

FOCUS DECEMBER 2013

Message from the President, Denise Evanovitch, MLT



Welcome to the second issue of FOCUS in its electronic format. We asked you what you thought of it and the response was enthusiastic and positive.

The majority of respondents (89%) told us they liked the new format and appreciated the interactivity, web links and its “ecofriendliness.”

Many of you took the opportunity to offer suggestions for improvement, which were greatly appreciated. Keep reading below for answers to some of the questions asked.

We’ll continue to improve FOCUS based on your comments and responses to the questions posed with each article. Member involvement and engagement is the life-blood of a self-regulated profession. When CMLTO asks for your opinion, whether it’s for Bylaw consultations or a survey related to Quality Practice program processes, we want you to get involved and tell us what you think.

When we work together, we’re ensuring that the people of Ontario are protected.

On behalf of the CMLTO Council and staff, I extend our best wishes for the holiday season and 2014.

Message from the Registrar & Executive Director, Kathy Wilkie, BHA, MLT



In the last issue of FOCUS, I explained that the CMLTO Council had been unconstituted—unable to pass motions and amend Bylaws—since January 1, 2013, due to government delays in appointing new Public Members.

I’m pleased to announce that the Lieutenant Governor in Council appointed Mark Darroch and Mohammed Jewa in the summer and the CMLTO Council became duly constituted again.

The new 2013 Council met for the first time in CMLTO’s new Council Chambers in September. I wish to thank the 2012 Executive Committee and existing Council Members for continuing to guide CMLTO’s strategic direction and the outcomes that lead self-regulation forward in the interest of public safety during this time. On behalf of the Council, I thank the 2013 Committee and Advisory

Working Group Members for their participation and contributions to CMLTO’s work.

As a result of Council elections held this year, two new Professional Members will join Council on January 1, 2014. Elizabeth (Betty) Wackley was elected in District 2, Central West; and Robert Clayborne was acclaimed as Member-at-Large for District 8. I know you’ll join me in welcoming all new Council Members to the CMLTO.

The following Council Members have completed their terms of office and are departing Council at year end: Susie Davies, Bill Kocmarek, Eva Lloyd, Meerna Nsouli, and Anna Robinson. We thank them for their dedication to public protection through responsible governance of CMLTO.

Please note that there are vacancies on Council for Professional Members. I encourage members to consider putting their names forward when the Call for Nominations is issued in early 2014.

2014 Council officers

CMLTO Council elected the 2014 Council officers at its November meeting. As of January 1, 2014, Jan Maxwell will become Council President, Karen Persad becomes Vice-President, Professional; and Ayo Adediji becomes Vice-President, Public. Their terms as Council officers end December 31, 2014.

FOCUS DECEMBER 2013

Professional Liability Insurance update

In late July 2013, CMLTO launched a 60-day consultation regarding the proposed amendments to the CMLTO Consolidated Bylaws requiring all Practising members to carry professional liability insurance (PLI), effective March 31, 2014. Council received CMLTO members' and stakeholders' feedback at its November 29, 2013 meeting.

The motion to adopt the proposed amendments to the CMLTO Consolidated Bylaws passed unanimously. Medical laboratory technologists with questions about the implications of this new bylaw to their professional practice should refer to the [Professional Liability Insurance pages](#) for further information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact memberrelations@cmlto.com.

Is the information about Professional Liability Insurance (PLI) requirements posted on the CMLTO website clear and informative?

- Yes
- No

Supporting expanded scope of practice for MLTs

Delegation and medical directives are often discussed together because they are both tools used to facilitate interprofessional care. But delegation and medical directives are quite distinct and understanding the distinction, and which is required in each situation, is critical. MLTs could be asked to implement medical directives, such as for reflex testing, or be delegated the authority to perform a controlled act, such as releasing test results to a patient. MLTs could also potentially delegate the controlled act of phlebotomy, which is authorized to them.

Both medical directives and delegation can address evolving healthcare needs by extending authority to perform procedures within the existing legislative framework but they are each used in different situations. The CMLTO website has been updated to include more information to support MLTs who are looking to enhance their professional scope of practice.

Please visit the new "[Delegations and Medical Directives](#)" and "[Frequently Asked Questions](#)" pages for more information.



Call for volunteers: join a Community of Practice!

The CMLTO is launching an interprofessional collaboration community of practice (IPC-CoP) to enhance the professional practice of members through self-reflection, shared inquiry and a commitment to quality improvement in patient care. The IPC-CoP is the first initiative of its kind for the CMLTO. It will be a time-limited pilot initiative, driven by the needs of, and value to the participants.

Membership in the IPC-CoP is voluntary, and limited to 10 MLTs. MLTs will join with the intent to learn about, from, and with other members through self-reflection and group inquiry. They will devote time to activities to support quality improvement in patient care. MLTs will develop their own professional competencies, and apply them in their own professional contexts.

If you would like to participate in the IPC-CoP, please send a letter of interest to memberrelations@cmlto.com by January 6, 2014. Please include details of why you are interested, what you hope to take away from the experience, and what you bring the group.

What is a community of practice?

A community of practice is defined as "a group of people who work along collegial lines, share a concern or passion for something they do, and through regular interaction learn together how to do it better." The desire to collaborate and share information to improve patient care reflects CMLTO's public protection mandate. Being part of a community of practice has a positive impact on patient care as best practices are shared and developed, barriers are identified and discussed, and the ideas generated by the discussions can be directly applied to professional practice.

FOCUS DECEMBER 2013

2014 Annual Membership Registration Renewal

Members must renew online by December 31, 2013. Failure to do so on time will result in late fees. [Click here to learn more about the process.](#)

Go to <http://www.cmlto-onlineservices.com/> to renew online now.

Conversations with MLTs

The CMLTO is committed to promoting and enhancing relations with members, other health profession colleges, key stakeholders, and the public. In an effort to engage with members and solicit their feedback, CMLTO staff members travel across the province to deliver presentations to MLTs as well as internationally educated professionals and students wishing to become MLTs.

So far in 2013, CMLTO staff members have engaged MLTs in conversation at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Halton Healthcare Services, Oakville, Northumberland Hill Hospital, Cobourg, Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay, and Guelph General Hospital. Presentations have also been made to medical laboratory science students at St. Lawrence College. CMLTO also participated in the annual Kenora Rainy River Regional Laboratory Program Conference in Fort Frances in September.

To request a CMLTO representative deliver a presentation at your organization, please send an e-mail to memberrelations@cmlto.com.

Kathy Wilkie, Registrar and Executive Director, and John Tzountzouris, Member Relations and Policy Specialist, had the opportunity to discuss interprofessional collaborative case scenarios with participants of the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) LABCON 2013 conference in Victoria, BC. The session was well received by attendees, and provided the CMLTO with an opportunity to discuss and receive feedback on a key CMLTO strategic priority.

Updates on the Regulation of Medical Laboratory Assistants and Technicians Initiative

- The 2013/2014 Regulation of Medical Laboratory Assistants and Technicians Advisory Working Group held its first meeting on August 7, 2013. During this meeting, the terms of reference for the group were presented, the context for the initiative was discussed, and the group undertook a review of the draft online voluntary roster application process and draft Standards of Practice for Registered Medical Laboratory Technicians.
- Content from the current Regulation of Medical Laboratory Assistants and Technicians microsite (www.cmlto-onlineservices.com/mlat) is being moved to the main CMLTO website (www.cmlto.com) and new content will be added frequently.
- CMLTO has developed an online application process for a voluntary roster for Medical Laboratory Assistants and Technicians. The application process was presented to the Advisory Working Group for feedback at its August meeting, and to Council at its September meeting.
- Draft Standards of Practice for Registered Medical Laboratory Technicians were developed by the College to define the expectations for individuals included in the CMLTO voluntary roster.

Please help us spread the word about this important initiative. Direct the medical laboratory assistants and medical laboratory technicians to contact memberrelations@cmlto.com to register for updates and learn more.

FOCUS DECEMBER 2013

Reader feedback

The first electronic issue of FOCUS posed many questions to readers about the content and format.

Answering the questions is strictly voluntary and none of the answers or comments are linked to member profiles. For anyone uncomfortable responding, there is no requirement to do so. However, you can be assured that participating does not identify you in any way. We only ask you to include your contact information if you would like a direct response. Taking the opportunity to share your views helps CMLTO refine and redirect our communications to meet member needs.

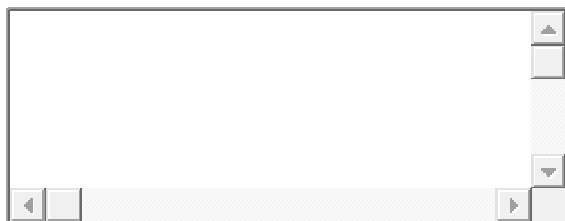
Many readers found the format pleasing, while some prefer the style and layout of the former print version. At this time, we are using existing software tools and resources, which means that the “look and feel” of FOCUS is minimized to ensure that most readers can see it regardless of the vintage of their computers and browsers.

The hyperlinks to relevant pages of the CMLTO website are included for the convenience of readers who wish to learn more about the article topics. Again, there is no requirement to click on every link.

We want to hear your concerns as well as your compliments! Please let us know how we're doing in the space provided below.

Let us know how we're doing

Please enter your comments below and press the "Submit" button at the bottom of the page to forward them anonymously. If you wish to receive a personal reply, please include your email address.



CMLTO FOCUS

communications@cmlto.com