



Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists

The nominations committee is proud to present to you the candidates running for President Elect and Director at Large for the executive of the Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists 2009.

President Elect candidates are:

Raj Makkar

Raj is the current manager, Cardio-Respiratory Services at Colchester Regional Hospital. Raj graduated in Halifax as an RRT in 1992 after completing his BSc in 1990. Raj has worked in both hospitals and homecare. He has been the manager at CRH since 1995. He brings a great deal of experience in leadership roles to this position. He is the current chair of the NS provincial Respiratory Leadership Group, the chair of the Department Head meetings for District Health Authority 4, and is the only RRT on the provincial Model of Care Initiative in Nova Scotia implementation team. He is involved in coaching soccer, basketball and previously softball. He has been active in the CRH Dragon Boat Team, Relay for Life, and United Way Campaign Chair (CRH) (to name a few). Raj states that he is committed to collaborating with Respiratory Therapists' throughout Nova Scotia by providing clear, concise communication in a respectful and trustworthy manner.

Dawn O'Hearn

Dawn graduated as an RRT from VG School of Respiratory Technology and has a Masters of Public Administration from Dalhousie. She is currently the Territory Sales Manager for NS and PEI for Trudell Medical Marketing Ltd. Dawn has worked in all areas of Respiratory Care in the Hospital including roles as a Staff Therapist, 2 years as Instructor in the School of Respiratory Therapy (1983-85) 10 years as Manager of the Cardio Respiratory Dept at DGH. (1985-1995). The last 14 years she has spent working in the Private Sector but has always worked in areas that focused on either developing the role of the Respiratory Therapist in the area of Asthma Education by helping to develop a network of Community Asthma Care Centres in Atlantic Canada or by supporting the Respiratory Therapist in her roles as a Medical Sales and Marketing Professional. She has been elected (and re-elected) to the Halifax County Bedford District School Board (1994-2000). Dawn states that it is time for her to give back to the profession by donating her time and expertise so that we can make this profession one that continues to grow in stature and recognition as a very important part of the HealthCare framework.



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Candidates for Director at Large are:

Melini Sutherland

Melini graduated with her Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy and has worked for over 5 years in the RT department of Cape Breton Regional Hospital. Melini would like to help bring representation onto the Board from the Cape Breton area. She feels this would improve involvement in the College from other CBRH respiratory staff. She feels she has the qualifications and availability needed for this position.

Erica Dehmel

Erica has been an RRT since 2006 and graduated with her Bachelor of Health Science in Respiratory Therapy in 2007. She has worked in a hospital setting, and since 2008 she has been working at the Snore Shop. She also brings experience as a lab demonstrator and participation in a research study and feels this has given her insight to the broad scope of practice an RRT has. She states that she is very passionate about the profession and feels the development of the NSCRT has been a positive change in respiratory therapy. She understands she is young in her career, but feels a younger therapist's views are important. She feels her experience in both hospital and homecare makes her a well rounded candidate.

Denise Mitchell

Denise graduated in 1990 from NAIT (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology) and has worked as an RRT in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Saudi Arabia and now at the IWK in Halifax. She has worked in both hospitals and homecare (where she held a management position). She feels this experience is an asset to this position. She has previous experience as a Director at Large, serving for 2 years on the executive of the College and Association of Respiratory Therapists of Alberta. She is enthusiastic about joining the executive of the NSCRT and feels she would be an asset to this position.