

**Report to CSRT Board: Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy (CJRT)
 Feb 2016-Feb 2017**

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Publisher Transition

In September 2016, our then-publisher, Pulsus, sold their company to an India-based company known for predatory journal practices. In consultation with the CSRT Board, the journal immediately invoked a cancellation of our contract (in accordance with advice from CSRT’s lawyer). Moving quickly to a new “self-publishing” model, we secured a contract with Canadian Science Publishing to handle issue layout; the CSRT webmaster created and maintains the new website, including archives; the Managing Editor oversees peer review, indexing, printing and mailing of issues; and the CSRT office is handling advertising. The transition was communicated to members and the wider readership through the CSRT online newsletter, social media, and a message on CJRT’s new homepage. Timely action by all involved resulted in an uninterrupted publishing schedule, with the last issue of 2016 coming together by our scheduled deadline. The new arrangement has been deemed an improvement over our arrangement with Pulsus, with more control over all aspects of the review, publishing and distribution processes, and a more responsive website.

Editorial Board

Recap of Deputy Editor and Editor-in-Chief Transition: Editor-in-Chief Jason Nickerson’s term expired on July 1st 2016. After consultation with the board and CSRT Executive Director Christiane Menard, Andrew West has taken on this role, with Jason staying on as the Deputy Editor.

Associate Editors: Two Associate Editors (AEs) renewed their terms (Kathleen Spurr and Andrea White Markham). This position entails overseeing the peer review process and making decisions on papers, as well as participating in face-to-face strategy meetings with the Editor-in-Chief, Deputy Editor and Managing Editor.

Editorial Board: Three new members were invited to join the larger board: Marco Zaccagnini, Justin Sorge and Jason Zurba; one board member did not renew (Wrae Hill). We have been staggering the terms so there is no large turnover at any one time, and assigning members papers in an AE capacity in order to train larger board members to eventually join as AEs. We are also engaging board members further with more communication and specific tasks. This includes quarterly teleconferences, face-to-face meetings, monthly messages and author assignments.

Submissions (research, review, commentary)

Year/Volume	Submissions
2013 Vol 49	17
2014 Vol 50	23
2015 Vol 51	22
2016 Vol 52	22
2017 Vol 53	1 (as of Feb)

Website Statistics

ONLINE STATS - PULSUS	Unique visitors	Page views
2014 (monthly average)	556	811
2015 (monthly average)	557	2,411
<i>Note - no stats for Pulsus 2016</i>		

ONLINE STATS www.cirt.ca	Unique visitors	Page views
Nov 2016 (new issue posted)	665	1,932
Dec 2016	348	704
Jan 2017	446	959
Feb 2017 (new issue posted)	COMING	COMING

E-Table of Contents	Sent (# of members)	Opens
Vol 52.4	3321	1269 (39.2%)
Vol 53.1	COMING	COMING

Social Media

The *CJRT* Twitter account has grown to 1,240 followers. The account is used to promote journal content, share tips on research practices, pass along news about RT accomplishments, and communicate with related organizations, stakeholders and followers. The CSRT also uses a Twitter account (currently at 781 followers) as well as the student representative (192 followers), and these accounts are used for cross-promotion, including linkage to the CSRT Facebook page. Both Twitter and Facebook are responsible for driving a percentage of our online views (this varies per month).

Planned in 2017

Peer review update: We are working on installing free software to manage the peer review process, called Open Source Journals, or OSJ (scheduled to be running this February). Once it is running and the board has been trained, we will be reaching out to our pool of peer reviewers and asking them to create a profile, proving us with keywords to match the right manuscripts to the right people. This will be a great improvement on the current process, and should also be a good touchpoint with potential authors.

Communication to all past authors: We will be contacting all past authors to notify them about the new site, direct them to the new archives section where their work is stored, update them on journal progress and invite them to submit and/or add their name to our reviewer pool.

PUBMED update: Pulsus stopped uploading our content to PubMed as of issue 52.2 (even though they published 52.3). We are currently working with PubMed to arrange an FTP site. As soon as this is set up, all past articles from 52.2 onwards will be deposited.

Student/new researchers outreach: In 2017 we are adding resources to website (links to how-to articles, past conference presentation PowerPoints, etc); creating handouts for distribution at the upcoming conference targeting student and educator forum participants; and promoting an open call for student papers in a "Student Corner" section of the journal. We are also proposing alternate formats, such as QA projects, or technical notes that may be more accessible.

Special issue 2018: A special issue has been planned on the topic of "PRIMARY CARE and role of RTs." The call for papers is being promoted on social media, on the journal homepage, to CSRT members in their newsletter, and at the conference.