

**Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association
Certification Task Force Meeting – Tele-conference
January 19, 2006**

MINUTES

In Attendance: Tanea Goncalves (Chair), Helene Driscoll (BC), Jill Buerger (AB), Dawna Sylvestre (MB), Chris Richards (ON), Jerry Singleton (NS), Wayne Bishop (NF/L)

Regrets: Anne Robins (SK), Maggie Blaise (PQ), Micheline Commitz (NB), Brooke Alsbury (Yukon)

Information Sharing: Francis Holt-Gallant (PEI)

	Item for Discussion	Discussion/Action to be taken	Person Responsible
1.0	Call to Order		
2.0	Approval of Agenda and Minutes from November 2005	4.3 Helene forwarded report with BCTRA Bylaws (Tanea to forward to group) – remove from agenda. Minutes of the November minutes approved.	
3.0	Strategic Plan 2005-2006		
3.1	NCTRC negotiations (Tanea, Jerry, Chris)	<i>Negotiating issues</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Legislative practice questions</i> • <i>Job analysis</i> • <i>Language Issue</i> • <i>Educational Qualification ns</i> • <i>Competency requirements</i> • <i>10-15 year plan</i> • <i>Nationalism issues</i> <p>Action: Tanea to compose letter.</p> <p>Action: Bob Riley would like an e-mail.</p> <p>Tuesdays/Thursdays work the best for conference calls.</p> <p>Letter in last stage of approval then onto lawyer for review.</p>	Tanea Tanea
3.2	Questionnaire re: job analysis (Maggie, Jerry and Jocelyn)	Questionnaire marketing and database collection objective needs to be determined and also need consultation with Jocelyn Action: Update Difficulty connecting with Jocelyn. Meeting scheduled for next week. Jerry may proceed to draft a questionnaire. NCTRC Job Analysis may be beneficial to this process. Get information to the CTRS's in Canada to be involved in the future Job Analysis for NCTRC. Potential letter from CTRA to be sent via NCTRC. Version that Jerry developed for disbursement. Tanea to circulate letter to CTF members. Action:	Maggie/Jerry

3.3	Marketing (Helene, Anne, Wayne)	<p>Action: Anne, Helene and Wayne will develop marketing plan with timelines.</p> <p>Goal: Increase profile of Certification Task Force.</p> <p><i>Quarterly goals: Summer/Fall/Winter/Spring issues – Individual provinces...webpages...CTRA certification Road show to be developed/ display boards</i></p> <p>Team to develop marketing plan</p> <p>April 1, 2006 (Spring Edition of the Tribune)</p> <p>Action: Tanea to e-mail Certification Presentation for potential CERT 101/Road Show</p>	<p>Anne/Helene/ Wayne</p> <p>All</p>
3.4	National standards of practice	<p>Action: Technical write hired. Project undergo. Will be meeting to review content next week.</p> <p>Document to be prepared in the next couple of weeks. CTRA is seeking individuals to sit on Expert panel. Forward contact information to Tanea</p> <p>Query: Standards – NSRPH/TRACC – potential new document to be unveiled.</p>	All
3.5	<i>Budget development</i>	N/A	Tanea
4.0	Unfinished Business		
4.1	<i>Comparison of twelve Professional TR Provincial Association – Dalhousie University Research Report & Status of TR in Canada (Issues in TR) Document</i>	<p>Action: Tanea to send out for 3rd round. Complete by May/06</p> <p>Idea to move off our agenda to presidents meeting. (May/06). Annual AGM report. CD to be distributed at May provincial president's meeting.</p>	Jerry
4.2	<i>MDS TR Definition</i>	<p>Dawna forwarded information.</p> <p>Action: Tanea to contact group/</p>	Tanea
4.3	<i>Determine what Certification should entail</i>	<p>Action: Anne to keep the group informed re: the work being done in Sask.</p> <p><i>Original goal to update the collaboration being completed with the University and the professional group re: curriculum and competencies.</i></p>	Anne
5.0	Other Areas of interest		
5.1	<i>ATRA Information</i>	<p>Action: CTF members to review their documents and forward brief summary and recommendation for group to review. complete summary as well as recommendation for rest of group to read article for CTF</p> <p>Wayne – Accreditation in TR Jerry – Distance Education Maggie – Higher Education Influences and Trends-done Chris – Summary Report: Current Status of</p>	

		<p>Professional Preparation in TR Greater information re: NCTRC processes.</p> <p>Tanea – Undergraduate Education in TR Anne – Master’s Education in TR-done</p> <p>Left: for Helene and Dawna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education and Training in Related Disciplines – not relevant - Practitioner/Leader Survey – not relevant <p>Helene and Dawna to select topics.</p> <p>See Below Anne and Maggie sent information.</p>	
5.2	<i>TRO Registration Process</i>	<i>Action: Tanea to forward document to CTF members</i>	Tanea
5.3	<i>CD’s with Minutes and Reports</i>	<i>Action: Tanea to send CD’S to CTF members.</i>	Tanea
5.4	<i>Update Post Secondary institution documents</i>	<i>Off our Agenda in future</i>	
5.5	<i>Rod Dieser Article</i>	<i>Tanea forwarded article to group for review and future discussion. Could not open the attachment. Will try to resend. Published in Leisure Studies.</i>	All
5.6	<i>Student Queries</i>	<p><i>Members continue to get many questions from Students. We should pull questions together for Certification 101. Please forward questions to Tanea to identify common questions.</i></p> <p><i>Is it possible to keep track of student queries re: Certification? Compile.</i></p> <p><i>Include in Certification 101</i></p>	
5.7	<i>Volunteer Database</i>	<i>Jocelyn?</i>	
6.0	Next Meetings	<p>March – Tele-conference – March 9, 2006</p> <p>April – Tele-conference – preparations for CTRA conference – 13, 2006</p> <p>May 5, 2006 – CTRA conference – face-face meeting</p>	
7.0	Adjournment		

ATRA Articles for Review

Wayne – Accreditation in TR

Jerry – Distance Education

Maggie – Higher Education Influences and Trends

Higher Education Influences and Trends:
Summary of the article

This US based study identifies several trends and issues affecting TR. Here is a summary of the discussion.

1. Financing of Higher Education
 - increased cost of higher learning, with TR degrees being completed within 6 years instead of 4. This is due to the higher costs and students having less available time because of work/school conflicts.
 - More hands-on experience during schooling should be emphasized to improve resumes and increase chances of employment post graduation.
 - Average TR salary 38.956\$.
 - Therapeutic recreation job growth predicted to be slower than average, making it a second choice to health care fields such as OT where job growth is much higher than average.
 - Lack of time for faculty to find grants

2. Faculty productivity and accountability
 - more doctoral level and full-time faculty are needed. Nowhere near enough PhD graduates to fulfil positions available.
 - Greater number of women as faculty, the majority of which find it hard to strike the work/family balance.
 - "Assessment of learning must focus on cognitive, personal, social, and civic skills. In TR, like many fields, the danger is to focus on the technical and cognitive outcomes. We can easily use measures such as pass rate on the NCTRC exam as evidence of mastering knowledge. However, our challenge will be to develop assessments of personal and social outcomes (empathy, caring, compassion, self-comprehension) and civic outcomes (ability to balance personal and social goals, take initiative, demonstrate integrity and social responsibility, and work effectively with others and in social institutions), so critical to effectiveness as a TR professional." [I found this to be particularly pertinent]
 - Inclusion of ethics in TR curriculum
 - Importance of programmatic accreditation as component of accountability.

3. Diversity of students [this is very US represented]
 - Many TR services provided to minority groups: good area for recruitment
 - Currently, TR practitioners do not mirror the population spread.
 - Males are underrepresented in the field
 - Need a broader openness to differences.

4. Technology
 - Is TR keeping up with technology appeal?
 - Importance of the development of distance education

5. Leadership
 - When TR is housed in departments other than Rec and Lesr, leadership tends to come from other fields such as exercise science.
 - How competent is our leadership? (are managers trained in TR or simply in management)

Key questions:

- Should TR be a two year degree?
- Should TR programs pay for themselves?
- How do we attract a diverse TR faculty? What kind of academic preparations do they need?
- How do we attract a more diverse body to TR?
- Can a strong case be made for TR in higher education?

Chris – Summary Report: Current Status of Professional Preparation in TR

Tanea – Undergraduate Education in TR

Anne – Master’s Education in TR

I reviewed the article *Master’s Education in Therapeutic Recreation*. Interesting article that looks at the trend of formal education preparation for professionals entering the field of Therapeutic Recreation and the future of TR Master’s education. Prior to the mid 1960’s, most of the formal education for professionals was at the graduate level. In the 1970’s, graduate education in TR reached its peak but has steadily declined from 59 Masters programs and 14 Doctorate programs to only 34 Masters programs in 2005.

One area the article focused on was opportunities/trends in Therapeutic Recreation, of course, geared towards Master’s degree but interestingly enough, the positive and negative trends are similar to what we see in the area of certification, for example, a positive trend was opportunities for employment in different areas i.e.: Mental Health and Corrections. The negatives were even more similar, lack of growth in the profession, identify of degrees in TR, lack of value of education, no opportunity for advancement within the profession. Unfortunately that was the only similarity in regards to certifications. The article is very informative on education at a Master’s level and is an interesting read to see what data they have collected and analyzed, but it is not relevant to this Task Group at this time.

Left: for Helene and Dawna

- **Education and Training in Related Disciplines**