



Mission Statement

The Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologists exists so that the public is assured of receiving safe, competent and ethical diagnostic and therapeutic care by regulated and continually advancing professions.

ACMDTT Membership Meeting – 2019 Meeting Record

Saturday, May 11, 2019

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
Mayfield Dinner Theatre
16615 – 109 Ave NW
Edmonton AB

All ACMDTT regulated members in attendance in-person or electronically will be eligible for one-hour of CCP.

1. Welcome from the Council President

K. Sampson welcomed everyone in attendance in-person and for the first time, electronically via Zoom Webinar.

It was announced that attendance of this meeting through both formats can be used toward meeting your CCP requirements for 2018-19. Additionally, members online can contribute and ask us questions in real time when the floor is opened at the end of the meeting. Members in the theatre may ask questions at the end of the meeting.

K. Sampson introduced the members of Council on stage:

- Vice-President - Omer Hussein
- Public members - John Jossa, Terry Bunce and Wilma Slenders
- Gail Astle, Jessica Cherwick, Steve DeColle, Michael Piva, Cristene van Schagen and Laurie Walline

Also introduced - ACMDTT Registrar and CEO, Pree Tyagi and Mr. Tom Gee, who represents RSM Alberta, the ACMDTT Auditor.

2. Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting were approved by Council and posted on the ACMDTT website.

3. Reports/Updates from Council and the Registrar/CEO

- a. Council round-up and highlights of the Annual Report

The *Health Professions Act* lays out the essential information that must be provided in every College's Annual Report and then submitted to Minister of Health. The Annual Report was provided to members attending in-person and can be found on the ACMDTT website.

Council approved the first ACMDTT Strategic Plan in the fall of 2018. The plan can be viewed the ACMDTT website under the tab 'About us'.

The 2019-2022 Strategic Plan began with understanding the wider societal trends impacting the professions. We consulted with our stakeholders – including ACMDTT volunteers, our regulatory counterparts, government ministries, partners in the medical diagnostic and therapeutic community and our members.

Based on this input, Council and staff developed the three-year plan to set direction for the College. The three focus areas and nine strategic objectives set by this plan will determine the priorities for programs and activities, and enable their implementation. Council has approved the strategic pathway that will fulfil the first year of this plan and it will also serve as the foundation for the activities of the following years.

K. Sampson provided an update on the nominations process.

The Nominations Committee of the College recommended to Council that the number of qualified applicants met the vacant positions. Given this, an election would not be required and it was announced that the ACMDTT has a Council that fulfills the requirements of the bylaws.

Additionally, Council voted on May 8, 2019 for the two officer positions, President and Vice-President, for two-year terms beginning on July 1, 2019.

As of July 1, 2019, the Council President will be Omer Hussein, MRT(R) and the Vice-President is Steve DeColle MRT(MR).

Additional information shared with members about Council activities:

- Council provides regulatory and financial stewardship to the ACMDTT and met five times in 2018.
- Many decisions were made between these meetings to ensure that the College fulfills its mandate of serving the public through providing regulatory oversight to MRTs and ENPs.
- The work of Council is supported by two workgroups – Finance and Audit, and Governance.
- The Finance and Audit Workgroup is chaired by John Jossa. This group reviews all material aspects of the operations financial reporting, internal controls and audit function. It acts as a resource to the CEO on all financial matters, it also monitors and recommends any budgetary adjustments as required to Council.
- The Governance Workgroup is chaired by Cristene van Schagen. It assists Council in fulfilling its responsibility for maintaining high standards of governance. It develops, monitors, and makes recommendations on guidelines, policies, procedures, bylaw changes and any other documents required by Council for regulatory compliance. The latest copy of the bylaws are available on the College website.
- Both workgroups follow a schedule to ensure that each Council policy is reviewed and updated.

b. College activities round-up

P. Tyagi provided highlights of the College's work in 2018. This information, which can be seen in the 2018 Annual Report, includes registration information, member compliancy with legally mandated requirements to practice in Alberta and complaints.

P. Tyagi introduced the ACMDTT staff:

Ugie Ifesi, Director of Policy and Practice

Alefiyah Gulamhusein, Director of Education and Competence

Adrienne Hislop, Executive Assistant and Hearings Director

Michelle Wolf, Registration Coordinator

Naadiya Rauf, Administrative Associate

A summary of Bill 21 was provided:

- Royal Assent was given to Bill 21-An Act to Protect Patients, on November 19, 2018 by the Government of Alberta. This Bill introduced the most profound changes to the HPA since its inception in 2001. Parts of this legislation came into force on the day of assent with the balance coming into effect in April 2019.

Significant changes were made to the College bylaws, registration processes and the public register to ensure compliance with this new legislation. A new standard of practice was instituted as of April 2019, and member education will be provided throughout 2019.

c. Public Members' observations

The HPA gives Albertans a strong voice in healthcare regulation by requiring a balance between the public and regulated members of all College Councils. Public members protect the public by providing independent and objective input to Council that may be different than that provided by regulated members. Public member input helps the College to act fairly while adhering to statutory and/or legal requirements and develop and foster appropriate professional standards.

The College is a conscientious and fiscally responsible organization that serves Albertans with a high degree of professionalism and dedication.

d. Presentation of the Auditor's Report on the financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2018

John Jossa, Chair of the Finance and Audit Workgroup, provided highlights from the financial statements.

The Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2018 have been prepared by management, audited by the auditor, and approved by Council. The audited financial statements have been provided in the 2018 Annual Report. This report has been made available on the College website. Mr. Tom Gee, of the auditor RSM Alberta, is here to answer any questions on the audited statements.

The Statement of Financial Position on page 22 of the annual report shows that the College's financial position remains very strong.

The average ratio among not for profits is 2:1 and we are pleased to share that ACMDTT's ratio is 2.79:1.

The Statement of operations on page 23 shows cost reductions during the year across all expense line items as well as a new revenue stream through sub-leasing a part of the College office space. This is seen under investment and other income. The College is showing an operations surplus of \$166,732.

Note 7 on page 28 of the Report speaks to the internally restricted funds established by the College. Restricted funds can only be accessed upon approval of Council. The industry standard for not for profits is to have at least three months of operating expenses in their stabilization funds. ACMDTT currently far exceeds that.

A new restricted 'Regulatory Risk-Management' Fund was created to provide for unexpected costs of ensuring the College's compliance with Bill 21. \$110,000 was moved into this fund for member education on the new standard and the patient relations fund.

The College also made a donation to the CAMRT Foundation.

e. 2018/2019 Budget

John Jossa spoke to the budget that was presented for information. Council approved this budget in July 2018, for 2018/2019. This budget is a projection of revenue and expenses. The actual financial statements can be seen in the annual report.

4. Conversation/Q&A with Council

Kelly Sampson shared questions that were submitted in advance of the meeting.

Q: The cash asset is much more this year than last year, please can you help us understand that.

A: Mr. Tom Gee spoke to the membership about the increase in the cash asset, seen on page 25 of the Annual Report. A combination of a decrease in operational spending and investment activities provided the increase of cash assets.

Kelly Sampson noted to the membership that dues will not increase.

Q: I remember sonographers were registered in the fall of 2017, but their names don't show up through the search engine on the College website, why is that?

A: Pree Tyagi responded to this question.

The ACMDTT has been working on the regulation of diagnostic medical sonographers since 2016 and although the HPA was amended, there is a second layer of government approvals to be made before regulation of DMS can happen. The College is awaiting the approval of the Regulations to include DMS and once regulated, they will appear in the public register on the ACMDTT website.

Q: Does everyone need a criminal record check to practice now?

A: Pree Tyagi responded to this question.

No. With the introduction of Bill 21, the HPA now requires all new registrants to the College to provide a criminal records check (CRC). The College requires the CRC to be valid within the preceding 6 months.

Questions from the audience were received.

Q: Is there an estimate on when the Regulations will be approved for DMS and is there anything new in the Regulations members will need to be aware of?

A: Pree Tyagi responded to this question.

Council recently met with a representative from Alberta Health. He explained that there are currently 7,000 regulations in line to be approved. The timing of our regulation is still unknown. The College is working with The Alberta Federation of Regulated Health Professions to move it, and regulations from other Colleges, ahead with the new government. Additional amendments to our regulations focus on restricted activities and aligning current practice with new technologies.

Q: Regarding Bill 21, how will the College use the new Regulatory Risk Management Fund?

A: Kelly Sampson provided as response.

One of the requirements of Bill 21 is that every college must have funds set aside for a Patient Relations Program. This program entitles patients who lodge complaints of a sexual nature against regulated members access to funds for counselling. This is a legislative mandate and the ACMDTT is complying with requirements. If a member is found guilty of the action, the College can require the member to reimburse the College for these funds. The government will set the amount of dollars required per incident and it could be up to \$20,000.

Pre Tyagi explained that assurances have been given by CAMRT and OAMRS PLI providers that their policies include coverage for Bill 21 related matters. Members should be aware that if they hold PLI only with their employers, these matters may not be included.

Q: Conference registration is unaffordable to some. Is it necessary to hire an event planner for the conference? It would be cheaper to plan it in-house?

A: Kelly Sampson provided as response.

The College does not hire an event planner for the conference. All planning is done by staff. It is important to put on a quality conference and provide educational sessions that are valued by members. With the costs associated with the conference, registration fees cannot be too low.

Q: How many people are online for this meeting?

A: 33 entries on the online registration system, each could represent a group or an individual.

Kelly Sampson shared a question that came in by email.

Q: I do have a question for the membership meeting. As a long time member of the ACMDTT, I would like to know if the college, in conjunction with the CAMRT, have any plans or strategies in place to protect our profession and our jobs from the encroachment of any further invasion of CLXTs into our urban work sites? It appears that these "half techs" have been invading MRT positions with only half of the education and yet have the gall to call themselves X-Ray techs! Can the ACMDTT regulate or police the use of the "X-Ray technologist" designation? If they want to call themselves X-Ray techs then they should register and succeed in the full two year MRT program!

A: The ACMDTT does not have jurisdiction over CLXTs. They have their own college and regulations which allow them to do x-ray.

Additionally, CLXTs are not allowed to use the MRT(R) protected title and that all MRTs should use and be proud to use the protected title provided by the ACMDTT.

Q: Will recordings of the conference lectures be made available?

A: Yes. For the sessions that we had permission to record will be available to conference attendees in the coming weeks. For those who did not attend the conference, a nominal fee will be required to view them.

Kelly Sampson asked if there were any additional questions and reminded members that a survey about the new Membership Meeting format will be sent out in a few days.

The Membership Meeting was adjourned at 8:46 a.m.

Approved by Council on July 12, 2019.