

ANNUAL REPORT



APRIL 2011

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**THE 71ST ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING OF THE NOVA SCOTIA
ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL
RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS**

Notice is hereby given to the membership of the Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists that the 71th Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held Saturday, April 30, 2011 at 1400hrs at the Inverary Resort in Baddeck, Nova Scotia.

Members are reminded that they are not eligible to vote at the AGM if they are not paid members of the Association.

The following pages contain the Annual Reports of the Executive and the committees of the NSAMRT. Please bring your own copy of the Annual Report with you to the AGM. These reports are published so that the membership will have the opportunity to read and be prepared with questions and comments.

Karren Fader, BHSc, RTNM, CRPA(R)
President, NSAMRT
karren.fader@dal.ca

AGENDA

**Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists
71st Annual General Meeting, April 30th, 2011**

1. Call to order.
2. President's Welcome and approval of the Agenda.
3. Approval of minutes from the NSAMRT 70th AGM, May 15, 2010, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia.
4. Approval of minutes from NSAMRT Fall Seminar Meeting, November 6, 2010 Halifax, Nova Scotia.
5. Business arising from the previous minutes.
6. Annual reports
 - 6.1 President's report
 - 6.2 Director's report
 - 6.3 Treasurer and financial report
 - 6.4 Registrar's report
 - 6.5 Student Secretary's report
 - 6.6 Publications committee report
 - 6.7 Education committee report
 - 6.8 Refresher committee report
 - 6.9 Public Relations committee report
 - 6.10 Awards committee report
 - 6.11 Historian committee report
7. New Business
8. 72nd Annual NSAMRT Conference and AGM location
9. Adjournment

NSAMRT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2010 - 2011

Executive Council

President – Karren Fader, BHSc, RTNM, CRPA(R) karren.fader@dal.ca
Vice President – Vicki Sorhaindo, BSc, RTR vicki.sorhaindo@cdha.nshealth.ca
Director – Carol-Anne Davis, RTT, ACT, DHSA, BSc carol-anne.davis@cdha.nshealth.ca
Registrar – Paula Hodson, RTT paula.hodson@cdha.nshealth.ca
Treasurer – Kelly Maloney, RTNM kmaloney@swndha.nshealth.ca
Secretary – Melissa Morash, BHSc, RTNM melissa.morash@cdha.nshealth.ca
Member at Large – Megan Brydon, BHSc, MSc(c), RTNM megan.brydon@iwk.nshealth.ca
Committee Liaison – Christina Maillet, RTR cmaillet@swndha.nshealth.ca

Committee Chairs

Awards – Julie Avery, BHSc, RTNM julie.avery@dal.ca
Continuing Education – Ryan Duggan, BHSc, RTR, MHI ryan.duggan@dal.ca
Publications – Vicki Sorhaindo, BSc, RTR vicki.sorhaindo@cdha.nshealth.ca
Public Relations – Christine Baillie, RTT christine.baillie@cdha.nshealth.ca
Historian – Wayne LaRade, RTR wayne.larade@cehha.nshealth.ca
Refresher Program – Cindy Murphy, BHSc, RTR, ACR cindy.murphy@dal.ca

NOMINATIONS TO THE NSAMRT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The NSAMRT are seeking Nominations for President and 2 Executive Council Positions on the NSAMRT Executive at the 71st Annual NSAMRT AGM:

President - Two Year Term
2 Executive Council Positions - Two Year Term

The NSAMRT invite the membership to submit nominations by email prior to the meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the AGM.

Kindly submit your nominees to:

Paula Hodson, RTT
Registrar
paula.hodson@cdha.nshealth.ca

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NSAMRT has been involved in new and ongoing initiatives in the last year. The 2010 NSAMRT AGC at White Point Beach Resort was well organized and attended. It included education and social events that were enjoyed and appreciated by all who participated. Thank-you Conference Co-Chairs and Committee! Elaine Dever, CAMRT Education Director, provided the members with a snapshot of where MRT education is going and Christine Baillie updated the members and encouraged discussion on Rebranding. The open dialogue on the College during the AGM allowed members to ask questions and express their thoughts as to what self-regulation will mean to the technologist and profession.

The College remains in the forefront of the NSAMRT's focus. We have been informed that we will not be going to the Legislature in the Spring 2011, however we are setting our sights on the Fall 2011. In the meantime we have continued to move forward by submitting to government additional information requested, meeting with our legal council to discuss strategy and positioning ourselves through communication and collaboration with other regulators. It is important to remember that although we think of ourselves as an association, the fact that we have a current Act means we are also considered a regulatory body. Because of this status we are included in the Health Professions Regulatory Network in Nova Scotia, a working group made up of representatives attempting to deal with issues of regulation through a common lens. Being part of this network is seen in a positive light by government.

Along that same thinking, the NSAMRT has joined the Alliance of Medical Radiation Technologists Regulators of Canada. We are one of the six regulated provinces that have recently formed the Alliance which raises the profile of MRT's from a regulatory perspective. Most other health professions have a national regulatory organization as well as a national society or association. It is recognized as moving forward or growth of a profession to achieve this milestone and viewed favourably by government.

At the same time we continue to strengthen our relationship with our national association; CAMRT. Nova Scotia had a strong delegate showing at the CAMRT 2010 AGC in Quebec City as well as members giving presentations and winning awards. In November the NSAMRT participated in the Symposium on Advanced Practice where we tried to come up with a working definition and develop a sense of how MRT's are practicing within disciplines and across provinces. A Strategic Planning Meeting occurred in February where provocative thoughts and views were opened up to frank discussion such as: Hybrid technology – Who operates it? What additional education do you need? Can disciplines continue to be silos? How do we educate MRT's, planning for the future?

A lot of work is being done on your behalf. You may have questions about what it means to the profession, the working environment or you the individual MRT. I encourage you to come to the 2011 AGM and bring your thoughts to the floor. See you in Baddeck!

Respectfully submitted,
Karren Fader RTNM
President NSAMRT



DIRECTORS REPORT

I have been pleased and honored to represent the members of the NSAMRT at the national board Director's Report

Since my last report to you all CAMRT, its staff, board and volunteers have been very busy with successful initiatives and projects. The 2010 CAMRT Annual General Conference and Meeting in Quebec City was a huge accomplishment with a record attendance of more than 1,100 delegates, over 140 speakers and 42 exhibitors. The conference included several multidisciplinary sessions in addition to more than 140 discipline-specific sessions (MRTs comprised 67 percent of total speakers!). Three significant updates from the conference that I'd like you to be all aware of:

- 1) Our new president-elect was announced at the AGC: Amanda Bolderston.
Her term begins January 1, 2011, and her term as president will begin January 1, 2012.

- 2) At the AGM, the members approved the motion to have all CAMRT members become associate members of the International Society of Radiographers and Radiologic Technologists. Currently, CAMRT is absorbing the members' fees to the ISRRRT.
- 3) NSAMRT member, Jill Marie Surette, RTNM was honored with the CAMRT's Award Early Professional Development. Congratulations to Jill on this well deserved award presented to her in front of all her peers and friends!

Significant Projects at CAMRT:

Rebranding Project CAMRT endorsed the new tagline, key messages and brand promise as developed by the Rebranding Steering Committee. The launch of the new CAMRT "look" is planned for this year's AGM/AGC in Saskatchewan. Many thanks to Christine Baillie RT(T), our NSAMRT member working diligently on this important initiative.

Best Practice Guidelines: CAMRT work on Best Practice Guidelines is aimed at creating an accessible and useful set of documents on topics relevant to Canadian MRTs. Since the kick-off meetings, CAMRT has been working to identify topics and trends of interest and structuring these into modules. There will be five modules: one for each professional discipline and a set of guidelines with core guidance relevant to all disciplines. Updates on this project and expected release dates will be brought to the AGM in June 2011. Thanks to Trish Munro RTNM and Matthew Rogers RTNM, RTMR, both NSAMRT members working diligently on this project.

Education Initiatives: CAMRT has undertaken the development of guidelines for education and support of preceptors/clinical instructors. As well, a team of members and staff have been working on the establishment of a CPD/Maintenance of Competence program (thanks to Brian Martell for his hard work with this initiative on NSAMRT's behalf). The validation of the competency profiles will be done in 2011...please know that this is a hugely important undertaking and your input and participation is valued and needed.

LDI: The CAMRT launched its new Leadership Development Institute in the fall of 2010. The program, which fosters and encourages many different aspects and dimensions of leadership was well attended...including two NSAMRT members: Raymond Wright RT(T) and Allison Cobb RT(R). CAMRT has approved the LDI to be an annual event, held each fall in Ottawa.

Important CAMRT FYT's:

Change to the Certification Exams: After much consideration and discussion with key stakeholders, the CAMRT is shortening the certification exams. This was also approved by the regulatory bodies and the CAMRT Board of Directors. Given the fact that the September 2011 exam is based on the revised competency profiles, the decision was made to incorporate all changes to the exam beginning with the September 2011 writing.

Change of liability coverage: There has been a change of policy for continued PLI coverage while on a temporary or permanent leave or working abroad. It is important to note, however, that in order for the provision to be in effect, you must not be working and must have notified the CAMRT of your intention to take leave and resign in good standing prior to commencing your leave. It is also critical to note the importance of reinstating your membership with the PLI coverage before returning to practice regardless of the circumstance and date (full time or even a one-time shift). If you fail to reinstate coverage prior to working — again, even just one shift — you will not be covered for that period

There are many NSAMRT members that work at the CAMRT level with various committees and projects (exam development, specialty certificate committees, standing committees). Many thanks for all your hard work and time committed to CAMRT and our professions.

camrt.ca is a great resource...see us on Facebook as well...!

*Thanks for your support and for a great and successful year,
Carol-Anne Davis, RT(T), AC(T), DHSA, BSc*

Don't forget to **NOD:** 1) Introduce yourself to each patient and those with him/her by giving your **Name**. 2) Tell your patient and those with him/her your **Occupation**. 3) Tell the patient what you are going to **Do**.

NSAMRT 70TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 15, 2010

White Point Beach Resort

1.0 Call to Order

K. Fader Called Meeting to Order at 1400

Quorum met 42 Members in Attendance

2.0 Welcome and Approval of Agenda

K. Fader welcomed attending members and introduced the Executive and K. Grandy representing TASC.

Approval of Agenda

T. Sanford- Will there be a update about the formation of the College?

K. Fader- This will be addressed in Business Arising.

No Additions

P. Hodson- Motion to Approve Agenda

J. Avery Second

Motion Carried

3.0/4.0 Approval of Minutes from NSAMRT Fall Seminar Meeting and NSAMRT Act and Regulations Special Meeting

There are two sets of minutes to be approved.

November 7, 2009

K. Fader asked for errors or omissions, no errors or omissions received.

K. Grandy motion to approve November 7th minutes.

K. Aucoin seconded motion.

February 18, 2010 Special Meeting minutes

K. Fader asked for errors or omissions, no errors or omissions received.

C. Maillett motion to approve February 18, 2010 Special Meeting minutes.

K. Aucoin seconded motion.

5.0 Business Arising From Previous Minutes

K. Grandy was introduced to talk to about TASC

K. Grandy - At the February Special Meeting the NSAMRT members voted for Ultrasound to join the College. One week later a meeting with the Department of Health and Marjorie, our lawyer, occurred to discuss changes to the Act. The biggest concern was the 25 bed rule. However they were receptive to the idea of the changes.

There was then a meeting with Marjorie and the Ultrasound representatives. They had many issues to work out but have been working very hard to sort through these. They were not going to be ready for the spring legislative session but will be prepared for the fall session.

TASC and representatives from the Ultrasound group have been meeting on a weekly basis for the last month to make sure everyone is updated. A new name for the College has been developed: The Nova Scotia College of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals.

The first year of the College there will be co-presidents to ensure everyone is represented.

Ultrasound has concerns that they will not be well represented. But we have ensured them they will be. In order to ensure all are represented there will be some leeway with the composition of the Board.

A new document will be posted in the near future. There will also be a teleconference on June 8th from 430-630. We encourage all members to attend.

It is a work in progress but it is coming together. Are there any questions or concerns?

Question from floor: Where is the meeting?

K. Grandy - It will be in the Royal Bank Theatre. You will get notice of the meeting locations prior to the meeting. Marjorie will be present for this meeting. We have had feedback along the way and we have tried to ensure all the concerns are covered in the documents. For example there were some concerns from none department floor technologist such as educators and cyclotron employees about their inclusion because of their job titles and nature of work. We have addressed these concerns and there is now an area they will be included under.

K. Fader - We offer apologies for not having the document ready for this meeting. We are taking

your feedback and incorporating it so it is really important you give us all your feedback. We have been looking at things such as the way the disciplines are described. In one place it said MRI technologists perform high quality images where x-ray perform images and we made sure we took out those discrepancies. Some people asked as educators we do not work on the floor so how does that work in the College? It won't make a difference because you are still working within the profession.

K. Grandy - What are your opinions on the name?

R. Duggan - It is too long. Can we shorten it?

J. Armour - I am concerned the average person will not be able to find it when trying to look it up to file a complaint.

R. Duggan - that issue could be easily addressed.

J. Armour - I could not find the site for this association when I moved here.

R. Duggan - That was because we were having issues with the old site. Now it is much better and we could easily work on a solution for making the site easy to find.

P. Ellis - It sounds like Medical Imaging is not professionals but Radiation Therapy is.

K. Fader - We actually had it reversed and the feedback was people thought it sounded better and tagged both as professionals better this way.

T. Sanford - We need a name that encompasses everyone but I agree this is too long.

K. Grandy - We asked for suggestions and this is what we put together.

E. Deavor - The Alberta College is the Alberta College of Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics

R. Duggan - We have a diverse group, I guess we can not have a shorter name that encompasses everything.

K. Fader - I asked in an E- Blast for suggestions and out of 520 emails sent no one replied.

J. Armour - I thought it was going to be discussed at this meeting.

K. Grandy - Are there any other questions about TASC? We really would like to encourage people to read the documents and ask questions. There seems to be a lot of people asking questions but not looking at the documents first. The documents have a lot of important information in them so please read them.

Floor Comment - I think a lot of people are in denial. They do not see the need or how it is good for the profession. They see fees and money. They do not think it is going to pass.

K. Grandy - It is hard to hear this, we are drafting the documents. It is very upsetting to hear these people are out there but they are not here or at the meetings discussing the issues.

Floor Question - Can they vote the college down at this point?

C. Davis - They can turn down documents but not the college. We will still be going ahead with the college.

Floor Question- Will the meeting in June include Ultrasound?

K. Grandy Yes, every meeting from now on will include Ultrasound.

C. Renick - What types of exemptions are there? Aren't I licensed because I am a member of the CAMRT?

Floor Comment - I think the statement you are referring to only is meaning - there are some none technologists taking images now and that statement specifically pertains to them.

C. Renick - How much are we talking per year?

K. Grandy - \$450/year plus your CAMRT dues. Being a CAMRT member may be optional. The dues are concerning for people however it is what we need to have the college. I can guarantee we did it as economically as possible. We need to go forward, we need to be regulated. It shows government we are professional and accountable.

A. Burke - What makes it more expensive to be a College?

K. Fader - Operation is more expensive because we have to have a store front for the public.

A. Burke - Will dues go down once the reserve fund is built up?

K. Fader - It depends on how many complaints we get.

C. Davis - The formation of the college will protect the public. Pretty soon if we don't do this ourselves the government will mandate it and they will make all of the decisions for us.

K. Grandy - There was an umbrella legislation a while back which fell through we do not want that to happen. We want to be the driving force in our profession.

M. Brydon - Everyone wants respect and to make more money but when we take actions that will

eventually make that happen they pull back. We need a college to be respected.

Floor Comment - I feel CAMRT loses once we are a college. I think we want to make sure we keep our relations and national standard with CAMRT. Will there be a way we can make it easier for people to belong to CAMRT?

E. Deavor - In Ontario it is optional for OAMRT members but most belong. In Saskatchewan and Alberta when they formed their colleges CAMRT did not lose any members.

K. Grandy - We can not mandate it in our Act but we do want to keep our relations good with CAMRT.

P. Hodson - Could employers demand you are a member of the CAMRT?

K. Grandy - Yes they could.

C. Davis - I would like to commend the TASC group for the amount of hours they have spent on this.

K. Fader thanked membership for participating in the discussion.

6.0 Annual Reports

We would like a motion to approve all the reports on mass and then a discussion will occur on each.

P. Ellis motion to approve reports on mass.

P. Hodson seconded motion.

6.1 Presidents Report

No Questions from floor.

6.2 Directors Report

C. Davis provided overview of submitted report. Followed by a power-point presentation.

J. Avery - With the formation of the college will we still have a member on the board?

E. Deavor - All other provinces with colleges still have a director.

C. Davis - They do but it does not come from the college.

6.3 Awards Committee Report

No questions or comments.

6.4 Historian Report

No questions or comments.

6.5 Public Relations Report

C. Baillie - There will be printed advertisements for MRT week. After exams we are going to do a congratulations to the new graduates paper advertisements. It's a way to emphasize our credentials as well as congratulate the grads. Is the holiday greeting relevant? Do you think it's a good way to spend money?

K. Aucoin - It is an easy way to get our name out there.

C. Baillie - If you would like to join the committee please let me know or if you have ideas please pass them on. We are trying to use opportunities to promote the profession that do not cost money ie. Letters to the editor. Another thing we thought of was when you are done with your journals put them in other departments for people to read. We also might get some money from the rebranding project.

No further questions or comments.

6.6 Education Committee Report

R. Duggan - We are going to go forward with a fall education seminar like the one we had this past year. The one last year was supposed to be in the Bethune but CDHA put a stop to all external persons coming in for meetings due to H1N1. We moved the seminar to the 4 Points Sheraton. 90 attendees arrived with only 1 going to the wrong location as a result of the email chain. There was an increase in cost but the feedback was the seminar was like day and night compared to others. We saw this as a turning point and have decided we can not go back to the old way. We have built in the cost to this year's budget and might even be able to get some sponsorship for the event.

There were no applications for lunch and learns in 2009. The blame is put on a lack of awareness.

We are looking at re-establishing the program.

We are also looking for representation from MRI on the committee anyone interested please let me know.

E. Deavor - The CAMRT will also give money for lunch and learns as well as funding to do education sessions such as this weekend.

No further questions or comments.

6.7 Refresher Program

The one refresher that was in progress was successfully completed.
No further questions or comments.

6.8 Publications

No questions or comments

6.9 Student Secretary

No questions or comments

6.10 Registrar's Report

P. Hodson - One note, we are getting the 2009 data done for CIHI. There are a lot of errors so we will be giving members some information on how to properly fill in the forms. Nova Scotia has a 92% completion rate for CIHI. An email update will be coming out in the next few weeks. No further questions or comments.

6.11 Financial Report

K. Maloney - Audits are done and will be available for review if anyone wishes to see them. In the budget there is an increase of cost for the registrar that is because of the turning over of the position. The education and public relation committees have asked for an increase of funds and we are able to do that. We are waiting for some money from Ultrasound to cover some past expenses.

T. Sanford - The NSAMRT registration with CAMRT what is the purpose of that fee, why are we paying it?

K. Maloney - It is a fee for being a part of the association. Karen, do you know where it was put in the budget before?

P. Ellis - I think in the past it was under operating expenses.

T. Sanford - Is it the same amount for all provinces?

C. Davis - I am not sure but I can check.

T. Sanford - The grant to host is that what goes to the hosting AGC committee?

K. Fader - Yes we gave them \$2000.

K. Fader asked for a show of hands all in favour of passing all reports.

All in favour. Motion carried.

7.0 Election of Officers

P. Hodson - In order to vote you need to be a member in good standing.

7.1 Director

We will start with the Director position. One correction from the report, this position is a 3 year term not a two year as stated. There has been one nomination for the Director's position. Carol Anne Davis is reoffering.

Carol Anne Davis addressed members.

P. Hodson - I would like to call for nominations from the floor or written submissions. Second call for nominations from floor, third call for nominations. As no other nominations were received I declare C. Davis nominated and elected by acclamation.

7.2 Executive Council - 3 positions

P. Hodson - We now are looking for 3 members for the general executive positions. We have had two nominations. Tina Mailllett and Vicki Sorhaindo are both reoffering.

C. Mailllett address members.

P. Hodson reads letter submitted by V. Sorhaindo.

P. Hodson - Are there any nominations from the floor.

C. Gamache nominates Megan Brydon.

C. Mailllett, V. Sorhaindo and M. Brydon are elected by acclimation.

8.0 New Business

C. Davis - There are a few motions which are coming to the floor in Quebec City. We are not voting on this today. It is not like it was in the past were the presidents vote for what their members have asked them to. So this is just to inform you.

8.1 CAMRT Motions

1. Amendment to section 6.3.1 of the CAMRT Bylaws
2. Deletion of section 12.6 of the CAMRT Bylaws
3. Inclusion of ISSRRT Association Membership fee in CAMRT member dues.

C. Davis - This third motion came from a member in Vancouver last year. They stood up and said they thought all members of the CAMRT should be members of the ISSRRT. The ISSRRT helps countries who struggle financially. The fee is usually \$12/member/ year. Does this mean a dues increase to the members or does CAMRT pay it? This has not been decided. The ISSRRT has offer if all members of CAMRT become members they will give us a discounted price of \$4.60/ member. This discounted price comes with some conditions. The first condition would be instead of receiving a paper copy of their newsletter members would receive an electronic copy. The second condition is that the CAMRT would pay the cost to translate the newsletter to French and this would be used for outside of Canada French members as well. This would cost the CAMRT \$7000.

E. Deavor - I think there is a potential that if this goes through there will be a dues increase

C. Davis - I need to know how everyone here feels about this. You can vote by proxy but it must be received by May 19.

E. Deavor - They do, do a lot of good work.

C. Davis - There was a recent article talking about how they help in Haiti with equipment and staff.

T. Sanford - What's the position of the board?

C. Davis - This all happened in the last two months we have not had a chance to meet on this.

P. Ellis - I have no problem with paying this extra but other people might.

T. Sanford - Is it a charitable organization?

E. Deavor - It is a non- profit international association.

Floor Question - Do we do anything as a humanitarian thing right now?

C. Davis - We sponsored a radiographer to come to the ISSRRT conference.

9.0 Annual NSAMRT Conference and AGM location

K. Fader - The 2011 conference will be held in Cape Breton

10. Adjournment

R. Duggan motioned to adjourn meeting

K. Aucoin second motion

Meeting adjourned at 1553

*Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa Morash RTNM
NSAMRT Secretary*

NSAMRT Fall Education Session, November 6th 2010 Four Points Sheraton, Halifax

Present:

32 NSAMRT Members

7 Student Members

K. Fader - No rules of order for this meeting. We would like to have good discussion. Before speaking please state your name.

Introduction of Executive

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes June 24th 2010

B. Martell - Karren stated during the June 24th meeting that the Nurses have had a college for 100 years. Is this accurate? I thought it was formed in 1983.

K. Fader- I think it is but I will check into it.

Motion to Approve Minutes

1st Roberta Sharpe

2nd Stephanie Lea

Brian Martell will speak to the Act and Regulations.

B. Martell - The last information was sent out to members in an e-Blast last month and it outlined a few things. First we have come to a bump in the road. Three different professions were hoping to take their requests to become a College to the legislation. The government decided they did not have enough time to deal with professional regulation. Although it sets us back a bit it also allows us time to address two issues. The first issue being the 25 bed rule. We need to decide what we want to do about this. I would like to have a discussion about this in a minute because we have to provide our lawyer with a direction within one week. The second issue it gives us time to address is the fact that Ultrasound has never been regulated. They have to prove to government why they should be regulated and why the public needs to be protected. That is up to them to work out with our lawyer. My question to you is how do we want to address the 25 bed rule?

To date we had a meeting in June where we received feedback from our members. We then took our documents to external stakeholders for feedback.

K. Fader- We received feedback from one union. It had been contacted by two members who were concerned about dues increases but no other concerns were voiced. As a result the union is cautiously supportive.

We also heard back from CAMRT. They indicated they were excited for us to move forward and they will support us in any way they can but asked that the wording of the document be considered so that we can still be a part of CAMRT.

Radiologists have been verbally supportive but nothing in writing yet.

The Director of GASHA sent a letter of concern because with the elimination of the 25 bed rule they will need to hire credentialed RT's and they have concerns about recruitment. Coverage for call and vacations is currently done by Medical Laboratory Technologists which would have to be phased out.

The College of Nurses responded and were pleased with the exceptions we made to eye and endometrial evaluations because nurses are performing this type of sonogram. They support and understand why we want to go forward.

B. Martell - Ultrasound has to do a discussion paper convincing the legislative committee that they are worthy of taking this step.

S. Lea - Are they regulated anywhere else in Canada?

B. Martell - Not that we are aware.

B. Martell - Our biggest concern is opposition due to the elimination of the 25 bed rule. We have let this go on for years and now we need to change it. There is a College of Medical Laboratory Technologists in place. At the Provincial Managers meeting it was asked why this College is letting this practice go on? We are not sure but this is an avenue we could explore.

P. Hodson - There are courses which are a cross of lab tech and xray. Are we going to stop them from practicing here?

B. Martell - Yes, we will not accept that here.

V. Sorhaindo - What is the College of Medical Laboratory Technologists saying about this?

B. Martell - Up until now we have not looked into this but we need to now in order to move forward. To clarify for everyone, the 25 bed rule states if a hospital has less than 25 beds they do not have to have register technologists performing images.

Floor Question - How many people does this affect?

B. Martell - 2-3 we are concerned about.

S. Lea - Technically, Cobequid does not have any beds.

B. Martell - Yes but fortunately they do have RT's.

Floor Question - Will these people lose their jobs?

B. Martell - No they will not lose their current jobs. We have a clause so they can remain in their current positions however if they move somewhere else they will not be able to continue these tasks and the hospital would have to replace them with a RT. We need to keep in mind we are not doing this to take these jobs away, we are doing this to protect the public.

S. Lea - I think when arguing to eliminate the 25 bed rule we should use the standard of care element as our argument. Yes we have rural areas but within the province we have registered technologists.

Just because you are in a rural area the standard of care should not be dropped. Having a non-registered person performing these tasks could be harmful to the patients. Is there any type of disclosure to the patients that the person performing the test is not a registered technologist?

B. Martell - To my knowledge there is no disclosure.

V. Sorhaindo - A risk assessment should be performed. Who does the assessment of competence of these people?

C. Davis - A patient advocacy group might be able to help us lobby around this. Or even a consumer watch group.

B. Martell - We need to look at the site it involves.

A. Burke - I agree that substandard care is not right. One thing I think does need to be considered is when these people do need to be replaced by registered technologists this will be an increased cost to the hospital. We are talking about smaller hospitals who government are always talking about possible closers. If we push this it could give government more of an argument towards closing these hospitals which we do not want either.

M. Brydon - We need to remember accessible and equitable care, people should not be getting substandard care.

R. Sharpe - Do you think this could be a deal breaker?

B. Martell - Yes I do.

R. Sharpe - We may have to reassess, we do not want to lose the College over this issue.

B. Martell - The biggest issue with the government was the 25 bed rule. We might have to think about accepting some sort of education for these areas.

M. Brydon - I feel if we did that we would be compromising the very reason we want to have a College.

B. Martell - I agree we will have to try and push for it in our letter.

Floor Question - Have we looked at repeat numbers? We are looking at standard of care. If they are doing a good job, leave them alone.

B. Martell - The ones in the current positions will remain in those positions. But when they leave those current jobs the position has to be filled by a member of the College.

S. MacDonald - From a Medical Laboratory Technologist point of view- they have a College. Are they against our college?

B. Martell - Taking x-rays is outside their scope of practice as outlined by their College. Their College could go after them.

Floor Comment - They are doing limited practice.

B. Martell - What if you went off the road there and needed a C-spine? You are putting yourself in the hands of someone who is not qualified.

Linda - Do any other provinces have similar situations?

B. Martell - Yes, there are combination technologists but they are not a part of the Colleges. I think we need to focus on the safety of the public and see what they say.

R. Sharpe - We also need a Canada wide sample of what is going on in this regard.

Floor Comment - I live in the place this is happening. My friends live there. This is a staffing issue. The past practice has been if something happens and there is no RT available they try to bring someone in from another district who is qualified, but this is not always possible.

B. Martell - We need to be open minded but we will have to make a decision on what we will do.

Floor Comment - The Medicine Shoppe uses Ultrasound for bone density and so does Atlantic Path.

B. Martell - We will have to mention this to the Ultrasound group.

CAMRT Update

K. Fader - CAMRT provides many opportunities at a provincial level. Carol Anne Davis is going to provide a presentation on the updates for CAMRT.

C. Davis - I have a little presentation here to give. I would like to mention first, I feel it is very important for us to have some sort of wording in the College documents which allows us to continue to be a part of the CAMRT. We do benefit from our connection with them greatly.

Presentation C. Davis

CAMRT reconstructed its finances. As identified by the annual audit, CAMRT's Reserve fund and General fund required reallocation of funds between the two, and the General fund required a reduction to be in alignment with appropriate accounting principles. CAMRT therefore planned for a significant budget deficit (to lower the General fund and increase the number of special projects which are of great value to CAMRT members.

Advanced Practice Certification Project: The Radiation Therapist's in Ontario are expanding their roles and performing tasks such as prescribing doses. Ontario is advancing however CAMRT is not quite there yet but they are investing money into taking this outside of Ontario and eventually applying it to other professions.

Best Practice Guidelines: We want to develop Canadian guidelines however it is a huge project to try and come up with a national standard. They have allowed a substantial budget for this project. The goal is by late 2011 to set up a set of guidelines for standard of care. If anyone is interested in being involved there are lots of opportunities.

Leadership Development Institute: This was developed to try and get more diverse groups involved on a national and provincial level. They wanted to develop the leadership skills of younger members. There were 55 applicants for 11 positions. CAMRT paid for 11 people to go. They also invited provinces to send a member but the province had to pay. Only three provinces decided to send someone. There was a lot of criteria for the CAMRT selected positions. There had to be no more than 50% from one discipline. No more than three from any province. There was a lot of positive feedback from this. It is something CAMRT would like to do every year. NSAMRT needs to decide if they want to send someone. We did not do it this year because we did not have the budget for it and two people from Nova Scotia were selected by CAMRT to attend so we were well represented. Raymond Wright and Allison Cobb attended the sessions. Raymond is here and maybe could say a few words.

R. Wright - The Institute was well received. The participants have formed a Facebook group to continue their conversations. Everyone thought it should be continued in the future. It was very educational and contained a lot of great information on listening and communication skills.

B. Martell - Part of the commitment was you needed to participate in CAMRT or NSAMRT when you returned.

R. Wright - Yes you had to sign a commitment saying you would participate within the next year.

C. Davis - The Leadership Development Committee Survey is coming out November 8th, please participate.

B. Martell - They are sending 1 per site. They want to know what things managers want from CAMRT. The committee will meet in January to figure out how they can make it happen.

C. Davis - Readiness Tool: Internationally trained technologists have been having difficulty passing our exam. This tool will help them determine if they are ready to write the exam. On another note Quebec will be writing the CAMRT exam.

C. Davis - Other CAMRT updates: Continuum of Practice committee meets Nov 18-19. Continuing working is being done with REM the national registrar for dose exposures. The Rebranding Project is moving forward. "Very Image of Care" has been approved. So far the cost to NSAMRT has been under \$300. Next year we think they will be asking for \$500. The report is available on the CAMRT website. CAMRT is also always looking for people to be on the exam writing committees if anyone is interested.

C. Baillie - There were advertisements recently in the Metro and on the radio. There was AD in the Capital Health Newsletter. Also a Congratulations to all the new graduates was in the paper in July.

K. Fader thanked the committee chairs for a job well done and the education session.

R. Duggan - If there are any MR technologist who would like to be on the committee please come forward because we do not think your voice is being heard.

K. Fader - The AGC in May will be in Cape Breton at the Inverary Resort in Baddeck. It is the last 2 days in April and the first of May.

B. Martell - Motion to Adjourn Meeting

R. Sharpe - 2nd

Meeting Adjourned 1250.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa Morash RTNM
Secretary NSAMRT**

AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Julie Avery, RTNM has accepted the position of Awards Chairperson.

At the AGM in Bridgewater in May 2010, the following awards were presented:

Carol-Anne Davis	Margaret Blandford Award	\$150
Carol-Anne Davis	Technical Essay Award	\$300
Elise LeBlanc	Student Essay Award	\$300
Lori-Anne Sacrey	Nova Scotia Exhibit Award	\$150
Anita MacDonald	Presidents Bursary	\$500

Congratulations to all winners. We encourage all members to submit papers or presentations to the awards chair, Julie Avery for consideration. E-blasts have been sent to all members regarding the deadlines for awards. All awards criteria can be found on the NSAMRT website.

*Respectively Submitted,
NSAMRT Executive Council*

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ryan Duggan- Chair
Anita MacDonald- Nuclear Medicine
Cheryl Anderson- Radiation Therapy
Elise LeBlanc- Radiological Technology

2010 saw a strong turnout for the Fall Education Seminar that helped kick off MRT week with over 60 participants attending the half-day event. This drop of attendance from last year was attributed to the QEII Research Foundation Gala highlighting Diagnostic Imaging scheduled the night before. Cape Breton Regional Hospital (CBRH) held weeklong series of Lunch & Learns in conjunction with MRT Week. The seminar was held in Halifax at the Four Points Sheraton. This was the second straight year at this location and venue feedback was well received.

The Lunch and Learn program witnessed a dip in the number of requests received this year over last. Lunch and Learns serve as a great opportunity to increase personal and professional development within a department. In the past year the NAMRT Education Committee developed information for potential Lunch & Learn applicants and posted it on the association website to try and increase applications.

Goals for 2011 include:

- Joint Education Seminar with Nova Scotia Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (NSSDMS)
- Develop Continuing Education Section of NSAMRT website
- Increase attendance of Annual Education Seminar

Currently there is no MRI representative on the Education Committee. If any MRI Technologist is interested in joining the committee please e-mail Ryan Duggan.

*Regards,
Ryan Duggan BHSc. RTR MHI
Continuing Education Committee Chair
Ryan.Duggan@dal.ca*

HISTORIAN REPORT

Objectives from 2010

The objectives for the 2010 Historian were to place historical information into electronic format, itemize and catalog historical information by date or occasion, and to assist in development of membership only access to the NSAMRT website.

I was successful on placing a great deal of historical information into electronic format. My priority in 2010 was to have images copied. This year I plan to copy images and documents. Many of the historical pictures that have been donated are not dated. The process involved in dating pictures has been difficult. I would appreciate members input regarding accuracy of dates and occasions when images are available for viewing. Developing membership access has been an ongoing project over the last year. You will note there is a membership login section on the NSAMRT website. The login portion of the website is currently under construction and we hope to have this available in the near future.

It has been my pleasure to act as Historian for the NSAMRT over the last year. The projects I have been assigned in this position are unfolding gradually but with success. I appreciate membership input and hope to hear from you when the NSAMRT website is available for membership login. I would like to thank all of the parties who have donated historical items over the last year. Through these donations we can capture historical events that will become part of our documented history.

Sincerely,
Wayne C. LaRade BHSc RTR
NSAMRT Historian

NSAMRT REFRESHER PROGRAM

A summary of the NSAMRT Refresher Program activity is presented below:

Discipline	Summary of candidates
Radiological	1 – completed
Technology	1 – in progress
Nuclear Medicine Technology	—

I would like once again to thank the NSAMRT Executive and my colleagues at the QEII/ Dalhousie School of Health Sciences for their continued support and assistance regarding program administration and delivery.

For those interested, information on the Refresher Program is available on the NSAMRT website. If there are program specific questions, contact the Refresher Program Chairperson.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Murphy BHSc, RTR, ACR

NSAMRT PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Activities in 2010:

Purchased Advertising

- A print advertisement congratulating recent MRT graduates ran province-wide in the Saturday edition of the Chronicle Herald (August 6, 2010).
- A colour advertisement for MRT week ran in the Metro newspaper, with the aim of targeting young readers (November 8, 2010).
- A Holiday Greeting ran for two weeks over the holidays on CTV Mainland and Cape Breton (December 18, 2010 – December 31, 2010 inclusive).

Other Activities

- MRT week banners were hung by local members and a larger banner was displayed on the Halifax Infirmary parkade on Robie Street. Displays were set up throughout health facilities.
- Press releases and public service announcements were sent to community papers and radio stations, district health authority websites.

The NSAMRT remains active in re-branding activities at the national level with the CAMRT initiative to promote MRTs as “The Very Image of Care.” The new promotional initiative will be launched at the national conference in Saskatoon, June 2011.

Thank you to all members who assisted in our 2010 Public Relations Activities.

Primary objectives for 2011/2012:

Continue to promote the profession to the general public and increase year-round promotion. Improve interprofessional awareness of the roles, skills, and training of MRTs among other health professionals.

- Positive promotions such as fundraising for a charity (e.g. an NSAMRT team in events such as the “Run for the Cure”) can increase our visibility as caring health professionals in the community
- The Public Relations Committee would like feedback from members about whether to continue with the Holiday greeting, or to allocate the \$800.00 cost for this to print or online advertising.

Align the NSAMRT campaign with the new CAMRT Rebranding Strategy

- The CAMRT is implementing a new brand for the profession, based on research findings (from members, other health professionals, and the general public). Publicity for our profession will use the strength of this brand to promote the unique value of the MRT professions, using the tagline “The Very Image of Care.”
- Updated promotional materials from the CAMRT are being developed, and will be available to assist with our local promotions for MRT week and throughout the year. Content and resources from this project will be available to the NSAMRT for our own promotions.
- Through distribution of additional posters and other promotional visual displays.

If members have ideas or information for promoting the NSAMRT, or would like to join the committee, please contact Christine Baillie at christine.baillie@cdha.nshealth.ca.

***Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Baillie BSc, RT(T)***

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

There was one publication of the NSAMRT newsletter in April, Unfortunately due to limited material; a September newsletter was not published. Again, information for the newsletters is always needed. Please send any information or articles at any time.

The NSAMRT website is all updated and fully functional. The executive continues to update information on the website daily. We are always looking for updated and current information. Please continue to logon to www.nsamrt.ca

I will be relinquishing my position as chair of the publications committee. Elise Leblanc, BHSC, RTR will be assuming the role as chair. If anyone is interested in assisting Elise, please contact her at elise.leblanc@cdha.nshealth.ca Please forward any material for the newsletter to Elise.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Sorhaindo, B.Sc., RTR
Vicki.sorhaindo@cdha.nshealth.ca

STUDENT SECRETARY ANNUAL REPORT

There are **72 students** registered in the QEII/Dalhousie Health Sciences Degree Program:

	1 st Year	2 nd year	3 rd Year	4 th Year
Radiological Technology	12	11	12	14
Nuclear Medicine	5	8	7	3

There are **7 students** registered in the Radiation Therapy program at the Michener Institute in Ontario:

	1 st Year	2 nd year	3 rd Year
Radiation Therapy	2	2	3

CAMRT CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS 2010

January 19, 2010

One Radiological Technology candidate challenged the exam unsuccessfully.

Two Magnetic Resonance candidates challenged the exam and were both successful.

May 18, 2010

Eleven Radiological Technology candidates challenged the exam. Ten were successful.

Five Nuclear Medicine candidates challenged the exam. All were successful.

Four Radiation Therapy candidates challenged the exam, all were successful.

September 21, 2010

One Radiological Technology candidate challenged the exam but was not successful.

One Radiation Therapy candidate challenged the exam and was successful.

One Nuclear Medicine candidate challenged the exam, but was not successful.

Congratulations To All Successful Candidates!!!!

This year, in order to be able to find invigilators and as we are likely soon looking at renting a space to hold exams, we have initiated a \$100.00 fee to write exams in NS. If you are a current student member of the NSAMRT you will receive a \$50.00 credit towards your dues when you register with the NSAMRT as a member.

All students currently registered with the NSAMRT also have CAMRT membership free of charge.

Paula Hodson, RTT
Student Secretary, NSAMRT

REGISTRARS ANNUAL REPORT

As of Feb 9th, 2011 the Nova Scotia Association of Medical Radiation Technologists had grown to a total of 575 members.

Active Members	570
Lifetime Members	5

There is one lifetime member of the NSAMRT who is also a lifetime member of the CAMRT.

The active membership sorted by discipline is as follows:

RTR.....	385
RTT.....	59
RTNM.....	73
RTMR.....	28
ACR.....	20
ACT.....	4
ACNM.....	1

There is an increase of 8 active members from last year's total membership of 562. There are also seven members who have resigned due to maternity leave who will be rejoining later in the year. The end of 2010 produced a total of thirteen retirements, a reflection of our aging profession whose average is 45, and 33% of our membership is 50 years or older. New this year is the inclusion of an ISSRT membership with your dues, this is an initiative on behalf of the CAMRT. Members who failed to renew their license and have neither transferred nor resigned were removed from active status with the CAMRT and NSAMRT. Lapsed members have no liability insurance and must apply for reinstatement in order to return to active status. **The reinstatement fee is currently \$75.00 in addition to dues owing.**

PRACTICING AS A MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGIST WHILE NOT REGISTERED WITH THE CAMRT AND NSAMRT IS IN VIOLATION OF PROVINCIAL LAW AND IS SUBJECT TO PENALTY OR PROSECUTION UNDER THE MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS ACT CITED AS R.S.N.S., 1967 CHAPTER 180.

If you are not working in your field at the time of dues renewal, please resign your membership by January 1st or contact the Registrar for advisement.

I would like to remind all members to notify the Registrar of any change of address, name, retirement or transfers to other provinces to ensure the mailing list is up to date and you receive your correspondence from the CAMRT and NSAMRT.

Members who have not filled in their CIHI information will be contacted to do so.

*Thank You
Paula Hodson, RTT
Registrar, NSAMRT*

NSAMRT FINANCIAL REPORT

The following statements summarize the NSAMRT's financial status for the year **2010/2011**.

Income Statement 2010 – 2011

Opening Balance March 1, 2010	\$100,330.25
Income (Dues)	+\$177,377.56
Expenditures (CAMRT dues, NSAMRT operations)	<u>-\$151,978.81</u>
Closing Balance February 28, 2011	\$125,729.00

Income	\$177,377.56
Expenditures (\$118,168.00; \$33,810.81)	-\$151,978.81
College Fund Contribution for 2010/2011	<u>-\$ 15,396.95</u>
Revenue over Expenses	+\$ 10,001.80

Dues Revenue	\$177,377.56
CAMRT Portion	<u>-\$118,168.00</u>
NSAMRT Portion	\$ 59,209.56
Operating Expenses	<u>-\$ 33,810.81</u>
	\$ 25,398.75
College Fund Contributions	<u>-\$ 15,396.95</u>
Revenue over Expenses	+\$ 10,001.80

College Fund

Total Amount in College Fund as of Feb. 28, 2010	-\$ 1,028.05
2010/2011 Contribution	<u>+\$ 13,925.00</u>
Total Amount in College Fund as of March 1, 2010	\$ 12,896.95
Ultrasound Contribution in June 2010	+\$ 2,500.00
Interest from Money Market Fund	+\$ 45.67
Legal fees from March 1, 2010 to Feb. 28, 2011	<u>-\$ 12,454.50</u>
Total Amount in College Fund as of Feb. 28, 2011	\$ 2,988.12

Projected Income Statement 2011/2012

Opening Balance March 1, 2011	\$125,729.00
Income (Dues)*	\$ 60,375.00
College Portion of Dues	-\$ 14,375.00
Expected Expenditures	<u>-\$ 51,869.00</u>
Expenses over Revenue	-\$5,869.00

CIBC Wood Gundy Investments

February 26, 2010	\$22,324.41
February 28, 2011	\$25,367.93
Return on Investments	+\$3,043.52= +12.0%

*Income based on projected active member dues only and does not include investment income, which is stated separately.

Annual Financial Review conducted by Grant Thornton Accountants.

If there are any questions regarding this report e-mail at: KMaloney@swndha.nshealth.ca

*Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Maloney, R.T.N.M.*

NSAMRT 2011/12 BUDGET

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Budget 10/11</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Proposed 11/12</u>
Registrar Honorarium	4620.00	3850.00	4800.00
President's honorarium	1300.00	1304.00	1304.00
Office	5500.00	5971.18	6000.00
Website	2000.00	2055.60	2000.00
Exec. To AGM	2500.00	2402.82	3900.00
Del. To CAMRT	2100.00	1893.83	2400.00
Grant to Host AGM	2000.00	2000.00*	2000.00
Executive Council + TASC	2000.00	1286.58	2000.00
<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>			
Annual report	2100.00	2054.27	2100.00
Newsletter & FYI	3400.00	1572.87	3550.00
<u>COMMITTEES</u>			
Publications	100.00	0.00	365.00
Public relations	3000.00	2570.38	3000.00
Education	3500.00	3417.57	3500.00
Historian	600.00	0.00	800.00
Exam Invigilators	400.00	550.00	0.00
Refresher	1950.00	0.00	1950.00 (400 + 1550, if updates needed)
Awards	0.00	131.76	1000.00
<u>AWARDS</u>			
Awards	1000.00	900.00	1000.00
President's Bursary	1000.00	500.00	1000.00
Executive Council Bursary	450.00	0.00	450.00
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>			
Audit	1500.00	1525.50	1600.00
Bank fees	250.00	354.23	350.00
General	1000.00	348.70	1000.00
Alliance	0.00	2451.74*	4000.00
Intern to CAMRT LDI	0.00	0.00	1100.00
CAMRT Liability Ins.	600.00	569.78	600.00
NSAMRT Reg. To CAMRT	0.00	<u>100.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
	42,970.00	37,810.81	51,869.00
*Cheque to host AGM not cashed		-2,000.00	
*Alliance membership cheque not cashed		<u>-2,000.00</u>	
		33,810.81	

Our expected Revenue is:

\$46,000.00(575 members x \$80.00) - **\$51,869.00**(proposed budget) = **-\$5,869.00**

The 2010/11 Budget carry-over is \$42,970.00 – 37,810.81 + 1,590 (extra funds) = **\$6,749.19**, leaving +**\$880.19** (6,749.19- 5,869.00) revenue for 2011-2012.