

Volume 8, Issue 1 - February 2019

PRESIDENT'S POINT OF VIEW

As I begin my tenure as 2019 CMLTA President, I find myself reflecting on the value of service. The amount of time past and current Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Councilors have put in to fulfill their roles is impossible to determine. The value of their service can't be measured by a dollar amount, yet we know that it is invaluable in order to ensure a regulatory body such as the CMLTA can fulfill its mandate.

In the world of health professions regulation, we often talk about the *privilege* of self-regulation. This privilege, like many things in life, is difficult to appreciate until it is lost (which thankfully has never happened to our profession in Alberta). CMLTA volunteers are reminded of this privilege, and the College's mandate to protect the public through the regulation of MLTs each and every time we meet, but I believe it is worth reminding all Regulated Members. Not just because it justifies our annual registration dues, but also because it highlights importance of the work the CMLTA does on behalf of Regulated Members, the Government, and the general public. An effective regulatory body strengthens the image of the profession not by self-promotion, but by instilling public trust through robust mechanisms for registration, ensuring continuing competence of its members, and instituting a formal process for the adjudication of complaints of unprofessional conduct. This is the primary mandate of the CMLTA, and it is one which we constantly strive to improve as a Council.

Our effectiveness as a Council can be measured by how well the CMLTA is able to carry out its mandate. Our new Executive Director/Registrar and Council have collaborated to plot a course for this year that will improve our processes and procedures, increase engagement with our Regulated Members, and increase the transparency of the CMLTA. We have hit the ground running, by responding to the Government's Bill 21 with a new Standard of Practice:

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NOMINATIONS

[click here for details](#)

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

DEADLINE: December 31, 2018

[Click here for details](#)

Ensuring Professional Boundaries with Patients and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct, and planning for mandatory education for the Regulated Members Resource List. We have also revised CMLTA personnel policies to reflect changes in Alberta Employment Standards in 2018. The office is working to engage members and gauge interest in a half-day information session for all MLTs in Alberta this spring on the CMLTA's governance role and the legislated requirements the CMLTA must follow.

Our work is never done, but I am excited to begin my tenure surrounded by individuals ready to carry out a plan that will strengthen the ability of the CMLTA to meet its mandate. All the while, I will be reminded of the value of service, and will strive to ensure the CMLTA gets full-value for mine. I encourage all Regulated Members to get involved and become better-informed on the role of the CMLTA in their profession. We will all be better-served by a college that has the support and engagement of its members. Check out the [volunteer section](#) on the CMLTA website and get in contact with us!

Yours truly,
Valentin (Tino) Villatoro, MLT
2019 CMLTA President

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The CMLTA Council convened on January 12, 2019 for a Council meeting. The following are highlights from the meeting:

- Awarded Nicole Gettle the CMLTA Recognition of Excellence Award.
- Approved Council Meeting Dates for 2019.
- Approved CMLTA Council Resource list of professional advisors.
- Approved CMLTA Operational Personnel Policies, revised to align with 2018 revisions to Alberta Employment Standards.
- Approved 2019 Strategic Plan with key initiatives/projects for 2019.
- Approved 2019 Annual Budget.
- Accepted the 2019 Audit Plan as presented by Bruce Mahon Chartered Accountant.
- Appointed Myron Pilip to the Legislation Sub-Committee for a one-year term January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019.

NOMINATIONS

Council is currently accepting expressions of interest for the following vacant positions:

- 2020 - 2022 Councilor (3 vacancies)
- 2019 - 2021 Legislation Sub-Committee Member (3 vacancies)
- 2020 - 2022 Legislation Sub-Committee Member (3 vacancies)

If you are interested, please contact Maggie Fulford at cmltaregistrar@cmlta.org.

2020 DUES NOTICE

September 15-October 31, 2019: \$450 (early bird discount)

November 1-30, 2019: \$500 (regular dues)

December 1-31, 2019: \$625 (regular dues plus processing fees)

NOTE: Since 2013, annual MLT dues have been reduced from \$610 to \$500.

CMLTA INFORMATION SESSION SURVEY RESULTS

270 responses were received.

61% would attend an information session

29% would like the session on a weekday evening

28% would like the session on a weekend morning

43% would like a session in Edmonton

39% would like a session in Calgary

18% would like a session elsewhere in Alberta

Stay tuned to your email inbox for more information on the information session.

CCP CONVERSATIONS

CCP COMPLIANCE AUDIT NOTICE

CCP Compliance Audit notices were emailed and mailed January 17, 2019. Please ensure your contact information with the CMLTA is up to date. Login to the CMLTA website to see if you have been chosen for the

audit.

2019 ACTIVITY LOG REMINDER

2019 activity logs are not available until the CMLTA transitions to a new database and online platform. We expect 2019 activity logs to be available by May 1.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE PERSPECTIVES

CMLTA COMPLAINTS

The CMLTA received two complaints from employers in 2018. One was dismissed and the other resulted in the MLT surrendering her practice permit. One complaint has been carried over since 2017.

BILL 21 - STANDARD 4 FEEDBACK

The CMLTA would like to thank the 84 MLTs who responded to the survey requesting feedback on the new Standard of Practice - Ensuring Professional Boundaries with Patients and Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct. The draft was sent to the Minister of Health and the CMLTA expects feedback mid-February.

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to Nicole Gettle, recipient of the 2018 CMLTA Recognition of Excellence.

The foundation for the Recognition Program is based on the vision, mission, core values, and regulatory role of the CMLTA. It is peer to peer recognition of Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLTs) who epitomize professional practice; who advance the profession; and who demonstrate to others the CMLTA's *Standards of Practice* and *Code of Ethics*.

To view the Recognition of Excellence parameters or to nominate a deserving MLT, please click [here](#).

The CMLTA welcomes all feedback and encourages Regulated Members to provide

recommendations for continuous improvements to the mandated programs and services offered by the CMLTA. Regulated Member feedback is important to the CMLTA Council and any opportunity to implement your suggestions is mutually beneficial for all parties. Please send your comments/feedback to info@cmlta.org.

The College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Alberta (CMLTA) is a recognized leader in the regulation and governance of medical laboratory services. As a trusted partner in healthcare regulation, the CMLTA acknowledges self-regulation is a privilege and endeavors to enhance public protection and patient safety, promote high standards for professional practice, and contribute to the overall wellness of Albertans. The CMLTA protects the public by regulating Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLTs) and fostering excellence in professional practice.

The Commentator e-newsletter is the CMLTA's primary communication vehicle and is distributed February, May, and October. It provides MLTs and the public with current and timely information about CMLTA programs, services, and topics relevant to MLTs and which may have an impact on the healthcare continuum.

You are receiving this email as you are affiliated with the CMLTA in 2019.
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All Regulated Members are responsible for receiving The Commentator and being aware of its contents.

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