



CMRITO

insights

Summer 2023



IN THIS ISSUE:

Introducing CMRITO Council members 2023-2024

Council elections and appointments

Members leaving Council

Committee appointments

2022 Annual Report

Remember - professional liability insurance

Quality Assurance news

Increased number of registration applications

Summary of Discipline Hearing

What you must know about ... consent

That's a good question!

Suspended members

INTRODUCING CMRITO COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023-2024

The new composition of CMRITO Council began at the June 15, 2023 Council meeting. Council also elected the President and Vice President for the coming year, and appointed Council members and non-Council members to the CMRITO committees at the same meeting.

The following individuals have been elected or appointed to the CMRITO Council for the 2023-2024 year:

Amanda Lee, MRT(R)(MR), President

District 1 – radiography

Derek Ribeiro, MRT(T), Vice President

District 2 – radiation therapy

Rania Arabi, MRT(N)(MR)

District 3 – nuclear medicine

Zainool Dhalla, DMS, MRT(R)

District 5 – diagnostic medical sonography

Ovais Iqbal

Public Member

Ramesh Makhija

Public Member

Caitlin McCabe

Public Member

Zaynab Muraj, MRT(T)

District 6 – member at large

Victoria Romero

Public Member

Nilay Saha	Public Member
Anna Simeonov, MRT(MR)(R)	District 4 – magnetic resonance
Manjit Singh Saini (Bhondhi)	Public Member
Kieng Tan, MRT(T)	District 7 – academic councillor

Council is CMRITO’s governing body and is responsible for ensuring public protection through the regulation of the medical radiation and imaging technology profession in Ontario. Composed of members of the public appointed by the provincial government and elected and appointed professional members registered in each of CMRITO’s five specialties (radiography, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, magnetic resonance, and diagnostic medical sonography), Council determines the College’s strategic direction and ensures that CMRITO meets all its statutory objectives. More information about Council, its role and activities, including the agenda material for all Council meetings, can be found at www.cmrito.org.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Council elected Amanda Lee, MRT(R)(MR) as President, and Derek Ribeiro, MRT(T) as Vice President at the June Council meeting. Amanda and Derek will hold these roles for one year.

AMANDA LEE, MRT(R)(MR)

Amanda has been a technologist at The Ottawa Hospital since 2004, where she has worked as an X-ray, MRI, and CT technologist and earned her CTIC certification in 2019. A Mohawk College and Michener Institute graduate, Amanda has contributed to the profession through her involvement presenting at national and provincial association meetings and conferences.

Since being elected to Council in 2021, Amanda has served as Council Vice President and been part of the Executive, Discipline, Patient Relations, Privacy, and Staff Relations Committees. As President, Amanda is now the Chair of the Executive, Patient Relations, Privacy, and Staff Relations Committees.



Amanda Lee

“I am grateful to be elected President of the CMRITO,” says Amanda, “and look forward to working with Council to maintain the College’s high standards in health regulation and ensure that Ontarians receive safe, ethical, and quality medical radiation and imaging services. I would also like to express my deepest admiration for the technologists who tirelessly work together to provide patient care excellence. It is an honour to be a part of a profession committed to enhancing the well-being of Ontarians and ensuring the highest quality of care for all.”

DEREK RIBEIRO, MRT(T)

Derek first joined CMRITO as a Non-Council Committee Member in 2017 when he was appointed to the Fitness to Practise Committee, and later joined the Quality Assurance Committee (2018) and Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (2021). Derek was elected to Council in 2021 and has sat on the Executive Committee since 2022. He continues to serve on Executive, as well as the Nominating, Patient Relations, Privacy, and Staff Relations Committees, in addition to Chairing the QA Committee.

Derek graduated in 2013 from the McMaster-Mohawk Medical Radiation Sciences program, with an Ontario College Advanced Diploma and a Bachelor of Medical Radiation Sciences degree in Radiation Therapy. After graduation, Derek began working as a radiation therapist at the Juravinski Cancer Centre at Hamilton Health Sciences, and now works as a Professor at Mohawk College. Derek remains clinically involved in the profession through his research as the clinical trials radiation therapist for two national phase three breast radiation trials (RHEAL and RAPID2).

“I’m excited to serve as CMRITO Vice President for the coming year,” says Derek. “I’m eager to help the College develop and execute sound strategies and policies to protect the public and address the challenges that face the profession at this critical time in health care.”

Thank you to Amanda and Derek for taking on these important roles within the CMRITO Council, and for bringing their experience, skills, and knowledge to these key leadership positions.



MEMBERS LEAVING COUNCIL

In June, the terms of two longstanding professional Council members came to an end.

SANDRA WILLSON, MRT(N)

Sandra Willson first volunteered to serve on a CMRITO committee in 1996, when she joined the Patient Relations Committee, and ended her nine-year term on CMRITO Council and two-year tenure as Council President in June. Sandra was elected to Council in District 3 – nuclear medicine in 2014. Since that time, she has served on various CMRITO committees including the Executive, Discipline, and Patient Relations Committees, as well as the Quality Assurance Committee, which she has chaired since 2015.

Over the past 27 years, Sandra has played an important role in many of CMRITO’s key priorities, including most recently the regulation of diagnostic medical sonography and the College’s evolution from CMRTO to CMRITO. As President of Council, she oversaw the College’s leadership transition when Registrar & CEO Linda Gough retired and Pree Tyagi was hired to carry on CMRITO’s mandate to protect the public. Of this experience, Sandra says, “I’m very proud of the work that was done by Executive and Council to select a new Registrar & CEO and feel privileged to have played a part in that process.”



Since 2015, Sandra has been the Manager of the Diagnostic Imaging Department at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre where she oversees technologists in nuclear medicine, PET, MRI, and ultrasound.

Thank you, Sandra, for your years of outstanding leadership on Council, your longstanding service on CMRITO committees, dedication to the profession of medical radiation and imaging technology, and commitment to public protection.

JANET SCHERER, MRT(R)

Janet Scherer served on Council and various CMRITO committees for almost 20 years. Janet first joined CMRITO Council in 2004 representing District 7 – Academic and served in this capacity until 2010. During this time, she also served on the Registration and Discipline Committees. From 2010-2015, Janet continued to work on the Registration Committee, and rejoined Council in 2016 representing what was then District 4 – Radiography West. After serving nine years as a Council Member, Janet continued to serve on committees as a Non-Council Appointed member until this summer.

Janet's tenure at CMRITO has spanned three Registrars, two College locations and two College names (CMRTO and CMRITO), the introduction of two new specialties, and myriad legislative and regulatory changes. She will be greatly missed by CMRITO Council, committees, and staff.

Thank you, Janet, for nearly 20 years of hard work on behalf of the profession, and your dedication to public protection.



COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

At its June meeting, Council appointed members to CMRITO's statutory and non-statutory committees. A total of 52 CMRITO members (including 36 with current appointments) submitted applications to be appointed to College committees for 2023-2024. All applications were reviewed carefully by the Nominating Committee, which made recommendations to appoint both Council and Non-Council members to the College's 11 committees based on their experience, specialty, competencies, and references.

Congratulations to our new Non-Council appointed members:

- Hon Lam Choi, DMS
- Tina Corriveau, DMS, MRT(R)
- Louiza Loizides, DMS
- Christopher M. Ward, MRT(R)

These committee members began their one-year terms on June 16, 2023.

Thank you to everyone who applied for appointment on CMRITO committees this year. The strength of our profession is reflected in the dedication of concerned individuals like you who volunteer your time to serve on CMRITO committees and uphold the College's public protection mandate.

To learn more about College committees and the public and professional members appointed to each of them, please visit the [Committees page](#) on the CMRITO website.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Each year, CMRITO publishes a comprehensive Annual Report for the Minister of Health that documents the College's activities, achievements, and audited financial statements. We proudly share this Annual Report with our members, stakeholders, and the public.

The Annual Report summarizes the important work and initiatives that Council, committees and staff successfully developed, implemented, and executed in 2022. The Annual Report also provides a snapshot of CMRITO membership at the end of the year.

This year's report highlights the following:

- the College's progress in implementing our strategic plan
- changes in our leadership structure
- our move to a virtual organization
- our efforts to support equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility
- new Quality Assurance tools and processes
- Communications activities
- Committee reports
- Financial summary



You can read the [2022 Annual Report here](#).

REMINDER – PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Holding valid professional liability insurance (PLI) is a requirement of registration with CMRITO and is necessary to practice as an MRT or DMS in Ontario. All CMRITO members must attest to holding PLI annually at the time of their registration renewal. Moreover, you are responsible for ensuring that whatever PLI coverage you have meets the requirements in By-law No. 60.

PLI, also known as malpractice insurance, provides coverage to MRITs for claims related to their practice in medical radiation and imaging technology. PLI coverage protects you from bearing the full cost of defending yourself and the risk of losing your own personal assets in the event of a complaint or claim. Ensuring MRITs have PLI is one way the CMRITO protects the public.

Earlier this summer, you may have received communications from the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) and the Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Sciences (OAMRS) announcing the end of their joint membership offering, effective June 21, 2023. As the regulator for MRITs in Ontario, CMRITO is responsible for regulating medical radiation and imaging technologists in the province with a mandate to protect the public. CMRITO does not require MRITs practising in Ontario to join either CAMRT or OAMRS. Membership in these associations is voluntary. However, we recognize that many practising MRITs

have historically secured their PLI through their membership with these associations.

CMRITO does not endorse one insurance provider over another or advise individual MRITs about which PLI coverage to obtain. The College has confirmed with CAMRT and OAMRS that the PLI they currently offer meets CMRITO requirements.

It doesn't matter if you secure your PLI through membership in either of these associations (or Sonography Canada if you are a diagnostic medical sonographer) or are covered through your employer, a union, or any other group. Whatever coverage you have must meet the requirements outlined in By-law No. 60 and must cover you for each place of practice where you are employed.

If you have any questions about the CAMRT or OAMRS, or their PLI options, please contact those organizations directly. For more information about PLI, please refer to [What you must know about ... professional liability insurance](#).

QUALITY ASSURANCE NEWS

CMRITO's Quality Assurance (QA) Program ensures that all members maintain their competence in an ever-changing health care environment. The QA Program allows members to direct their own continuing education and professional development activities in areas that interest them and benefit their current practice.

Every year all CMRITO members are required to complete the QA ePortfolio which includes the QA profile, self-assessment, and evidence of at least 25 hours of completed continuing education and professional development activities. CMRITO ensures members are compliant with the QA Program through QA assessments.

2023 QA EPORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT

On May 10th, 2,237 members were notified by email that they are required to submit their 2023 QA ePortfolio to CMRITO for assessment no later than January 5, 2024. If you were selected, there will be a reminder alert on your CMRITO Member & Applicant Portal (MAP) account and a copy of the QA assessment notice in the 'QA Notices' section. You will also see a 'Submit' button on your 2023 QA ePortfolio dashboard. When you have completed all three sections of your QA ePortfolio and are ready to submit it for assessment, click the 'Submit' button.

Start completing your ePortfolio today and save time and effort later in the year. This [short instructional video](#) will show you how easy it is to complete.

You can also use the [QuickQA app](#) to record your Continuing Education and Professional Development (CE&PD) activities throughout the year on your mobile device. Download the app for your Android or Apple device for free from the [Google Play Store](#) or the [Apple Store](#).

If you have any questions about CMRITO's QA Program, please visit the QA section of the [CMRITO website](#) or contact the QA team directly at qa@cmrito.org, 1.800.563.5847 or 416.975.4353.



MULTI-SOURCE FEEDBACK ASSESSMENT

The QA Multi-Source Feedback (MSF) assessment has been a component of the CMRITO QA Program since 2006. However, because the MSF assessment process was driven by paper-based patient surveys, CMRITO has not been able to conduct any MSF assessments since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the initiatives in the current CMRITO Strategic Plan is to review and update the CMRITO peer and practice assessment, including the MSF assessment. The QA Committee and staff have been working on this initiative since 2022.

At its meeting on March 31, 2023, Council decided to remove the MSF assessment process from the QA Program and build a risk-based assessment into the existing ePortfolio in its place. As a result, members will no longer be randomly selected to complete an MSF assessment.

INCREASED NUMBER OF REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

The College has seen a significant rise in the number of registration applications in recent years. Since 2020, the number of international applicants has doubled. From January to June 2023, the Registration Committee has reviewed 138 international applications mostly originating from Pakistan, Iran, and India. Additionally, there has been a significant increase in the number of Ontario applicants and reinstatements. The number of Ontario applicants has grown by almost 25% since 2020, while Ontario reinstatements have risen 30% over the same period.

The College has continued to address this exponential growth by increasing the size of the Registration Committee, enabling it to efficiently manage the increased workload and ensure timely reviews of applications. At the same time, recognizing the growing need for registration services, the Registration Committee has expanded its meeting schedule. In 2020, the Committee met eight times. In response to the increased number of applications being submitted the committee now meets 14 times a year. This adjustment has been crucial in accommodating the growing number of applications and maintaining the integrity of the review process. As of June of 2023, 452 new member applications have been processed, compared to 649 new member applications for all of 2022.

Currently, it takes between four to six months from the time an applicant submits their completed application to when they receive a final decision from the Registration Committee. The Registration Team continues actively working to streamline its processes, develop solutions, and build the necessary resources to drive application processing times down, while continuing to provide strong support to members and applicants.

If you have any questions about the registration process, please visit the [Applicants section of the CMRITO website](#) or contact the Registration team directly at registration@cmrito.org or internationalapplicants@cmrito.org, or 1.800.563.5847 or 416.975.4353.

SUMMARY OF DISCIPLINE HEARING

LUIS FERNANDEZ

The Discipline Committee is responsible for holding hearings related to professional misconduct and incompetence allegations referred by the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee.

In March 2023, a discipline hearing was held virtually via videoconference by Zoom. A summary of that hearing is set out below and now appears on the member's public register profile.

On March 8, 2023, a panel of the Discipline Committee (the Panel) of the College of Medical Radiation and Imaging Technologists of Ontario (the College) found Luis Fernandez to have committed acts of professional misconduct in that they:

- contravened the *Medical Radiation and Imaging Technology Act, 2017*, the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, and/or the regulations under those Acts;
- engaged in conduct or performed an act relevant to the practice of the profession that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional; and
- failed to comply with a requirement or order of a Committee or a panel of a Committee of the College, namely the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee.

On April 19, 2023, the Panel imposed the following order:

- Luis Fernandez shall attend for a reprimand on a date to be determined by the Registrar;
- The Registrar is directed to suspend Luis Fernandez's certificate of registration immediately for a period of five months or longer until Luis Fernandez has completed the term, condition or limitation set out below;
- The Registrar is directed to impose the following terms, conditions or limitations on Luis Fernandez's certificate of registration, all of which are to be completed at Luis Fernandez's expense:
 - Luis Fernandez shall successfully complete all outstanding specified continuing education or remediation program requirements, including the College's Jurisprudence Course and the quiz associated with each module of that course, and shall provide proof of successful completion to the Registrar prior to their return to practise;
 - Luis Fernandez shall successfully complete an individualized ethics course by a College-approved course provider on the issues raised in this case and shall provide proof of successful completion to the Registrar within five months of this order;
 - Luis Fernandez shall respond to all College communications within fifteen days; and
 - Luis Fernandez shall advise the College of any change to any required contact information within fifteen days; and
- Luis Fernandez is required to pay the College's costs in the amount of \$12,000.00.

WHAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT ... CONSENT

CMRITO's latest publication, *What you must know about ... consent*, was released at the beginning of June.

Consent is an essential component of patient-centered care, is vital for patient safety, and is required prior to performing any procedure. *What you must know about ... consent* is an updated practice guideline that includes information for CMRITO members that:

- outlines the principles of informed consent
- identifies what MRITs must explain to patients before starting a procedure
- highlights sections of the Standards of Practice that outline the consent process and the obligations of MRITs
- provides a consent checklist identifying the things that MRITs must do before, during, and if they propose a procedure

Visit CMRITO's [Publications](#) page on the CMRITO website to read or download *What you must know about ... consent* and access all of the College's practice guidelines and other publications.

You can also watch the accompanying [webinar about consent](#) on the [Videos and Webinars](#) page of the CMRITO website. The Videos and Webinars page is a great resource where you can access all of the College's educational videos. Remember, CMRITO publications and webinar recordings can be used as part of your continuing education and professional development hours for your QA ePortfolio.



THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION!

Being a regulated health professional is complex. We're happy when MRITs ask us to help them understand topics like practice standards, quality assurance requirements or the role and responsibilities of CMRITO in regulating MRITs. In this section of Insights, we answer some of your most frequently asked questions.



How is consent obtained in an emergency when a patient is unable to respond and a substitute decision maker has not been identified?

Obtaining informed consent prior to performing a procedure is an essential component of patient care and is vital for patient safety. As a result, medical radiation and imaging technologists ensure that consent is obtained prior to each procedure they perform, as required by legislation and the CMRITO Standards of Practice, and that the consent is specific, informed, and maintained throughout the procedure.

Whether expressed consent is verbal or written, it must be obtained before the procedure begins. The patient may withdraw consent at any time during the procedure. If a patient withdraws consent, the procedure must stop.

To learn more about the concept of consent and the consent process, please read the CMRITO publication *What you must know about ... consent* and watch the accompanying [webinar](#).

There are exceptions in obtaining consent when emergency treatment is required. It is considered an emergency if a person is experiencing severe suffering or is at risk of sustaining serious bodily harm, is incapable of consenting, and a substitute decision maker has not been identified. In situations where emergency treatment is necessary, the *Health Care Consent Act* (HCCA) includes provisions that outline how the medical practitioner proposing the treatment to the patient without consent should proceed. More information about emergency treatment for patients can be found in [section 25 of the HCCA](#).

The CMRITO [Jurisprudence module 7: Consent](#) further explains how the HCCA emergency treatment clause affects MRITs. In particular, the decision-making guides on pages 10 and 11 are helpful in determining when the emergency treatment exceptions apply.

If you have questions about consent or any other professional practice matters, please contact CMRITO's Professional Practice Team at practiceadvice@cmrito.org.

SUSPENDED MEMBERS

The following members' certificates of registration were suspended between February 1, 2023 and June 30, 2023 for failure to pay their fees in accordance with section 24 of the Health Professions Procedural Code.

A person whose certificate of registration has been suspended is not a member of the CMRITO and cannot legally practice as a medical radiation and imaging technologist unless and until the suspension is removed.

19300	Anunciacion Concepcion	22243	Davinder Pal Singh
19826	Hoda Gad	14493	Kimberlee Molendijk
19108	Olga Petrova	08480	Pierre E. Turenne
20478	Seyed Mansour Mansouri		



Follow CMRITO on Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter/X to receive updates on initiatives and developments at the College.



CMRITO
Regulator of medical radiation and
imaging technologists in Ontario

President Amanda Lee

Vice President Derek Ribeiro

Registrar & CEO Pree Tyagi

insights is published by the College of Medical Radiation and Imaging Technologists of Ontario and is available to all members, stakeholders, and the public.

416.975.4353 1.800.563.5847 www.cmrito.org