



CANADIAN SOCIETY OF RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS

SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES THÉRAPEUTES RESPIRATOIRES

June 10, 2026

Dear CSRT members,

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with a tremendous sense of pride in what we have accomplished together. The Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists continues to evolve from strength to strength, supported by a growing and highly skilled operational team, an engaged and dedicated Board of Directors, and a thoughtful strategic plan that guides our work. Across every measure, our organization continues to grow, expand its influence, and strengthen its impact on the respiratory therapy profession.

Financially, the CSRT remains in the strongest position in its history. This stability allows us to increase the scope and reach of our work while ensuring long-term sustainability and succession planning for the future. Most importantly, it enables us to continue investing in initiatives that directly support our members and advance the profession.

Membership growth remains one of our most encouraging indicators of success. We have continued to experience strong growth throughout 2026, extending a trend that has persisted over the past five years. This sustained growth reflects the increasing value that respiratory therapists see in their national professional association and reinforces our commitment to delivering meaningful programs, services, and advocacy on behalf of the profession.

A significant development this year was the announcement that respiratory therapists in British Columbia (BC) will become regulated in November 2027. This milestone represents years of work by many individuals and organizations committed to strengthening professional recognition and public protection. The CSRT has played an active role in supporting this transition through enhancements to credentialing standards in non-regulated jurisdictions and ongoing engagement with government and the new regulatory college. We remain committed to ensuring that respiratory therapists are well-positioned for success as regulation is implemented in BC.

The CSRT's Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistant (CCAA) program continues to be an area of significant focus and investment for the CSRT. Over the past year, we have undertaken development of a new National Competency Framework, strengthened and increased frequency of the national Anesthesia Assistance examination process, and continued to advance continuing professional development and advocacy initiatives for the CCAA community. The continued growth and success of this program reflect the important contributions CCAs make to patient care across Canada.

Advocacy remains at the heart of our mission. This year, we made significant investments in expanding the CSRT's advocacy capacity and influence. As healthcare systems continue to evolve, strong and effective advocacy will be essential to ensuring that respiratory therapists have a voice in shaping the future of patient care. That advocacy work extends into the global arena, and the CSRT continues to be recognized as a leader within the international respiratory therapy community. We have continued to foster relationships with international partners, creating opportunities for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and professional advancement. Personally, I had the privilege of engaging with respiratory therapy leaders through the Association of Respiratory Care Practitioners of the Philippines (ARCPP), strengthening our relationship and sharing standards and best practices with colleagues abroad.

The CSRT remains, above all, a community. Whether through continuing professional development opportunities, webinars, networks, research initiatives, advocacy activities, or our professional journal, there are countless ways to connect, learn, and contribute. I encourage every member to take advantage of these opportunities and help shape the future of our profession.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Board of Directors for their commitment, insight, and leadership. It is a privilege to work alongside such a talented group of professionals whose dedication continues to strengthen both our organization and our profession. I also wish to thank the exceptional CSRT staff team for their unwavering dedication, professionalism, and hard work. The achievements highlighted in this report would not be possible without their efforts.

Finally, thank you to our members. Your commitment to excellence, your advocacy for patients, and your dedication to advancing respiratory therapy continue to inspire me. I look forward to continuing to work alongside you as we build an even stronger future for our profession.

Sincerely,

Daryl Penner, RRT, CCAA  
CSRT President  
[Pronouns: He | Him]



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# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

EMBRACING OPPORTUNITY

# Message from the CEO

The CSRT has been in a period of strategic reorientation and rapid growth over the past 8 years, spanning its first two strategic plans (2018 to present). Over that time, the CSRT's steady and focused strategic approach to governance and operations has translated into significant growth and stability. Extending on this important moment in the CSRT's history, much work has been undertaken over the past year across each of the CSRT's strategic pillars to advance the RT profession and continually increase the value that the CSRT offers its members and the RT community.

The past year was one characterized by focused effort in fostering the evidence and information needs of the profession, expanding the continuing professional development offerings available exclusively for our members, and strengthening advocacy capacity to further elevate our impact and to build the recognition RTs deserve. Particular attention is being paid to practice needs in the areas of anesthesia assistance and primary care, in alignment with urgent priorities being set by our health systems from coast to coast to coast. The CSRT's leadership role also extends to the profession's international context, where its strong relationships with other national RT associations are being leveraged to advance the profession both in Canada and beyond.

As stewards of the CSRT, the Board and Executive strive at all times to ensure the CSRT's governance foundation is resilient and sustainable. Over the past several years, the organization's prudent approach to balancing reserves allocation and operating investments has established a reliably healthy fiscal position in which to operate. Of course, central to the CSRT's capacity is its strong levels of RT community engagement. The level of volunteerism within the CSRT community is exceptional, with members contributing their time and expertise in a broad range of impactful ways.

Thank you to the valuable contributions every member of this community makes each day. Because of you, the CSRT is strong, resilient, and achieving its vision of empowering RTs to provide exemplary leadership and care.

Dr. Andrew West, Chief Executive Officer  
[pronouns: he/him; pronom: il]

## CSRT Vision



Empowering Canada's community of Respiratory Therapists to provide exemplary leadership and care

## CSRT Mission



The CSRT provides leadership that advances the profession, practice and understanding of respiratory therapy locally, nationally, and internationally by supporting environments and partnerships that foster innovation, knowledge translation, and promote excellence in evidence-based care.

### SERVICE TO MEMBERS

Meet the preferences and needs of members as professionals and lifelong learners.



### PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

Provide opportunities to network, collaborate and share knowledge.



### ADVOCACY

Leverage influence to advance the RT profession.



### INFORMED PRACTICE

Support knowledge translation and sustainable development of knowledge for RTs.



# CSRT Members

INSPIRING TOGETHER

5914 REGISTERED MEMBERS

701 STUDENT MEMBERS

679 Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistants

81 International members

[as of March 31, 2026]

## CSRT Board of Directors (2025-2026)

Daryl Penner, President  
Nicole Coutu, President-Elect  
Kuljit Minhas, Past-President  
Farzad Refahi, Treasurer

Directors at Large:

Kari Carhart  
Heather Cyr  
Gino DePinto  
Jennifer Im  
Meredith Patey  
Christa Sloan  
Sebastien Tessier

9

CSRT Staff  
Members

7

Volunteer  
Committees

261

RT Community  
Volunteers

2214

VOLUNTEER HOURS!

Benefits that are career empowering and that support personal well being





CSRT members continue to benefit from discounts and preferred rates with a wide range of partners!





## The CSRT's CCAA Credential

In 2025, significant resources were invested into growing and strengthening the Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistant (CCAA) credential - coinciding with an important moment in its history when health systems widely adopt the AA role as part of a response to capacity needs.

- 

Strengthening and increasing frequency of the National AA Certification Exam
- 

Undertaking a rigorous renewal process for the Anesthesia Assistance National Competency Framework (AA-NCF) for completion in 2026
- 

Providing accreditation services to AA Education programs across Canada, ensuring a national standard of practice
- 

Advocating for and supporting AA practice and the Anesthesia Care Team (ACT) model together with our national partners, including the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society

## CSRT FELLOWSHIP (FCSRT)

The CSRT provides recognition to registered members who have made a significant contribution to the science and profession of RT and who demonstrate lifelong learning by awarding the FCSRT.

**There are currently 143 CSRT registered members who have been awarded the FCSRT!**



## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

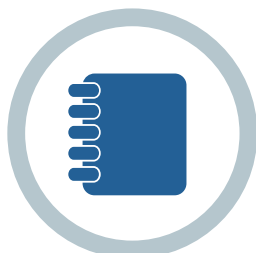
In 2025, the CSRT implemented an initiative to expand the breadth and accessibility of CPD offerings available to all CSRT members.

As part of this initiative, a new CPD coordinator role was established to manage the development of educational materials, ensuring that the content and modes of delivery are aligned with the needs of RTs.

**Welcome to the team, Bela Ferreira - CSRT's CPD Coordinator!**



16 new professional development opportunities added to the member-only repository of CPD offerings



153 continuing education offerings are now freely accessible to CSRT members through their personal CSRT member portal



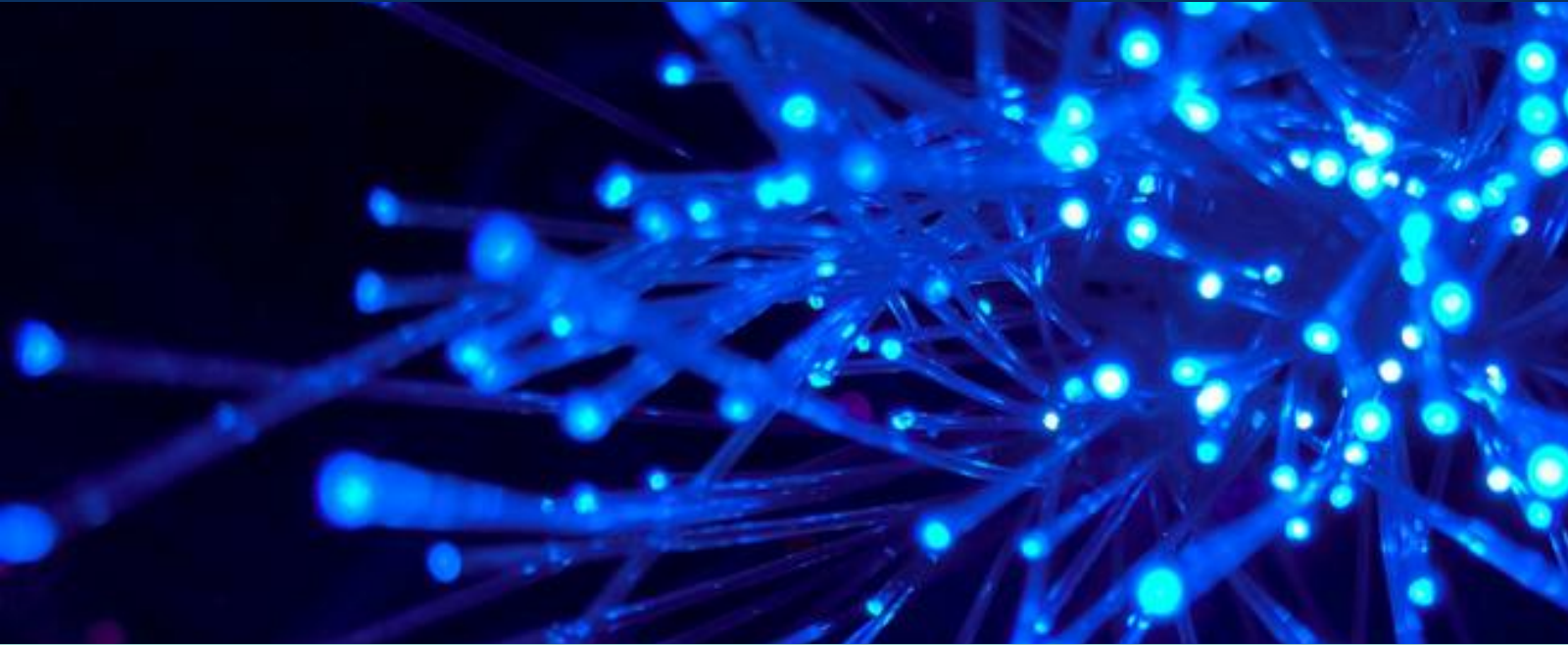
4948 CSRT CPD credits awarded to members for completing CSRT educational activities

**Advocacy for RTs, patients and families, and for the  
RT profession in local communities, across Canada,  
and globally**





# Opportunities for networking, mentorship, and knowledge sharing

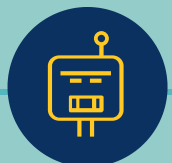


# CSRT Networks - 685 Members Advancing Practice Through Community



**Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistants**

Network Chair:  
Heather O'Donnell  
Saint John, NB



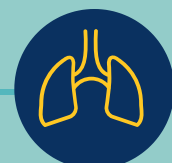
**Clinical Simulation**

Network Chair:  
Karl Weiss  
Kitchener, ON



**Home Mechanical Ventilation**

Network Chair:  
Faiza Syed  
Toronto, ON



**Primary Care**

Network Chair:  
Tina Hsu,  
Vancouver, BC



**CSRT 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**



**May 8-10, 2025  
Ottawa, Ontario**

The 61st CSRT ANNUAL CONFERENCE was held in the nation's Capital, Ottawa, ON, in May 2025. The conference brought together over 550 people for three full days of practice updates, education, and networking.

Thank you to the many speakers, sponsors, the CSRT staff, and the 2025 Scientific Program Committee, chaired by Meredith Patey. Your hard work and support helped make this conference another success! THANK YOU!

## World Congress on Intensive and Critical Care

In September 2025, the CSRT partnered with the Canadian Critical Care Society, the World Federation of Societies of Intensive Critical Care, and the Canadian Society of Critical Care Nurses to deliver the **17th World Congress on Intensive and Critical Care Medicine (WCCC)** in Vancouver, British Columbia!

The event was a huge success and provided an opportunity for RTs to showcase the profession to the critical care world. Thank you to all RTs who helped organize the event, and all those who attended.



**17TH WORLD CONGRESS OF INTENSIVE & CRITICAL CARE**  
SEPTEMBER 16-19, 2025 · VANCOUVER, CANADA

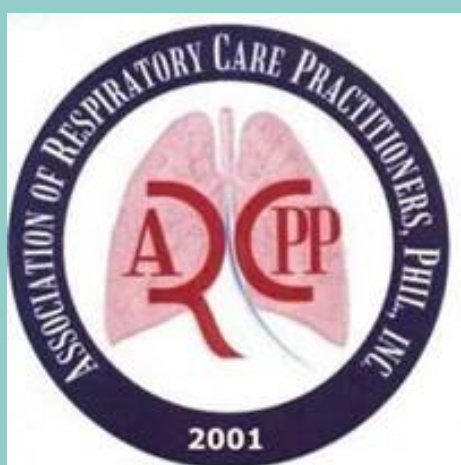
*Caring Intensively*



## CANADA-PHILIPPINES RT PRACTICE COMPARISON

The CSRT has established a strong partnership with the Association of Respiratory Care Practitioners of the Philippines (ARCPP) over the past years. Leveraging that partnership, in 2025, the two organizations completed a project to conduct an analysis of RT practice and standards in both countries.

The project findings have already served as an important basis for CSRT and ARCPP's understanding of emerging areas of practice, opportunities for growth, and planning future collaborations that can benefit RTs in both the Philippines and Canada.



# Supporting evidence-informed practice for RTs



# \$91,000

Funding that has been awarded to CSRT members doing research since the 2019 inception of the CSRT Research Grant Fund.

## CSRT RESEARCH GRANT



In 2019, a grant fund was established by the CSRT Board of Directors to support RT research. The CSRT Research Grant supports CSRT members by providing research grants of up to \$10,000 for original research that:

- establishes and/or builds upon the evidence base of respiratory therapy practice, and
- contributes to the advancement of the respiratory therapy profession.

### 2025-2026 CSRT Research Grant Cycle Recipients:

**Katie Biggs (\$10,000)** - Hidden Hypoxemia in Canada: A National Cross-Sectional Survey of Respiratory Therapist Awareness, Knowledge, and Practice Patterns

**Jennifer Gadioma (\$10,000)** - Evaluating Early Vocalization in Ventilator-Dependent Tracheostomy Patients: Impact on Respiratory Therapy Workflow and Patient Communication

**Veena Deekonda (\$10,000)** - Implementation of Nasal CPAP as a method of Apneic Oxygenation to improve success and safety during neonatal intubation

## NEW:

## CSRT's Knowledge Mobilization Fund



In 2025, the CSRT initiated a new opportunity for members to access funding to support their engagement in activities that advance evidence-informed practice.

The CSRT now provides up to \$750 of support in the form of funding to CSRT registered, student, or associate members who engage in activities that disseminate, transfer, translate and/or exchange knowledge, thus contributing to the advancement of the evidence base of respiratory therapy practice.

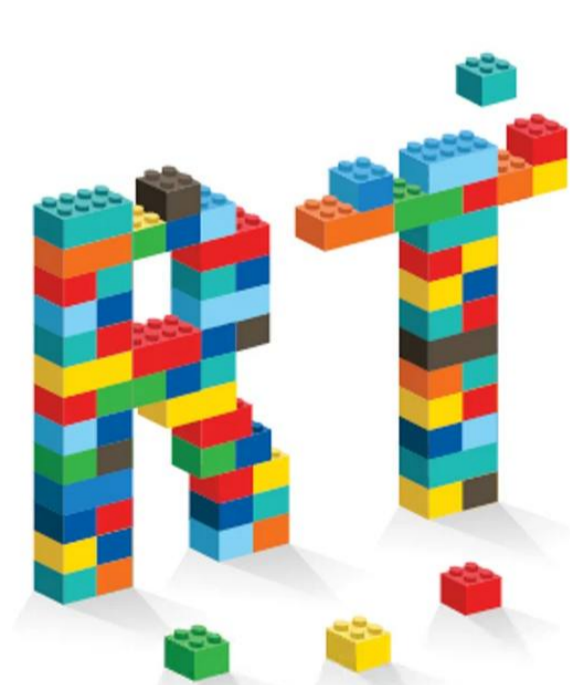
The first funding cycle, which occurred in fall 2025, saw 6 CSRT members receive a combined total of \$4,335 of funding to support their activities.

In the future, applications will again be accepted from CSRT members, with two application cycles to be announced annually.

## BUILDING THE RT PROFESSIONS' EVIDENCE BASE

The CSRT has established a framework to guide the generation and development of evidence for the future. This framework outlines four key areas where research and other knowledge-building projects are most needed.

The framework was developed with the input of RTs across Canada over several years. The CSRT will use it to guide its operations, including its research grant program, knowledge mobilization fund, continuing professional development offerings, and other initiatives that drive evidence-informed practice.



### SYSTEM-LEVEL IMPACT OF RTS

RTs' impact on the healthcare organizations and systems

### OPTIMIZING RT PRACTICES

RT practice at the level of clinical interaction

### SCHOLARSHIP ON THE RT PROFESSION

Understanding the profession itself

### RT EDUCATION

How RTs teach and learn

The **CANADIAN JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY** continues its remarkable growth. Under the leadership of its Editorial Board, the CJRT is globally recognized as a key information source for RT practice.

## Vol. 62

[www.CJRT.ca](http://www.CJRT.ca)

In 2024, the CJRT was accepted into the Web of Science's Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) and received its first Journal Impact Factor (JIF). Since that time, the CJRT's JIF has increased to an impressive 1.1!

The journal is receiving more submissions than ever before, and publication metrics continue to demonstrate its growth and impact. More than ever, the CJRT provides the profession with an ever-important, reliable scientific platform for sharing knowledge that informs practice.

Thank you to the entire CJRT editorial team, peer reviewers, and to Dr. Elizabeth Rohrs, CJRT's Editor-in-Chief

CANADIAN JOURNAL OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY  
**CJRT** • **JCTR**  
JOURNAL CANADIEN DE THÉRAPIE RESPIRATOIRE  
*Informing the Practice of Respiratory Therapists Globally*

# 2025 Financial Reports

**Total  
Revenue\***

**\$1,755,535**

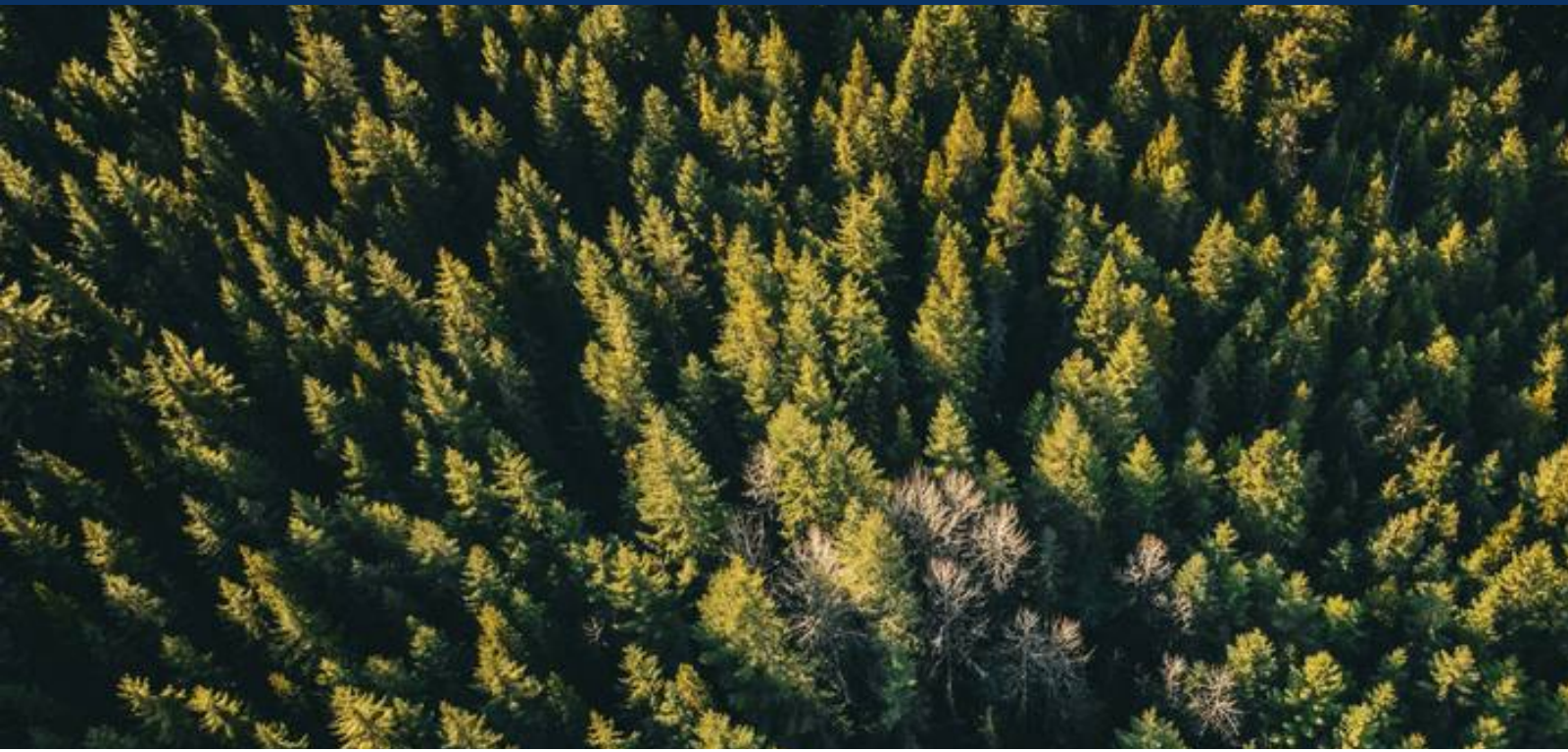
**Total  
Expenditure\***

**\$1,511,034**

**In 2025, revenues once again supported increased investments in continuing professional development opportunities, advocacy programming, initiatives that benefit members directly, and projects that support the achievement of the CSRT strategic agenda.**

*\*CSRT audited financial statements, December 31, 2025*

# 2026 Update



# CSRT Awards!

## 2026 Louis Phillip Belle-Isle Scholarships for Graduate Studies

Louis Phillip Belle-Isle Scholarships recognize and support CSRT members who demonstrate academic and/or professional excellence and are enrolled in a graduate studies program.

In 2026, the CSRT awarded scholarships of \$2000 each to five CSRT members. Congratulations!

Priya Chera (Western University)

Pietur Fridriksson (Western University)

Ian Hay (Western University)

Shelly McCulloch (Royal Roads University)

Alisa Nafees (Concordia University)



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