulatory issues. For five years since incorporation, the Alliance continues to work to achieve the following goals:

- Develop, promote and evaluate common standards between jurisdictions
- Encourage and promote standardised regulatory policies and procedures
- Facilitate communication and information sharing
- Facilitate MRT mobility between regulated jurisdictions
- Support other provincial/territorial MRT organizations in their pursuit of MRT regulation

Alliance members are MRT regulators, responsible for ensuring safe, quality, professional, ethical and competent imaging and radiation therapy services in their respective jurisdictions. This is achieved through the regulation and licensing of MRTs which helps ensure that MRTs practice in accordance with defined practice, competence, conduct, ethical and professional standards.



Education and Information Sharing at AMRTRC

In 2016, AMRTRC offered educational opportunities and forums for information sharing for its members and stakeholders in MRT regulation. These included the following:

- ◆ Updates on regulation of MRTs and of diagnostic medical sonographers
- ◆ Presentations related to accreditation of MRT education programs
- ◆ Information about the future of MRT Education Steering Committee
- ◆ Overview on issues related to title protection
- ◆ Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) presentation related to data collection changes
- ◆ A focus on governance for regulatory bodies:
 - ◆ General Governance Session
 - ◆ Learnings from a Regulatory College Supervisor
 - ◆ Risk Management

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HIGHLIGHTS

CHANGES TO ACCREDITATION OF MRT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

AMRTRC Board of Directors

- ◆ *Linda Gough, President*
- ◆ *Chelsea Wilker, Vice President*
- ◆ *Jennifer Carey, Secretary & Treasurer*
- ◆ *Julie Avery*
- ◆ *Alain Crompt*
- ◆ *Karen Stone*

We thank Kathy Hilsenteger who served on the AMRTRC Board through June 2016.

On January 22, 2016, the Canadian Medical Association's (CMA's) Conjoint Accreditation Services announced that it would be "divesting itself of responsibility for assessing and accrediting Canadian Health education programs in designated health science professions within the next 24 months." CMA had formed Joule™ which is a dedicated resource for CMA members, "focused on the personal and patient care needs of individual physicians". Conjoint Accreditation Services shared that it was committed to a "responsible exit from its activities" and to "working with all stakeholders during this transition period".

On March 21, 2016, AMRTRC hosted an Accreditation Information Meeting at the Alliance Head Office in Toronto. Representatives from CMA, the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT), Sonography Canada, Colleges Ontario, and Accreditation Canada presented information and updates.

AMRTRC and CAMRT jointly wrote to CMA on March 30, 2016, regarding "CMA's proposed offer of an extension of the term of accreditation to February 1, 2018 for any program due for a visit scheduled in 2016 and 2017 with a 6-year status which is meeting the required examination benchmarks". On April 14, 2016, AMRTRC and CAMRT issued a status update for medical radiation technology education programs regarding future planning for accreditation purposes, indicating the following:

- *The CAMRT and the AMRTRC members have determined that each educational program's accreditation status accorded by CMA accreditation services prior to February 1, 2018 will continue to be recognized for the full 6 year or 2 year status as set out in the accreditation report.*
- *This means that, even though CMA Accreditation Services will not exist as of February 1, 2018, the CAMRT and the AMRTRC members will continue to recognize the accreditation status accorded prior to February 1, 2018, the graduates of the programs will continue to have access to the CAMRT certification examination, and the programs will continue to be approved programs for the purposes of registration with the regulators.*



HIGHLIGHTS

CHANGES TO ACCREDITATION OF MRT EDUCATION PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

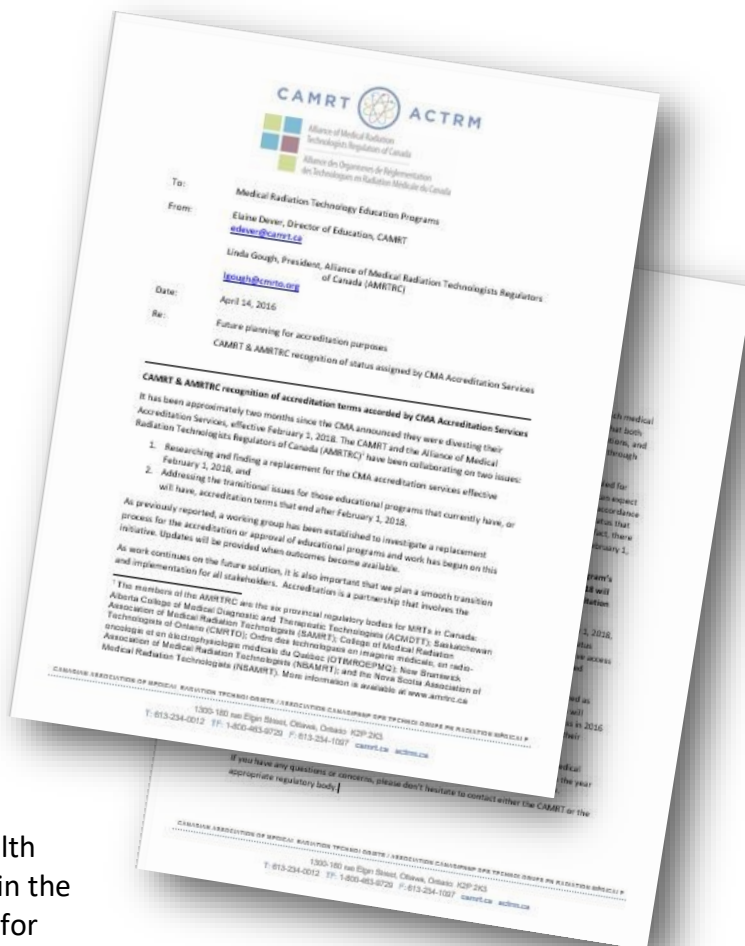
In May 2016, AMRTRC joined the Allied Health Program Accreditation Working Group, formed to gather information and to work towards a multi-professional model for accreditation services.

In June 2016, the Working Group received a report prepared by Keith Johnson and Kathy Davidson on the “Best Practices in the Accreditation of Canadian Educational Programs”. The report provided information on the following:

- Research methodology
- Findings gathered from online secondary research and interviews with key informants
- Discussion and analysis of findings from a “best-practice” perspective
- Evaluation rubric for reviewing submissions to a formal request for proposals (RFP)
- Recommendations

In August 2016, a request for proposals was issued by the Working Group for the “Provision of Allied Health Education Programs Accreditation Services. As noted in the RFP, “The successful organization will be responsible for working with the Working Group to update the standards for accreditation of the respective discipline programs, as well as ensuring that the programs are delivering a curriculum which is consistent with established prescribed standards..” In December 2016, the Working Group considered responses to the RFP.

AMRTRC and the Working Group will continue to keep stakeholder apprised as progress continues on this important component of the regulation of MRTs in Canada.





HIGHLIGHTS

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION-SHARING AT AMRTRC

Regulation of MRTs and of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (DMS)

- Two additional provinces are anticipating the regulation of MRTs: **Newfoundland/Labrador** (*Health Professions Act*) and **British Columbia** (proposed new college of diagnostic and therapeutic health professions).
- In Spring 2016, Alberta's *Health Professions Act* was amended to allow for the regulation of DMS and Ontario is anticipating the inclusion of DMS within CMRTO following announcements by the Health Ministry.

Future of MRT Education Steering Committee

- **Kathy Hilsenteger represented AMRTRC** at the Future of MRT Education Steering Committee that met in May 2016 in Ottawa.
- **Entry-to-practice education models and opportunities for research** were highlighted as outcomes from the Committee's Symposium and consultant's report.

Title Protection

- Speakers from WeirFoulds presented "**Enforcement of Title Protection & Restricted Acts**" to the AMRTRC Board on March 21, 2016.
- Issues such as the use of the title "Doctor", prohibited titles, holding out (using a protected title), holding out as a College, and options for enforcement were included in that presentation.
- The Board was reminded, "While you are busy with registration, complaints, discipline, hearings, policy, etc., **don't forget to protect your intellectual property for the protection of the public.**"

Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)

- Representatives from CIHI met with the AMRTRC Board on November 4, 2016 to share information about **CIHI's decision to discontinue the record-level data** collection for MRTs in Canada.
- CIHI will be focusing on **aggregate level data and streamlining processes for voluntary data collection.**

Roundtable on Regulatory Issues

- Each jurisdiction is encouraged to share current information from their province at each meeting. **Trends and issues** are identified.

HIGHLIGHTS

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION-SHARING AT AMRTRC (CONTINUED)

Regulatory Body Governance

- **General Governance Session**—workshop facilitated by Lyn McDonnell of The Accountability Group: “Governance for Regulatory Bodies” focused on the following:
 - ◆ What is governance?
 - ◆ What is regulatory governance?
 - ◆ What information does the Board need to fulfill its obligations?
- **Learnings from a Regulatory College Supervisor**—presentation by Deanna Williams of Dundee Consulting on her experience serving as the first government-appointed supervisor of a health regulatory College in Ontario
- **Risk Management**—information shared by Linda Gough and Alain Crompt from their organizations’ experiences, including tips and tools used at OTIMROEPMQ and CMRTO

Strategic Plan Review - Progress on Strategic Directions

- **Engaging non-regulated provincial associations in advancing their profession to regulation and Alliance membership:** 100% of MRT regulators are members of AMRTRC and the Board is actively supporting those jurisdictions who are progressing toward regulation in their provinces
- **Promoting safe and ethical practices of the profession through regulatory excellence:** opportunities for sharing information and promising practices are regularly provided, and issues like accreditation of education programs become priorities for AMRTRC
- **Committing to responsible and sustainable financial and people resourcing to ensure capacity and continuity for strategic delivery:** AMRTRC has engaged an Executive Coordinator to support AMRTRC’s operational functions.

Nothing was fishy about the AMRTRC’s visit to the Ripley’s Aquarium during their March 2016 meetings in Toronto, Ontario



Alliance of Medical Radiation Technologists Regulators of Canada (AMRTRC)

Members:

Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic & Therapeutic Technologists (ACMDTT)

College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO)

New Brunswick Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NBAMRT)

Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (NSAMRT)

Ordre des technologues en imagerie médicale, en radio-oncologie et en électrophysiologie médicale du Québec (OTIMROEPMQ)

Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (SAMRT)



For more information, visit us online at www.amrtrc.ca.

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Alliance of Medical Radiation Technologists Regulators of Canada
Alliance des Organismes de Réglementation des Technologues en Radiation Médicale du Canada

Français

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About us

AMRTRC is an alliance of six provincial MRT regulators who have come together to ensure public protection by further advancing MRT regulation and standards, regulatory issues and patient care.

As individual provincial MRT regulators we help ensure safe, quality, professional, competent imaging and radiation therapy services in our respective jurisdictions.

Our goals

- Develop, promote and evaluate common standards between jurisdictions.
- Encourage and promote standardised regulatory policies and procedures.
- Facilitate communication and information sharing.
- Facilitate MRT mobility between regulated jurisdictions.
- Support other provincial/territorial MRT organizations in their pursuit of MRT regulation.

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