

President's Message - Melanie Hilkewich

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. And while she was unable to continue in her term, her work with 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 5th. Council approved several key pieces of business including... [Click here to read the entire message.](#)

Executive Director's Message

Dear SAMRT members,

It has been a busy and rewarding couple of months since I joined SAMRT as the Executive Director. By way of introduction, I have more than 25 years in senior leadership and management roles in both public and private organizations. Most recently, I worked with the Provincial Government, Ministry of Health providing program support and analysis in the Medical Services Branch with a particular focus on rural and remote recruitment and retention. In the private sector my experience includes business continuity planning (emergency preparedness), administrative audit, program development and business analysis.

I hope to meet many of you in person at the Annual General Meeting. In the meantime, if you are in or passing through Regina, stop in and introduce yourself.

Sincerely submitted by

Debbie Schatz

Save the Date - September 9, 2017

Annual General Meeting and Conference

The 2017 Annual General Meeting and Conference is scheduled for Saturday, **September 9th in Saskatoon**. The meeting will include the president's report, the executive director's report, committee reports, the audited financial report and election of council members as well as an educational program. More details will be provided in June.

2017 SAMRT Council

President
Melanie
Hilkewich

Vice President
Brenda Lock

Past President
Bashir Jalloh

**Elected Council
Members**
Katelyn New
Nathan
Rosenberg
Peter Derrick

**Appointed
Council
Members**
Melanie
Hilkewich
Brenda Lock
Scott
Mildenberger

**Public
Representatives**
Bonnie Caven
Ryan Klassen

CAMRT Director
Karen Davis

Council Vacancies

Members received an eblast call for nominations in May with the notification that six Council positions are open for election at the next Annual General Meeting. In February 2017, *five temporary appointments* were made until a vote at the next Annual General Meeting.

Temporary Appointments:

Member	Discipline
Melanie Hilkewich	RTR
Bashir Jalloh	RTNM
Brenda Lock	RTR
Scott Mildenberger	RTNM
Katelyn New	RTR

The SAMRT encourages interested members to consider becoming involved on Council. The term begins January 1, 2018 for 3 years.

Report from National Provincial Meeting

April 2017

President Melanie Hilkewich and Executive Director Debbie Schatz attended national / provincial meetings in Ottawa. These meetings are attended by leaders from each provincial association, provincial regulators and CAMRT leadership to discuss common interests and issues. President Hilkewich stayed on to attend the CAMRT Annual General Conference as well. The group gave a warm welcome to both of us.

It was interesting to hear that other provinces face similar decisions to those before SAMRT. These include everything from membership engagement to governance model revisions. We also had education sessions on meeting procedures and best practices. This was an opportunity to discuss commonalities and gain insight from experiences of others.

There was also information sessions on the new accreditation service for our education program assessments. This change will be necessary as the Canadian Medical Association will soon no longer participate in the conjoint accreditation process for MRTs as well as other health professional groups. The process seems reasonable with a good transition model. Once negotiations are complete, further details will be released.

The CAMRT conference this year was a joint conference with the OAMRS. There were very good education sessions. It was also the 75th anniversary of the CAMRT! It was a pleasure to attend on behalf of the SAMRT.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Hilkewich RTR ACR CTIC FCAMRT

Report from CAMRT Director Karen Davis

April 27-30, 2017 was the CAMRT Annual conference and AGM. It was held in Ottawa as a celebration of the organization's 75th anniversary. The educational sessions were, as always, highly informative. I know many members have been upset hearing this was the last CAMRT conference. The decision to change the conference format was made on the declining numbers attending the conference and the expense for the few that could make it. Instead, the focus is to use these resources to give more members more opportunities for education as well as connecting with our national association for the annual general meeting. CAMRT is very excited to already be collaborating with other professional associations as CARO (Canadian Association of Radiation Oncologists), COMP (Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists), and CAR (Canadian Association of Radiologists) for combined national conferences next year. For more information please see the CAMRT website www.camrt.ca. There will be a webinar on Thursday June 8th at 10:00am SK time. Please go to the website to register.

CAMRT has also been very busy and involved in the future of accreditation of our educational programs since CMA divested itself from this. The Allied Health Programs Accreditation Working Group members have decided to accept, in principle, a proposal from a service provider. The CAMRT board of directors supported this decision. Agreements still need to be finalized and signed by all parties before details are released.

This spring we say goodbye to Elaine Dever who will be retiring from CAMRT as the Education Director. We welcome Carrie Bru who will be our new Director of Education. Carrie comes from Alberta. Please see the website for her bio.

CAMRT has developed a certification for Radiation Therapists for Advanced Practice and is working on doing the same for Medical Radiation Technologists in Medical Imaging. There are also four potential sites to pilot Advanced Practice roles in Medical Imaging.

This past meeting, the Board of Directors also confirmed the two highest priorities for advocacy as being Appropriateness and Advanced Practice. The Advocacy Committee will be meeting in June to work on the advocacy plan to present to the board this summer. One project they have been working on is a tool kit for CAMRT members to use when they are doing any government relation advocacy for the profession.

Sincerely submitted by

Karen Davis, CAMRT Board member from Saskatchewan

CAMRT Conference Reports

SAMRT members **Mary Rafferty and Sandra Bernauer** were the winners of the random draw to attend the April 2017 CAMRT Conference in Ottawa. Please take a moment to read about their experiences:

[Please click here to read Mary Rafferty's Report.](#)

[Please click here to read Sandra Bernauer's Report.](#)

About CAMRT Communities of Practice (COPs)

Over the past year the CAMRT has been developing a virtual online community for CAMRT members. The purpose of this community is to provide MRTs a space to communicate, share information and develop ideas while providing an interactive online collaborative experience for the users.

CAMRT COPs:

- Enable nationwide discussions where you can share, learn and connect with other MRTs
- Provide a platform to share files to build the MRT knowledge base
- Are mobile friendly and easy to use on any mobile device
- Will house a member directory with direct messaging capabilities
- Allow personalized profile creation and setting preferences, with no annoying notifications

The platform is also mobile-friendly, and there is a Code of Conduct to ensure privacy, respect, and professional conduct.

[Visit the CAMRT website or click on the link for more information on COPs:
http://www.camrt.ca/mrt-profession/professional-resources/cop/](http://www.camrt.ca/mrt-profession/professional-resources/cop/)

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