

NSCRT General Meeting

November 28, 2008

QEII Health Sciences Centre, HI Site Room 6016

Executive Present: Barb MacDonald (president), John Cushing (recorder), Shannon MacDonald (Registrar), Phil Richardson, Trish Moriarty, Wendy Conrad, Sarah Boyne, Carol Donaldson.

Members Present: Deborah Gillis, Cheri Davison, Christine Siteman, Patti Winfield, Tanya Frail, Rory Lake, Susan White, Lydia Hatton, Kathy Johnston, Gil Hatton, Sylvia Vardi, Dan Meagher, Norma Frank, Ian Ayles, Tammy Weagle, Seely Alder, Robert Martell, Deryck Kelly, Pat Passerini, Heather Dzioba, Denny Andolfatto, Kathy Spurr.

Members via teleconference: Karen Hamilton-McNutt, Donna Kaye, Marlene Heath.

Members present via proxy: Tammy Scott, Noel Pendergast, Sandra Little, Donna Young, Thelma Cashen, Roberto Ciocca, Heather Johnston, Jane Clifford, Andrea Bond, Valerie McCarthy, Melissa Rose, Amber Blades, Stephanie MacDonald, Nathalie Lockhart, Bonnie Hillier, Allison Landry, Louanna Bethune, Kim Thompson, Joanne Townsend, Diane Kennedy, Ashley Davis, Doug Charlton, Mike Cashen, Shane Mullett, David Wheatley, Deanna McCarron, Katy Scott, Sarah Wallace, Laura Betts, Jennifer Hoyt-Veinot, Heinz Gaube, Anita Grant, Claudette Ede, Tim Sanford, Meaghan Woods,

Jessica Carew, Kim Ford, Beatta Benimana-Cawley, Shelley Cummings, Lindsay Bertrand, Suzanne Allen.

Absent:

1. Call to order / Approval of Agenda.

The meeting was called to order at 1730 hrs. The agenda was approved.

-Christianne from the CSRT was welcomed by B. MacDonald. Ch pointed out differences in how the CSRT was run and how a college is run; a college is based on an act and the CSRT is a voluntary organization. Liability issues were also discussed by Ch as they pertained to the college. The CSRT is accountable to its members and the NSCRT is accountable to government. The CSRT offers liability insurance to its members. Ch also distributed proxies to members for future use.

2. Approval of minutes from the NSCRT Annual General Meeting, June 14th, 2008.

3. Reports:

- 3.1 President's Report-the report was distributed to members and presented by - B.MacDonald. An electronic version will be posted on the website with the minutes. See attached.

In addition to the report some email issues were discussed; in the future the 'subject' for emails will indicate 'NSCRT' to avoid any confusion with spam. Members suggested that the use of a 'group' name may be more appropriate for certain hospital based email systems and that attachments were difficult to receive. It was suggested that in the future attachments be available on the NSCRT website.

- 3.2 Registrar's Report- the report was distributed to members and presented by S.MacDonald. An electronic version will be posted on the website with the minutes. See attached.

-One member questioned if the act was intended to make it more difficult for international RTs to work in NS. S.MacDonald noted that this was not true but that the goal was to maintain national standards. The CBRC examination process is a sufficient credentialing requirement for internationals. It was also noted that in Quebec the CBRC examination process is not required but as long as Quebec's process was followed and then 1500 clinical hours were obtained, that would be sufficient for the NSCRT requirements. It was noted that this was not a criticism of the Quebec examination process and that schools in Quebec are accredited in the same manner as all other schools in Canada.

-Any new graduates in Quebec would have to write the CBRC exams in order to apply and be a member of the NSCRT.

Work is continuing to establish appropriate practise hours for the profession.

- 3.3 Treasurer's Report - the report was distributed to members and presented by T.Moriarty. An electronic version will be posted on the website with the minutes. See attached.

-T.Moriarty noted that extra costs that were incurred were balanced by the additional college memberships.

-B.MacDonald noted that there are national meetings that are necessary for board members to attend in the coming months. B.MacDonald also noted that additional monies would likely be needed in order to work on possible future complaints against college members. This point was also emphasized by Ch who noted that complaints are very expensive to negotiate/resolve.

-P.Richardson noted that any complaints against members are to be dealt with by the NSCRT; not the employer as was in the past with the RTSNS.-A

member asked about insurance for the board and why this was necessary; this is necessary as per the by-laws.

-A member noted that the teleconference fees were high; Aliant is the provider of the teleconferencing system at Capital Health. The board will investigate other options for future meetings.

A motion to pass reports as read was forwarded by B.MacDonald; approved by P.Winfield and seconded by C.Davison. Motion was carried.

4. Business arising from the minutes:

- 4.1 Registrar position -update. The position will be 18 hours/week and is a contract position and will be reviewed on the fiscal year basis. A copy of the contract can be found on the NSCRT website.
- 4.2 CEC – update. S.MacDonald read an excerpt from the NSCRT documents outlining CECs. Many points were discussed:

-the board noted that the CEC document is a blueprint at present

-the board is looking for input/suggestions at present

-the board noted that various categories are meant to reflect the members' area of expertise

-the board will be tolerant for the transition year as any potential issues are worked on

-P.Richardson noted that on the renewal form for licensure that members are to note all credits attained in each category, not just the minimum required for each. The board will review the numbers/trends and adjust requirements/categories if necessary in the future. The necessity for accuracy in submitting these numbers was emphasized.

-B.MacDonald noted that CECs will be the first task of the Credentials Cte.

-the board emphasized that questions/suggestions should be emailed to the Registrar and will then be forwarded to the appropriate committee

-the board noted that 10% of the membership will be audited yearly and that those selected on a random manner by Pathfinder's. The entire membership has a potential to be audited each year even if audited in the previous year(s).

-the board noted that CEC requirements will be prorated for any members with a sanctioned leave.

4.3 Website update – members asked about having a bulletin board on the website;
board members are looking into this option.

5. New business:

5.1 NSCRT membership dues – several questions arose from members regarding membership dues, leaves and pro-rating of dues in this circumstance. S.MacDonald noted that due to financial and budgeting reasons dues will not be refunded if members move from the province, or for any other circumstance in which they are no longer working in the province of NS. This management of dues is consistent with that of other colleges in Canada.

-it was noted that earlier in the year some members had their dues pro-rated. The board noted that this pro-rating was done due to incorrect information provided by the board; in order to be fair to those who were given misinformation, the dues were pro-rated for these members only.

-the discussion was primarily focused on maternity leaves but it was noted that these regulations extend to any sanctioned leave

-the issue of reinstatement fees was brought forth by a member. The board noted that these fees are necessary in to maintain a license and it is the board's responsibility if an RT is practising. B.MacDonald noted that this practise is consistent with other colleges in Canada.

5.2 CEC auditing process – only the 10% of the membership that is audited each year must submit proof of credits; all other members should retain their proof for their own records only.

-the board noted that there is not yet a timeframe associated with the auditing process but this will be discussed at a later date and established by the Credentials Cte.

5.3 NSCRT membership application changes – Ch noted that a new line was added to the application form; new applicants must have a criminal record check completed as part of the application process. Ch also noted that some edits were necessary in the section on ‘being found guilty of a criminal offence’ section.

6. Question period / Information sharing

-L.Hatton noted that the IWK RT Dept had an open house for RT Week this fall and approximately 150 people attended this event.

-P.Richardson noted that the CBRC Cut Score process would be taking place shortly and that anyone interested in taking part should contact him.

-to board noted that RT Week was neither part of the college’s responsibility nor part of its’ mandate. -B.MacDonald noted that the board would like to further the RT profession but that it comes down to a money issue.

7. Adjournment

-motion to adjourn was approved by membership. Next meeting date was tentatively set for June 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
John Cushing
Director at large