

## President's Message – May 2017

Dear Colleagues:

Let me first say what an honor and privilege it is to serve again as your SAMRT President. I had served in this role before in 1995 – when the discussion was whether to buy a computer for the association and we had a demonstration of the new operating system called “Windows”.

As you may be aware from previous email notifications, we have had some changes at SAMRT. It is great to have Debbie Schatz as our new Executive Director. She is already showing great skill and learning our processes very quickly. Welcome aboard, Debbie!

I would also like to take a moment to thank Chelsea Wilker for her service to SAMRT. As the inaugural Executive Director she initiated many processes to help make SAMRT a great association and a professional regulator to serve the people of Saskatchewan. Chelsea also will help with transition processes until the end of May.

I would also thank President Allison Kahl for her service at the beginning of the year. While she was unable to continue in her term, her work with the Executive Director search committee has been a huge benefit to the SAMRT. We thank her for all her years of service!

I had my first council meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Council approved several key pieces of business including approval to proceed with an AGM and education day. So mark your calendars for Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We are striving to make the education day at little or no cost to members. But there is a catch – we need your involvement in this association. We need you at AGMs to hear what is going on, to participate, and to guide Council. So instead of thinking of it as just a business meeting – please try thinking of it as an opportunity to learn something about the SAMRT itself.

Finally, this message is a call – to every one of you. We need volunteers. We need Council members. I know its not easy to give up time from work or home. I've been volunteering in some way since 1989 – and that's with raising two children and my share of shift work! I like to think of volunteer service as a professional duty. We all need this association, we all need to help it and carry the load. So when you see the emails looking for Council members, do give consideration to the request. If you are a manager, do urge and support your staff to participate. You won't be alone – I and the other Council members will be right there. It's a chance to learn something new, to sharpen your own skills, and definitely to have fun! I can tell you from my experiences that I have many friends I did not know before. I can go to most any part of the province and even across this great country and call an MRT there a friend.

These are exciting times for SAMRT with many opportunities for the MRT practice! I look forward to serving you!

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Hilkewich RTR ACR CTIC FCAMRT