Presidents Message

As you read this a new summer season is upon us with its promise of growth and renewal. I believe your professional organization is steadily proceeding with ongoing projects that will position us as a credible entity representing MRTs of this province. We are charged with the twin mandates of regulating members in service of the public and providing an avenue for members to access opportunities in order to develop professionally and maintain a license to practice.

I would like to express my sincere thanks again to the organizing committee for all their hard work in the success of the recent annual conference at Yorkton and I am sure that our next Spring conference in Regina 2014 will have similar support. Delegates from the CAMRT were very impressed with the caliber of speakers, particularly from our younger members who are encouraged to look at opportunities such as the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) for Medical Radiological Technologists. I would also like to welcome and thank the two newly elected members of Council who will start their term Jan 1st 2014.

I also had the privilege of attending the CAMRT AGC at St. Johns, Newfoundland this year in May and was very impressed with the host province and their great program of presentations and social events. I would also like to mention some of our MRT students from this province who were recognized for their submissions in the following CAMRT award categories. Kellen Koo received a Certificate of Merit in the 2013 L.J. Cartwright Award category for the “best educational essay providing either a review or a new method to describe an established application or principle related to medical radiation technology”. Tim Bodnarchuk and Rachael Graham each received a Certificate of Merit in the Sister Mary Arthur “Sharing the Light” category. This award is “presented to the individual who submits the best non-technical essay on a health care topic related to the patient or the caregiver”. It is very exciting to see capable students receiving these awards and I hope it encourages them to present at our own provincial meetings in the future.

Prior to the main CAMRT conference I was also privileged to participate in a general discussion involving all the provincial MRT organizations and CAMRT to share what the profession is doing locally and nationally. If you are able I would also encourage members to join our SAMRT committees and help us steer the organization forward. If you monitor our SAMRT website and the CAMRT website you will start to understand some of the Issues facing our profession. Two examples are the implications of “hybrid technology” and a national trend of our imaging colleagues in the Sonography profession seeking partners in their efforts to be self regulated.

I earnestly hope that the rest of the year is a most enjoyable one for you all, both professionally and in your lives beyond the workplace setting. I would continue to encourage the use of tools such as the “Image of Care” campaign and share the “NOD” approach with your patients and friends. Our primary focus should always be directed towards benefiting the people we serve and I want to thank you all for the collective effort in supporting your professional body as we move forward together.

Respectfully submitted by,

Peter J. Derrick
Committee Update

The professional development committee met on May 14th in Saskatoon. We had a very successful day analyzing the continuing education audits and making improvements to the continuing education record, audit expectations and credit program guidelines. These updated and improved documents will be mailed to your home, emailed to you, mailed to your place of employment and be on our website. Please remember that these improvements, along with 10 MRT related credits will be effective December 1st 2013. Please also remember that proper documentation is key to a successful audit.

The professional development committee is looking for 1-2 SAMRT members who work in smaller centers to be part of our committee. We would really like the perspective of the technologists who work in the smaller centers to help us make further improvements to the CE program. Our committee has one face to face meeting and a handful of teleconferences in one year. It is a great way to get 5 MRT specific credits! If you are interested, please contact Chelsea at the SAMRT office.

Thanks and have a great summer!

Respectfully submitted,
Allison Adair RTR CTIC

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Congratulations!

Congratulations to the new Council Members Nathan Rosenberg and Donna Schommer. Their terms run January 1 2014 - December 31 2016.

**Nathan Rosenberg** graduated from the medical radiologic technologist program at SIAST in 2007. He was offered a job as a summer student in my second year and shortly after a full time position at Saskatoon city Hospital. He worked as an x-ray technologist for 3 years and decided to specialize in MRI. It was one of the hardest decisions he ever had to make because he loved his job and colleagues in x-ray. Nathan did the MRI training by distance education through B. C. I. T in Vancouver. He has been working as an MRI technologist at City and St Paul's Hospital for 2 years. He is actively involved with the SAMRT and a member of the credentials committee. In 2011, Nathan was selected to attend the Leadership Development Institute offered by the CAMRT, where he learned many skills that would benefit him to be on council. Nathan is a TLR instructor in the Saskatoon health region.

**Donna Schommer** graduated from the Medical Radiation Technology program at SIAST in 1996. She worked as an MRT for 4 years at St. Paul's Hospital and for Queen Street Diagnostic Imaging before training in Ultrasound. She attended the Diagnostic Medical Sonography training program offered by Mohawk College in Hamilton, Ontario and graduated with honors in 2001. Donna was fortunate to be employed as both a MRT and sonographer in Saskatoon Health Region and for Saskatoon Medical Imaging until her relocation to the Battlefords in 2008. Donna is currently employed as a MRT and Diagnostic Medical Sonographer at the Battlefords Union Hospital in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. She is also a Mask Fit Tester for the Prairie North Health Region.
CAMRT Director’s Report

CAMRT’s 2013 AGC in St. John’s, was a great success in that it offered a unique mix of provocative plenary sessions and informative presentations on leading edge topics in all disciplines and sub-specialties as well as the NLAMRT were the perfect hosts that showed us their famous hospitality. It was a great honour to see our own Bob Britz presented with the Stewardship of the Profession award, the second to be awarded by the CAMRT Board of directors and in my opinion to a most deserving individual. Bob has not only been my mentor in my professional association activities but has lead many MRTs and students to appreciate what a wonderful profession we are in and the rewards we receive when we get involved.

Some of the highlighted activities from the CAMRT that have been happening in the last few months are;

There are 15 new Best Practice Guidelines on the website for use for members.

Competency Profiles went through major revisions and will be out later this year.

A Future Technologies Advisory Council will be established. The purpose of this Council will be to keep CAMRT and its partner organizations abreast of technological changes in the medical imaging fields, allowing CAMRT members to remain at the leading edge of practice.

Advanced Practice Framework and certification are almost complete and these will assist those MRTs who see their careers taking this direction.

There was a dramatic increase of MRTs enrolled in CAMRT CPD programs this past fall/winter.

CAMRT was a lead organization for the launch of the first Medical Imaging Team Day, which was held on May 17. Our involvement included developing the Medical Imaging Team website at www.imagingteam.ca, co-authoring a paper on Appropriate Use of Medical Imaging in Canada, media outreach and collaboration with Pat Davidson, MP (Sarnia) on a media conference chaired by President Amanda Bolderston, on Parliament Hill.

The Image of Care (IOC) rebranding campaign continued with an emphasis on what members can do individually and collectively to raise awareness of the campaign and of their professional brand.

In conclusion, CAMRT is moving forward with a strong and vibrant strategic plan, ongoing support and collaboration from our provincial partners and other significant stakeholders, and new and enthusiastic leadership.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Davis SK member of CAMRT Board of Director
At the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologist conference in St. John's Newfoundland, Irene O'Brien, the Welch Memorial Lecture speaker, made reference to many connections, or "bridges" in our field. As I reflect on the connections she mentioned, I must also add the CAMRT and the SAMRT as being a key connection. The conference and association worked together to bring so many passionate professionals to the 2013 conference, and the people presenting were so excited about their field, I found it impossible not to be inspired to make more of a change and difference in my own work life. It is uplifting to see so many variations of the specialties, from creating CAMRT accredited programs in Qatar to serving our country guiding a community in Afghanistan through medical diagnostic challenges. And with ever changing technology, politics and personnel in the field of medical radiology, it is extremely refreshing to have the opportunity to broaden learning on topics such as pediatric imaging, ALARA principles and chest trauma.

St. John's is a city engulfed in history. As the oldest city in North America, it is filled with beautiful stone buildings that survived the devastating Great Fire in 1892. Signal Hill, a hill which overlooks the city, has had fortifications placed on it since the mid 17th century, and on December 12, 1901, Guglielmo Marconi received the first transatlantic wireless transmission at this location. The rich sense of the past that can be felt in St. John’s can also be found in the long history of diagnostic imaging. As time passes we reflect on the events and changes that have occurred in our development: Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen’s amazing discovery in 1895, transitioning from film screen to complete digital systems, the creation of the safety codes and development of governing bodies such as the SAMRT. The need for change and improvement bridges the past to the future: experienced technologists to new graduates, textbook protocols to patient specific challenges, and high dose pedoscopes for shoe fitting to dose reduction software with optimal imaging.

My experience at the 2013 CAMRT conference was wonderful. Despite challenges flying and landing through thick Newfoundland fog, my memories of the beautiful and friendly city of St. John’s, along with the lessons I took away from the conference, more than made the trip worth it! I am eager to share my experiences, taking the information and ideas I have obtained and utilizing them as I continue my career journey. I am so blessed to have had this opportunity and I send many thanks to the SAMRT for making this adventure possible. I look forward to seeing many familiar faces and also many new ones at the CAMRT Conference in Edmonton, Alberta May 29 - June 1, 2014!

Submitted by: Kelsey Koszman, RTR
SAMRT SPRING CONFERENCE APRIL 2013
YORKTON SASKATCHEWAN

Medical Imaging - “Its what’s on the Inside that Counts”

A big THANK YOU to the conference planning committee for hosting a successful Spring Conference. The Conference Planning Committee consisted of: Maria McLaren, Phyllis Shewchuk, Georgette Kluk, Twyla Babyak, Kristen Kaczur, Karen Choptuik, Ken Weber, Peter Derrick & Bashir Jalloh.

Awards presented at the conference:

Karen Davis - President of the SAMRT 2008, 2009, 2010
Ken Weber - President of the SAMRT 2011, 2012
Sheila Coulter - Treasurer of the SAMRT 2011, 2012
Julie Lemoine - Various years serving the SAMRT as a Council and Committee Member

Student Award - Victoria Beznoska received the student award in Radiological Technology for having the highest average at SIAST in 2012.

Awards Committee Chair, Jo-Anne Couture presenting Ken Weber with his Award in recognition of serving as the SAMRT President 2011 & 2012
The Conference Planning Committee did a great job lining up speakers for the conference. Lecture topics include: Radiation Hormesis - The Future of Radiation Protection, Lean, Professional Practice in the MRT Profession, Stroke & the Role of Diagnostic Imaging, Bone Density, Imaging in Dentistry, Equine MRI, Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome, & Imaging Practice in the Radiation Therapy Department at Saskatoon Cancer Centre. A big thank you to all the speakers!

Mark Given - Presenter

“CAMRT update with a focus on Professional Practice for the MRT Profession”

Dr. Nadine Swan - Presenter

“I Feel it in my Bones (Bone Density)”

Dr. Garnet Packtota—Presenter

“Diagnostic Imaging in Dentistry - It's More than Just Looking for Cavities”

Casino Game Night
Saskatchewan Association of Medical Radiation Technologists

Steward of the Profession Award

“Sponsored by the CAMRT, the Steward of the Profession Award honours a CAMRT member who has advocated for and worked to advance the profession at both the national and provincial levels. By doing so he or she has demonstrated the importance of members playing an active role in strengthening and advancing their profession.”

This year it was presented to our member from Saskatchewan, Bob Britz who is well known as an educator and passionate advocate for students, and student issues. The following is a short professional biography and we congratulate him for this well deserved recognition from the national association.

Bob being presented with his award from Amanda Bolderston, President CAMRT

Bob graduated from St. Paul’s Hospital School of Radiography in 1973. He achieved his Advanced Certification of Radiography (ACR) from the CAMRT in 1988. Bob has also achieved his CT Imaging Certificate and has completed numerous other courses.

Bob first began working as a staff technologist at St. Paul’s Hospital in 1973. In 1989 he became the supervisor of special procedures and Angiography at St. Paul’s. In 1995 he became supervisor of CT at St. Paul’s. In 2005, Bob joined SIAST as an Instructor in Medical Imaging. In 2007 he became the Program Head for Radiological Sciences Program at SIAST. In 2008, he returned back to teaching in the Radiological Sciences Program where he continues to work today.

Bob has contributed many hours volunteering both nationally and provincially. He has served as the SAMRT President on 2 separate occasions, the Vice – President, served on council for MANY years, has chaired and co-chaired various conferences, including the 2011 CAMRT National General Conference, has served on many committees over the years as well as numerous working groups. There are probably not very many MRT’s who do not know Bob or his dedication to the Association.

Bob has received Awards that include: the Past president’s award in 1993, Percy Hunt lecturer in 2006, Life Membership in SAMRT in 2012 and now the CAMRT Steward of the Profession in 2013.
If you could see me as well as I see you...

You’d see a caring professional, a high-tech specialist, and an essential member of your healthcare team.

Find out why Canada’s medical radiation technologists are the very image of care at imageofcare.ca

A MESSAGE FROM CAMRT AND PROVINCIAL PARTNER ASSOCIATIONS