

## Certification Task Force Update

November 2003

The Certification Task Force (CTF) continues to meet monthly. We use this time to share information regarding the strides each province has been making regarding various initiatives that could support a national Certification System in Canada. These sessions continue to be very informative and make the reality of Unifying Canada through Certification a greater possibility. The following is a brief update on our progress.

**Recruitment:** We have successfully recruited members for most of the provinces in Canada. Please see the attached contact information for your current representative.

**Communication:** A CTF Update can be found on the CTRA website at ([www.canadian-tr.org](http://www.canadian-tr.org)). We have also placed contact information for CTF task force members on the website with an associated link that would provide interested visitors with a brief biography on each of the members. CTF representatives are also providing a quarterly report to their respective provincial association newsletters. Regular reports are also provided to the CTRA Board of Directors and the Provincial Presidents at scheduled meeting times. This should assist in keeping our membership informed on the progress of this task force.

I am also in the process of preparing a document for the TRibune Winter Edition Newsletter regarding Certification Issues in Canada as well as preparing for the Certification Task Force presentation for the CTRA conference being held in Montreal, Quebec in 2004. I encourage you all to stay informed through these various methods of communication.

**CTF operating budget:** A proposed annual budget has been circulated to the Board of Directors and approved. The CTF is currently discussing resources that may be beneficial to purchase for the process of Certification.

## Strategic Plan Update

### Scope of Practice

- **Model of Practice:** We have chosen to adopt the Leisure Ability Model, Stumbo and Peterson, 2004, for use within this task group. The CTF does recognize that there are various TR models that have been developed and are in use. However, through many discussions, we have identified that the Leisure Ability Model is the model that all the provincial TR associations have adopted across the country. We encourage professionals to review other models of practice that have been developed in TR. The Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals (S.A.R.P.) has created a "Therapeutic Recreation Model" document that reviews the various TR models that are in use. We are working with SARP to have that document available for reference.
- **TR Definition:** The CTRA currently has a definition for TR that is located in the CTRA membership manual. We recommend that the CTRA consider altering the definition to be more in line with the revised Leisure Ability Model,

Stumbo and Peterson, 2004. Our recommendation is to change the word "treatment" to "functional intervention". The CTF will be pursuing that recommended change through the CTRA.

- **Scope of Practice:** We have had many discussions regarding the Scope of Practice for Therapeutic Recreation. We are finding terms are being used interchangeably. So British Columbia has offered to define the terms "Scope of Practice", "Scope of Service" and "Standards of Practice" for our task group. From there, we hope to further this discussion.

We are currently working to gather which provinces have developed a scope of practice statement for TR.

Ontario – waiting on new Standards of Practice document to be released

Quebec – waiting on a translation document that may be used

Newfoundland/Labrador – have developed a Standards of Practice for TRS workers and RT Workers. These have been circulated to the CTF for review.

Alberta – We would like to review the "Scope of Practice" statement developed by the HOP committee after its approval.

### **Educational Requirements**

1. CTF is currently trying to determine what are the membership requirements for each provincial association.
2. Dalhousie University has offered to give student credit for comprehensive review of the educational requirements for each provincial association. We are hoping we will get a student to work on this soon.
3. Updating the Document "Summary of TR Course/Programs for Canadian Universities and Colleges & Provincial TR Associations Membership requirements" that can be found on the CTRA website. This document began in Alberta.
4. Eventually we will be determining the Education Requirements for Therapeutic Recreation Professionals