

# CSRT Annual Report & Achievements

January to December 2016

## ■ ADVOCATING AND PROMOTING THE PROFESSION

### ***Communication and Advocacy with the Federal and Provincial Governments***

The CSRT continues to monitor the federal and provincial political environment and keeps the relevant federal and provincial ministries informed on many issues facing the profession. The CSRT also works in close collaboration with HEAL (Health Action Lobby), a national coalition of health providers, health regions and facilities. Through the various HEAL initiatives, the CSRT has the opportunity to meetg representatives from the federal government, present briefs to Standing Committees and release a series of policy papers encompassing a range of health policy issues. More information regarding the HEAL mandate and activities is available on their web site at <http://www.healthactionlobby.ca/>

### ***Respiratory Therapists Week***

Every year, the last full week of October is dedicated to the celebration of the RT profession – RT week is dedicated to raising awareness on the value of the RT profession. The CSRT provides promotional material and a “how-to” guide on-line. Respiratory therapists across the country take pride in celebrating their profession through education, professional development, promotion and special initiatives.

Missed the RT week videos?  
Check them out on the CSRT  
YouTube channel!

[https://www.youtube.com/  
channel/UCX-  
l38va3V6CWeieVe8uu8w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX-l38va3V6CWeieVe8uu8w)

In the fall of 2017, RTs from across the country were invited to use their creativity to develop a patient education video with the objective to ***“raise awareness on assessing the risks for respiratory compromise following surgery”***. The CSRT Respiratory Advisory Group were invited to vote for the best video. The video submitted by students at Thompsons Rivers University was selected and received a cash prize of \$500.

Five webinars were presented during RT week to enhance the professional development of RRTs – if you have missed these webinars, they are available at <http://www.csrt.com/past-webinars/>

In addition an on-line tool kit for the Prevention of Respiratory Compromise through Continuous Monitoring was launched during RT week. The tool kit includes several

components including: risk factors for respiratory compromise; what is currently being monitored; how to effect changes to implement monitoring in your organization; guidelines and knowledge translation material. The tool kit is available on the CSRT web site at: [www.csrt.com/respiratory-compromise-toolkit/](http://www.csrt.com/respiratory-compromise-toolkit/)

## ■ ■ RESPONDING TO THE 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. This remains an essential element of CSRT's advocacy strategies.

## ■ ■ PARTNERING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS ON IMPORTANT REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL INITIATIVES

### ***Health Action Lobby (HEAL)***

Working within the Health Action Lobby Group (HEAL), the CSRT participated in several meetings with the federal MPs and federal Ministers of health on issues outlined in the following national inter-professional consensus statement: ***The Canadian Way – Accelerating innovation and Improving Health System Performance.*** There were many activities and programs to ensure this document was brought to the attention of health care leaders across the country.

### ***Choosing Wisely Canada***

The CSRT is involved in this inter-professional national initiative that aims to identify and reduce unnecessary tests and treatments thereby improving the efficiency and effectiveness of health services. The CSRT is working with CWC to identify areas of practice of interest to respiratory therapists as well as other members of the health care team. The activities include discussion groups, recommended behaviours and activities, webinars and conferences to encourage health care professionals to become proficient stewards of health care resources.

### ***Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI)***

The CSRT continues to participate in the development of the CPSI Patient Safety Education Action Plan. As a participating organization, the CSRT implements some action items to achieve the collective goal of integrating patient safety into all aspects of health education. The CSRT is also actively involved in working groups and a patient safety network, including a working group to improve educational content, design and delivery on patient safety and quality improvement.

### ***Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society (CAS)***

The CSRT worked in close collaboration with the CAS to establish a certification process for Anesthesia Assistants. The CSRT has put all the elements in place to ensure there are national standards for the education and practice of anesthesia assistants, including: a validated national AA competency framework; a national AA exam; a national accreditation process for AA education. The CSRT also updated the criteria for the AA certification that was transitioned to the Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistant (CCAA). More information on the CCAA is available at <http://www.csrt.com/aa-certificate/>

### ***National Alliance of Respiratory Therapy Regulatory Bodies (NARTRB)***

The CSRT was an active member of the NARTRB and participated in discussions to enhance the regulatory environment for the RT profession. Most of the NARTRB activities revolve around regulation of the profession as well as establishing national standards for entry-to-practice education for respiratory therapists, such as the 2016 national competency framework. As the CSRT moves forward with its role of advancing the profession, it has become evident that there is a distinction between the mandate of the CSRT and that of the NARTRB. As such the CSRT has decided to withdraw its membership in the NARTRB effective April 2018. However, the CSRT will collaborate with the NARTRB on initiatives for the advancement of the profession.

### ***University of Calgary***

The CSRT is a collaborator in the application of a CIHR grant a CIHR funded project entitled: "Prioritization of Evidence-Based Practices for Adoption and De-Adoption in Adult Critical Care Medicine". The Lead investigator is Dr. Daniel Niven, Assistant Professor in the Departments of Critical Care Medicine and Community Health Sciences at the Cumming School of Medicine at the University of Calgary. The project will improve the use of evidence-based practices in critical care by adopting practices that research shows to be beneficial and de-adopting those that research shows to be ineffective or harmful.

### ***The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)***

The CSRT has worked for several years with the RCPSC to expand their Acute Critical Events Simulation Course (ACES Program). This on-line resource, which is now available to CSRT members, features on-line simulations, supported by an electronic textbook and optional face-to-face simulations. Authorship opportunities were available to CSRT members who contributed by co-authoring chapters of the electronic text, or to assist in writing some of the simulations. The ACES course is available at: <http://www.royalcollege.ca/rcsite/ppi/courses/acute-critical-events-simulation-aces-course-e>

### ***St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto***

The CSRT supported applications for CIHR funding application for the North American Weaning Collaborative Trial entitled: "Frequency of Screening And SBT Technique Trial: The FAST Trial". Lead research on this project is Dr. Karen Burns from St. Michael's Hospital. The FAST trial will compare the effects of two different screening frequencies (once vs at least twice daily) and two different spontaneous breathing trial (SBT) techniques (T-piece vs Pressure Support + Positive End-Expiratory Pressure) on important clinical outcomes such as the time to first successful

extubation, time to first passing an SBT, total duration of ventilation, ICU and hospital length of stay, and mortality.

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

### ***Provincial conferences***

Every year, the CSRT makes efforts to participate at as many provincial conferences as possible. In 2016, the CSRT participated in the conferences of the New Brunswick Association of Respiratory Therapists (NABRT) and l'Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec (OPIQ).

### ***National conferences and meetings***

CSRT President and CEO continue to be actively engaged with key stakeholders and participated in several national meetings including the Health Action Lobby Group (HEAL), the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and other relevant national organizations.

### ***International conferences and meetings***

Represented by CSRT President Jeff Dionne and CEO Dr. Andrew West, the CSRT participated in the 2017 annual conference of the American Association of Respiratory Care (AARC) in Indianapolis, Indiana. In addition, the CSRT President and CEO actively participated and provided updates of the Canadian RT environment at the annual meeting of the International Council for Respiratory Care on October 6, 2017 a meeting held each year to coincide with the AARC.

## ENHANCING MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

### ***Effective and timely 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 now has over 5450 followers and our general reach throughout all of our social media platforms (Twitter, Instagram and Linked In) continues to grow. We will be working on a communications plan to ensure we continue to maximize our reach to our members as well as RTs across Canada. We continue to disseminate the e-newsletter at the end of each month. (We encourage you to follow us on social media as we share exciting news, fun stories and relevant research articles on a regular basis.)

### ***Enhanced benefits for CSRT members***

The membership survey conducted in early 2015 provided some suggestions on new member benefits. Since then, the CSRT has added several new membership benefits including: extended health care benefits, dental benefits and long term disability from LMS Prolink; gym membership

at \$499 at GoodLife Fitness; preferred group rates on home and auto insurance; exclusive travel discount program on all hotels and car rental suppliers around the world; and a 10% discount from Scrubs Canada.

### ***Enhancing professional liability insurance (PLI) for RTs***

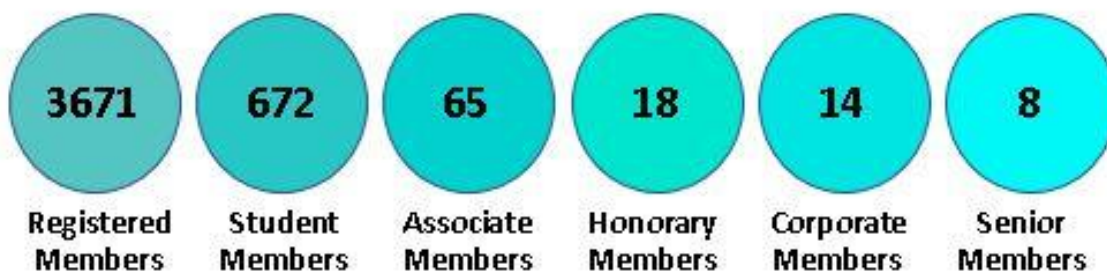
The CSRT enhanced the coverage for professional liability insurance for the Respiratory Therapy profession. When compared to other providers of professional liability insurance, the CSRT personal PLI insurance package is the most comprehensive coverage at the lowest price available to respiratory therapists across Canada. It is also unique in the breadth of coverage that it provides.

### ***On-Line Job Bank Listings***

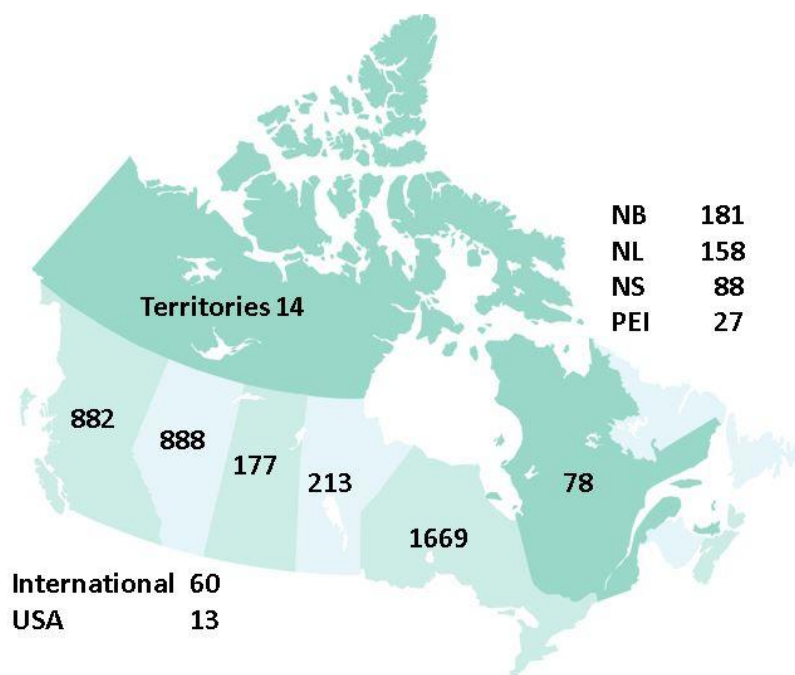
The CSRT provides access to its members of an on-line job listing to assist members looking for employment. Several employers avail themselves of the advertising opportunities on the CSRT web site. The job bank is available on the CSRT website (<http://csrtjobbank.com/>) and new postings are shared on social media.

### ***Membership data***

The CSRT reached its highest membership ever with a total of 4,449 members. The following is the breakdown in each membership category:



Over the years, the CSRT has benefitted from increased membership in various jurisdictions across Canada. The CSRT will continue to strive to offer value for money to all RTs across Canada.



Membership data by province (as of March 31 2018)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR RTs

### Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy (CJRT)

In 2017 the CJRT received 23 submissions, and published 15 articles. (2016 = 22 submissions, 16 published). A new Editor-in-Chief was recruited and appointed by the CSRT Board of Directors; **Justin Sorge**, RTT, MPH took over the role as of January 1, 2018.

In 2017 the CJRT introduced a new article format to make it easier for RTs to share their knowledge: **Innovations in Practice** highlight key aspects of clinical practice and approaches to improve the same. This could include, without being limited to, process/protocol improvement, quality improvement, innovative initiative, practice change, emerging advancement and/or process change.

Since launching the CJRT web site in 2016, this was the first year CJRT tracked its website statistics that includes: **6,768** unique visitors; **17,226** page views; **100** countries. The CJRT also tracked click-through rates for the quarterly e-Table of Contents in 2017:

	Vol 53.1	Vol 53.2	Vol 53.3	Vol 53.2
<b>Opens</b>	47.9% (1633)	55.8% (1678)	53.2% (1686)	52% (1742)
<b>Clicks</b>	305	410	338	224

As for its presence on social media, the CJRT has **1,560+ followers** and generates on average 3,000+ impressions and 200+ profile visits per month.



The CJRT improved its global reach in 2017 as it was **accessed by readers in 100+ countries** (Top 5: Canada, US, Australia, India, UK). The CJRT is included in PubMed Central, an archive of full-text biomedical journal papers available online without a fee. Once posted to PubMed Central, research results become more prominent, integrated and accessible.

A special issue was published on the topic of *Clinical Simulation* (Vol 53.4). The topic for the 2018 special edition of the CJRT will be *Primary Care* (Vol 54.4)

## ***Fellow of the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (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. As of December 31, 2017 there was a total of 165 RRTs who have achieved the FCSRT professional designation. The full list of FCSRTs is available on the CSRT web site.

### **2017's new FCSRT Holders**

***Sandra Biesheuvel, Adam Buettner, Lynn Daley, Chitra Gnanasabesan, Glen Halvorson, Michael Ivanow, Linda Lévesque, Michelle Maynard, Justin Sorge, Jocelyn Vachon, Gail Waddleton.***

### **2017's new CCAA Holders**

***Shona Anderson-Wong, Ian Ayles, Linda Battenberg, Christopher Bernardino, Joanne Bosche, Janet Bowles, Loretta Caranci Cadney, Darren Chatten, Robert Chong, Christina Clarke, Monique Crochet, Daina Dirse, Leck Dobkowski, Holly Dorais, Donovan Douglas, Joelle Dynes, Tracy Ellison, Jennifer Finlay, Dexter Forbes, Mandy Fortier, Faylene Funk, Adam Gillis, Juliana Gowing, Crystal Greig, Elihu Henry, Roya Jafarian, Chantal Khoury, Nick Kolozetti, Joe Kwok, Philip Lau, Ranson Lee, Amanda Leeming, Ana Lopez Filici, Dana Lockyer, Alexandra J. MacDonald, Krista Matthews, Kyle McAdam, Lesley Munro, Shakib Naqshbandi, Anna Needham, Nancy Ng, Patrick Nellis, Jason Nickerson, Kristen Nitsopoulos, Matt Palermo, Erin Pellar, Sophie Piccott, John Plum, Carolin Priviteria, Jason Proudman, Hari K. Rama Lingam, David Rawe, Mary Robertson, Jennifer Samarin, David Shaikh, Naomi Simonson, Sanjay Singh, Mallory Smith, Amanda So, Wendy So, Jonathan Swan, Holly Syer, Manpreet Tamber, Maryann Thistle, Raluca Tiganila, Rebecca Uy-Chung, Willem Warmels, Bruce Williams, Julia Ycas, Craig Yeung, Shirley Yue, Marco Zaccagnini.***

## ***Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistant (CCAA)***

There are 181 Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistants (CCAAs). The AA certificate, which was launched in May 2014, was transitioned to the CCAA (Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistant). CCAAs have demonstrated that they have achieved the competencies in the 2016 AA National Competency Framework and commit to 25 hours of professional development per year. Effective January 2019, all new graduates from AA education program will be required to write the national AA exam and graduate from an AA accredited program. The full list of CCAAs is available on the CSRT web site.

### ***Establishing national standards for the education and practice of AAs.***

The CSRT continues to work with the Canadian Anesthesiologists Society and other stakeholders to ensure there are national standards for the practice and education of anesthesia assistants. Over the past 15 years, the CSRT has provided leadership in the development of a foundation knowledge document, an Educational Framework for AA Education, and the AA Competency Framework was launched in the fall of 2016. In 2017, the CSRT continued to play a leadership role in the development of a national certification examination for anesthesia assistants as well as an accreditation process for AA education programs. As of December 2017, four of the five anesthesia assistant education program had received provisional accreditation. The 2016 AA National Competency Framework has provided the framework for the exam development and the accreditation process.

### ***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 ***resource section*** of the CSRT 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 and can be found at <http://www.csrt.com/catalogue-of-guidelines/>

### ***CSRT CE/CPD Credits awarded to external education events***

The CSRT CE/CPD credits are sought after by other health organizations and industry. The CSRT provides an assessment of continuing education and professional development opportunities. As a result, CSRT members are able to claim completion of approved activities for continuing education and professional development credits.



## RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS – CSRT 2016 AWARDS



### ***2017 Colya Kaminiaz Professional Achievement Award***

**Jeff Dmytrowich, RRT** (Saskatchewan)  
This award recognizes Jeff Dmytrowich for the significant contributions to professional practice and his influence toward high level of achievement in professional practice.

Sponsored by:

**Medtronic**  
Further, Together

### ***2017 Robert Merry Award for Excellence in Education***

**Barbara MacDonald, RRT,**  
**Dalhousie School of Health Sciences**  
**(Nova Scotia)**

This award recognizes Barbara MacDonald for her contributions to education and for influencing others toward high level of achievement in RT education.





***2017 Excellence in Pulmonary Function Award*** – sponsored by Cardinal Health

**Jimmy Joy, RRT (Alberta)** was recognized for significant contributions in the field of pulmonary function testing and for influencing others toward higher levels of achievement in pulmonary diagnosis.

***2017 Honorary Life Membership Award***

**Christiane Ménard**

**CSRT Executive Director between 2008 and 2017**, was recognized for providing meritorious services to the CSRT and distinguished service to the profession of respiratory therapy.





### ***2017 President`s Award***

#### ***Patty Wickson, RRT (Alberta)***

Was recognized for her commitment to her profession at the national level and for providing unwavering support to the development of leadership initiatives to advance the RT profession.

Sponsored by:



### ***CBRC / CSRT Gold, Silver, Bronze Medal Awards***

The Gold, Silver and Bronze Student Achieve Awards is conferred to individuals who have received the three top marks at the CBRC exam.



***Gold Medal*** – Kaitlyn Schmidt, RRT –  
Southern Alberta Institute of  
Technology (SAIT) - Alberta

*Sponsored by Respiratory Therapists  
Without Borders and Mo Shariff*



***Silver Medal (1)*** Kyle Mikoliew,  
RRT – University of Manitoba -  
Manitoba



***Silver Medal (2)*** Tyler Laird, RRT –  
Thompson Rivers University -  
British Columbia



## 53rd CSRT Annual Education Conference

The 2017 CSRT Annual Education Conference was held at the Marriott Hotel in Halifax Nova Scotia. This was another successful conference with 525 participants and featured over 80 speakers in enhancing the knowledge and skills of respiratory therapists through various clinical and scientific presentations and workshops.

### *Thank you to the CSRT industry partners*

The CSRT gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of our numerous industry partners who year after year contribute towards the success of the CSRT Annual Education Conference. We are grateful for their continued commitment to the profession of respiratory therapy. These non-restricted financial contributions support the overall development and delivery of the education program.

## 2016 Elite

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## 2016 Platinum

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## 2016 Gold

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## 2016 Silver

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