

Certification Task Force Update September 2004

- Certification Task Force continues to meet regularly, however we have added an e-mail update as another format.
- We reduced number of teleconference meetings that we will have in the current year. The CTF will meet on alternate months via teleconference, with a written report to be completed by members during the other months.
- We have just recruited a new member from Whitehorse, Yukon to be the new Territorial Representative on the CTF. Her name is Brooke Alsbury. We are very excited to have this new addition to the task force. We have lost our BC representative recently and are looking to recruit a new member in BC.
- We are busy trying to accomplish our 2004-2005 Strategic Plan that includes:
 1. Continue to develop the research document regarding the Educational Requirements of TR Professionals across Canada and Issues in TR
 2. Cross-comparison of TR standards of practice and scope of practice statements for TRO, NLTRA and NSRPH
 3. Develop Job Competencies of Therapeutic Recreation Professionals
 4. Examine important Educational Coursework for TR Certification
 5. Annually update the Canadian Universities that offer TR programs
 6. Determine what Certification Should Entail?
 7. Marketing Certification
 8. Newsletter
 9. Poll (What should certification entail?)
 10. Research/Summarize Certification Resources & Canadian Models for TR Certification
 11. Develop a budget for Certification Task Force (2004-2005)
- We continue to receive interesting communications re: A National Certification program in Canada and enjoy the many discussions that these e-mail invoke.
- Also we are hoping to recruit two sub-committees. One, to work on evaluating the benefits and constraints regarding adopting the NCTRC for our Certification Process in Canada or developing an independent Certification Program for Canada. We hope to create a report that can be sent out to CTRA membership as well as provincial associations' members for a future vote to determine what route we should take. And another to develop a national set of "Standards of Practice" for Therapeutic Recreation. Information would be used from the Cross comparison document referred in 2.0
- The CTF also hopes to invite Bob Riley from the NCTRC to join us in a teleconference, possibly to be scheduled in the New Year.
- Tanea is scheduled to speak at a provincial conference in Alberta, reporting on the work from the Certification Task Force and has been asked to speak in another provincial conference re: same. It is very exciting that we are generating so much interest in Certification for Recreation Therapy Professionals