

2017 Year-end Report Card from the CSRT Board of Directors

As we near the end of another productive year at the CSRT, the Board of Directors is pleased to present the 2017 report card on our accomplishments. Over the past twelve months, the CSRT continued to grow and now has over 4,250 members! There was substantial growth also witnessed in response to the call for presenters for the Annual Education Conference, with more than 110 RTs submitting a proposal.

In 2017, the Board of Directors, in collaboration with volunteers and staff, continued to focus on the implementation of the *Blueprint for the Profession*. This important document continues to provide the framework for all CSRT activities aimed at supporting the profession of respiratory therapy. An update of all the activities completed are available at: <http://www.csrt.com/blueprint-for-the-profession/>

Significant progress has been made to support the evolution of the RT profession. Working with an inter-professional workgroup, the CSRT completed all the elements required for an inter-professional certification process for anesthesia assistants and approved the professional designation to Certified Clinical Anesthesia Assistant (CCAA). In addition, the CSRT has set the groundwork to establish a post-diploma certification process for RTs working exclusively with neonates and pediatrics.

The Board of Directors made the difficult decision to withdraw from the provision of accreditation services for respiratory therapy programs as of August 31, 2019. In doing so, the CSRT will be positioned to more effectively direct its resources on initiatives that are closely tied to its mandate of advancing the RT profession. After 20 years of administering the accreditation process for entry-to-practice respiratory therapy education, the CSRT will refocus its accreditation services towards post-diploma education programs (e.g. AA programs).

We continue to find ways to optimize knowledge dissemination and the sharing of information through the listserv platforms, the web site and the monthly e-newsletter but also through a strong presence within many social media platforms such Facebook, Linked in and Twitter. Most importantly, the CSRT strives to enhance RT knowledge transfer through the *CJRT*, the Annual Education Conference, and webinars.

Celebrating individuals that make significant contributions to the RT profession through our awards program continues to be an important initiative. The CSRT also negotiated lower fees for professional liability insurance. Administrative fees for the monthly payment option used by many CSRT members (for paying their membership dues, regulatory bodies' licensing fees and the premiums for professional liability insurance) were reduced by 50%. The CSRT also continued to support inter-professional research initiatives at various universities and health organizations and collaborates to implement national inter-professional programs such as *Choosing Wisely Canada*.

A substantial task undertaken by the Board of Directors this year was the succession planning initiative to find a Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Andrew West, who is well known across the RT community, joined the CSRT as CEO in August 2017. The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to give appreciation to the devoted full-time and part-time CSRT employees – Christiane, Carolyn, Katherine, Lindsey, Theresa, Carly, Tom, and Andrew.

In 2018, the Board of Directors' will continue to strive for further advancement in the practice of respiratory therapy and looks forward to tackling challenges that will pave the way for the evolution of our profession.

Best wishes to you and your family for a joyful holiday season.

CSRT Board of Directors

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