



CSRT ACHIEVEMENTS

January to December 2014



■ ■ ■ SETTING THE STAGE FOR RRTs IN PRIVATE PRACTICE

In November 2014, Medavie Blue Cross announced a new program that opens the door for RT private practice. Adopting a disease management, Mediavie Blue Cross confirmed that patients diagnosed with asthma and/or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) will be reimbursed for seeking advice and guidance to effectively manage their symptoms from registered respiratory therapists (RRTs) who have a Certified Respiratory Educator (CRE) or Certified Asthma Educator (CAE) credential. RRTs have been recognized as experts in managing respiratory illness and this sets the stage for RRTs in private practice.

■ ■ ■ RESPONDING TO HEALTH CARE ENVIRONMENT AND KEEPING HEALTH CARE STAKEHOLDERS INFORMED

The CSRT collaborates with key stakeholders (governments, health organizations, industry) and communicates with them by distributing on a regular basis information to stakeholders. The CSRT strives to keep the RT profession and its key stakeholders informed through the dissemination of position statements, best practice guidelines, as well as information and data about the profession and this remains an essential element of its advocacy strategies.

■ ■ ■ PARTNERING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS ON IMPORTANT NATIONAL PROJECTS

National Alliance of Respiratory Therapy Regulatory Bodies (NARTRB)

The CSRT is an active member of the NARTRB and participates in discussions to enhance the regulatory environment for the RT profession. One of the key activity of the NARTRB is the review and update to the national competency profile (NCP). The enhancements to the NCP include a competency framework for entry-to-practice, for experienced and for expert respiratory therapy practitioners. The national competency framework will likely be launched in late 2015 or early 2016.

Canadian Society of Anesthesiologists (CAS)

The CSRT has been working in close collaboration with the CAS to develop a certification process for RTs who have enhanced their education and work exclusively in anesthesia. The CSRT has all the elements in place to move forward with full certification and hopes to get the CAS endorsement to launch full certification in late 2015 or early 2016.

University of Manitoba

The CSRT collaborated with a team of researchers at the University of Manitoba lead by Andrew West on a study that aims to identify the typical ratio of respiratory therapists to ventilators in Canadian Intensive Care Units and the factors that influence that ratio. The study includes a survey that was circulated to institutions associated with all of Canada's 17 medical schools. The project has received



full approval from the University of Manitoba Health Research Ethics Board and the project was initiated in the fall of 2014. Results will be presented to the membership at the 2015 CSRT Annual Education Conference.

University of Toronto

CSRT provided support to Dr. Louise Rose from the University of Toronto for her CICH research application for a project entitled: *“Bridging the Knowledge to Action Gap: Translating Canadian Home Mechanical Ventilation Guideline Recommendations for Airway Clearance”*. The research team also includes Dr. Mika Nonoyama (RRT), Dr. Doug Kim and Dr. Road who are respected leaders in the field of research at the local, regional, provincial, national and international level. The CSRT agreed to support this initiative and assist the research team with the following in-kind contributions:

- Assist in the nomination and confirmation of respiratory therapists with expertise and experience in the management of patient requiring long term mechanical ventilation within the home setting
- Facilitate the baseline and post-implementation data collection
- Provide the research team with advisory support, if required
- Participate in the knowledge dissemination initiatives through its knowledge dissemination tools (i.e. Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy, etc.
- Include Dr. Louise Rose or members of her research team in the scientific program of our national education conference
- Facilitate the knowledge dissemination within respiratory care societies at the international level.

McMaster University

CSRT is a collaborator in a CIHR funded project to develop Canadian Guidelines for Developing Patient and Family-Centered Intensive Care Units. Led by Dr. Alison Fox-Robichaud and her research team, this initiative includes several RRTs selected by the CSRT including Louise Chartrand (Ontario), Brooke Read (Ontario) and Jason Zurba (British Columbia) who will be instrumental in this project. In addition to providing assistance in the nomination of the above registered respiratory therapists with expertise and experience in research, systematic reviews and development of guidelines, the CSRT agreed to support this initiative with the following in-kind contributions:

- Provide the research team with assistance with research and advisory support, if required
- Participate in the knowledge dissemination initiatives through its knowledge dissemination tools (i.e. Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy, etc.
- Include a presentation in the scientific program of our national education conference
- Facilitate the knowledge dissemination within respiratory care societies at provincial, national and international level.



REPRESENTING THE PROFESSION AT PROVINCIAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Provincial conferences

The CSRT ensures it is present at provincial conferences. In 2014, the CSRT participated in the conferences of the New Brunswick Association of Respiratory Therapists (NABRT), the 50th anniversary celebration of the Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists (NSCRT), the College and Association of



Respiratory Therapists of Alberta (CARTA), and met with leaders from the BC Society of Respiratory Therapists.

National conferences and meetings

Jessie Cox, CSRT President and Christiane Menard, Executive Director, are actively engaged with key stakeholder and participate regularly in several national meetings including: National Alliance of Respiratory Therapy Regulatory Bodies (NARTRB); Health Action Lobby Group (HEAL); Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada; Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society.

International conferences and meetings

Represented by Jessie Cox (CSRT President) and Christiane Menard (CSRT Executive Director) the CSRT participated in 2014 annual conference of the American Association of Respiratory Care (AARC) in Las Vega in December. In addition, the CSRT President and Executive Director actively participated and provided updates of the Canadian RT environment at the annual meeting of the International Council for Respiratory Care in early December 2014, a meeting held each year to coincide with the AARC.

In addition, the CSRT Past-President (Angela Cox) and Executive Director (Christiane Menard) represented Canadian RTs at the International Respiratory Care Conference from September 18-20, 2014 in Al Ain / Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.



MEETING REQUIREMENTS OF NEW LEGISLATION FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

New legislation came into force on October 17, 2011 and the CSRT had to comply with the new requirements by October 2014. This new Act presents modern governance principles and standards and clarifies the rights of members and the duties, powers and liabilities and standard of care of Board of Directors. The Articles of Continuance, which replace the Letters Patents issued in December 1964, were submitted on June 1, 2014. The Certificate of Continuance was received on July 4, 2014

Revisions to CSRT bylaws

To meet the requirements of the new legislation, the CSRT bylaws required review and updating. The revised bylaws were approved by the Board of Directors on February 21, 2014 and ratified by the membership at the Annual General Meeting held in Montreal on Saturday, May 24, 2014.

Revisions to membership categories

The membership categories were revised and a new membership category was created for registered respiratory therapists who have reached the age of 55 and are no longer directly or indirectly involved in the practice of the profession of respiratory therapy.



ENHANCING MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Improvements to membership communication

Being able to communicate in an effective and timely manner is the most important and challenging aspect of our membership services. The CSRT has effectively enhanced membership communication through social media.

Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/csrt.sctr>

Twitter – http://twitter.com/CSRT_tweets

Instagram – http://instagram.com/csrt_official

The CSRT Facebook and Twitter pages have become useful communication tool and has been a great mechanism to share information.

Restructuring the CSRT web site

The CSRT web site was modernized in the fall of 2014 to facilitate access from tablets and smart phone technology. The content has been restructured into a more user friendly format.

Engaging students in their profession

There has been an increase in student engagement in their profession thanks to initiatives created by the student representatives on the Board of Directors. The CSRT conference now includes an education stream and social events specifically for students. Contests and activities have been created in each program and there is very active participation of students on the student Facebook page.

Enhancing professional liability insurance (PLI) for RTs

In December 2014, the CSRT moved to a new PLI was moved to a new provider who offered better coverage. In addition we expanded the coverage to include legal expenses to defend against professional practice misconduct dismissal by employers. CSRT is the only professional association, and respiratory therapy is the only profession to obtain this additional benefit.

Improving the quality of Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapists (CJRT)

In 2013 the CJRT transitioned from self-publishing and hired Pulsus, a professional publisher who provided a new website and submission system. In early 2014, an agreement was reached with Pulsus to take over the responsibility of advertising for the CJRT. The CJRT has been working toward an expanded and restructured editorial board: the Editor-in-Chief, Deputy Editor and Associate Editors now make up an executive board (6 members). The CJRT also recruited a larger editorial board (10 respected international and Canadian candidates with publication and research experience representative of various aspects of practice, as well as one statistics advisor) whose responsibility is to champion the journal and assist in the recruitment of authors and reviewers. In addition, the pool of reviewers has been expanded. In 2014 the CJRT has published several articles of note, including:

- *The OSCILLATE trial: Implications for respiratory therapists then and now*
- *Responding to Ebola: The role of medical journals during global public health emergencies*
- *Public health and electronic cigarettes*
- *Assessing the use of the Air Quality Health Index by vulnerable populations in a 'low-risk' region: A pilot study*
- *Improving survival outcomes in lung transplant recipients through early detection of bronchiolitis obliterans: Daily home spirometry versus standard pulmonary function testing*

The editorial board selected a theme for an upcoming special issue to generate author interest, “Tobacco”, to be published in 2015. Special issues have been shown to generate increased attention and citations. Also planned for 2015 is the inclusion in databases such as MEDLINE, PubMed and Thompson ISI which will have a significant impact on the quantity and quality of content and to establish an Impact Factor for the CJRT.

National office staff restructuring

To enhance the service to the CSRT members, the national office staff was restructured and a team-based approach was implemented. This will ensure that there is always someone available at the office to meet the needs of CSRT members.

Membership data

In 2014 the CSRT reached its highest membership ever with a total of 3,622 members. The following is the breakdown in each membership category:

- Associate members - 40
- Corporate members - 17
- Honorary members - 13
- Registered members - 2,960
- Student members - 592

Over the past 4 years, the CSRT has benefitted for increased membership in some provinces and a decrease in other provinces. The CSRT will continue to strive to offer value for money to all RTs across Canada.

Membership data – 2011 to 2014

	2011	2012	2013	2014
TOTAL	2,891	3,290	3,502	3,622
BC	466	503	527	490
AB	478	572	634	661
SK	140	140	144	151
MB	113	124	121	130
ON	1,095	1,357	1,496	1,562
QC	116	109	102	113
NB	197	181	158	182
NS	67	72	81	86
PE	15	15	15	19
NL	132	137	139	142
YT	2	1	3	3
NT	2	2	4	5
NU	1	2	2	3
USA	18	19	18	26
INTL	49	56	58	49

■ ■ RTs PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Fellow of the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapist (FCSRT).

The FCSRT professional designation was established to recognize registered members who have made a significant and consistent contribution to the development of the science and profession of respiratory therapy. CSRT Fellows also make a commitment to lifelong learning by completing 25 CE/CPD credits per year. On December 31, 2014 there was a total of 131 RRTs who had achieved the FCSRT professional designation. In 2014, the following RRTs received the FCSRT professional designation from the Board of Directors:

Edna S. Cahill - Paradise, NL
Yvonne Drasovean - London, ON
Joelle E. Dynes - London, ON
Tammy R. Fagan - Conception Bay S., NL
Marie E. Fitzpatrick - Mount Pearl, NL
Stacey Halliday - Toronto, ON
Melissa D. Keeping - Mount Pearl, NL
Bruce MacRae - Doha, Qatar
Shane McDonald - Winnipeg, MB
Lori A. Peppler-Beechey - Cambridge, ON
Thomas Piraino - Beamsville, ON
Shelley Prevost - Thunder Bay, ON
Patricia-Ann Therriault - St Laurent, QC
Andrew West - Winnipeg, MB

AA Certificate (AA-CSRT)

In May 2014 the CSRT launched the AA-CSRT certificate to recognize CSRT registered and associate members who have completed additional education and training in the field of anesthesia to become an anesthesia assistant. The CSRT continues to work on establishing a full AA certification process with CAS and other stakeholders. RTs and eligible associate members are accepted into the Anesthesia Assistant Certificate program once annually, and once they are accepted they may use the professional designation of AA-CSRT. In November 2014 the following CSRT members were approved by the Board of Directors for the AA-CSRT professional designation:

Jessie Cox - Paradise NL
Tammy R. Fagan - Conception Bay S., NL
Nigel Large - Duncan, BC
Sandra L. Lemphers - Kamloops, BC
John A. Patton - Kamloops, BC
Tammy L. Peddle- St John's, NL
Neal Norman Querengesser - Port Moody, BC
Martine Theriault - Moncton, NB
Yvonne Timewell - Kamloops, BC



Journal Clubs, Webinars, Directed Reading

The CSRT offered a selection of journal clubs, webinars and directed readings for continuing education and professional development of its members. These are stored on the www.respiratoryresource.ca web site to allow members who were not available for the live telecast to still participate in some CE/CPD activities. In late 2014, the www.respiratoryresource.ca web site was integrated into the new CSRT web site and all respiratory resource features were transferred to the new web site.

Catalogue of Guidelines

The CSRT maintains and updates on a regular basis its catalogue of guidelines. This resource, which is available on the CSRT web site, provides an efficient location for CSRT members to find guidelines in each area of practice.

On-line Credit Tracking System

The CSRT maintains and updates an on-line credit tracking system to allow its members to keep track of their CE/CPD activities. The on-line credit tracking system was upgraded with the new web site.

Promotion of the profession

During RT week – October 16 to November 1, 2014 – the CSRT provided materials and on-line resources to allow the profession to promote the important role they provide in the health care system.

50th CSRT Annual Education Conference

The CSRT wanted to do a special conference for the 50th anniversary of the profession. As the profession was first established in Montreal, the CSRT collaborated with the Ordre des inhalothérapeutes du Québec (OPIQ) for the 50th CSRT Annual Education Conference. This was the largest conference in the CSRT history with more than 1,100 delegates participating in 100 presentations, symposium and workshops.

The following photographs provide us with fond memories of the 50th anniversary celebration for CSRT and for the profession.







50th anniversary of the CSRT

On Wednesday, May 21, the CSRT also celebrated its 50th anniversary with a celebration with key RT stakeholders from each region and from each area of practice. These RTs have been instrumental in ensuring the growth of a vibrant national professional association. During this event, the CSRT received recognition from the International Council of Respiratory Care during this event from Jerome Sullivan, President of the ICRC.





Thank you to CSRT sponsors

The CSRT is proud to acknowledge the generous contributions of the following industry partners towards the success of our conference, and for their continued commitment to the profession of respiratory therapy. These non-restricted financial contributions support the overall program development and delivery of the education sessions at the annual conference.

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RECOGNIZING RT ACHIEVEMENTS – CSRT 2014 AWARDS

2014 Colya Kaminiaz Professional Achievement Award - Sponsored by Praxair Healthcare Services Inc.

Ray Hubble (New Brunswick)



2014 President's Award - Sponsored by Trudell Medical Marketing Limited

Josée Prud'Homme (Québec)



Julie Brown (Ontario)



Awards

Debbie Cain (British Columbia)

Mo Shariff (British Columbia)

Award accepted by his

2014 Distinguished Life Membership daughter Alisha Nelson



CSRT/CAREstream Student Excellence Award - Sponsored by CAREstream Medical

RT Education Program

College of the North Atlantic

New Brunswick Community College

College communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick

Dalhousie School of Health Sciences

Vanier College

Collège de Rosemont

Cégep de Ste-Foy

Cégep de Sherbrooke

Cégep de l'Outaouais

Cégep de Chicoutimi

Collège de Valleyfield

Algonquin College

La Cité Collegiale

Canadore College

Fanshawe College

Conestoga College

The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences

St. Clair College

University of Manitoba-School of Medical Rehabilitation

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology

Thompson Rivers University

Name of award recipient

Amy Andrews

Beth Corkum

Marie-Hélène Albert

Oliver Poole

Ugo Rivet-Desrosiers

Mathias Boutet

Valérie Jalbert

Martin Labrosse

Jessica Béland-Pilon

Andréanne Potvin

Claudia Tousignant

Dianne Szozda

Justine Verville-Fiset

Mandee Ferrigan

Emily Pelton

Daniel Kamber

Amanda Bickley

Sarah Balogh

Emily Smolinski

Léa Vandermeer

Ryan Kilberg

James Matthews





CBRC / CSRT Gold, Silver, Bronze Student Achievement Awards

To recognize the contributions of the CBRC and to celebrate their 25th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the CSRT, the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals conferred to individuals with the three top marks at the CBRC exam was renamed the CBRC / CSRT Student Achievement Awards.

Gold Medals - Beth Corkum and Dianne Szozda

Silver Medal - Amanda Spreeuw

Bronze Medal – Stephanie Bezooyen



CSRT / Ikaria Scholarship – sponsored by Ikaria Canada

Patty Wickson (Alberta)

Patrick Litwin (Alberta)

Andrew West (Manitoba)

Chitra Gnanasabesan (Ontario)

