

**CMRITO****Regulator of medical radiation and
imaging technologists in Ontario**

CMRITO approves State of Emergency Policy for COVID-19 pandemic that focuses on Regulatory Essentials

Toronto, April 6, 2020 – The CMRITO Council has approved a time-limited State of Emergency Policy for the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of the emergency policy is to:

- ensure that CMRITO's regulatory processes do not put an undue burden on its members or patients
- work collaboratively with the Ministry of Health to ensure an adequate supply of MRITs during the state of emergency
- continue to ensure the protection of the public through the regulation of the profession

This policy focuses the work of the College to essential regulatory functions by amending the 2020 Operational Plan approved by Council on December 6, 2019, given the current COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency. Many of the regulatory best practice initiatives contained in the 2020 Operational Plan are no longer feasible to complete under the current state of emergency restrictions and could be considered as non-essential regulatory initiatives. Council amended the 2020 Operational Plan to focus on the essential regulatory initiatives or services, and deferred or cancelled non-essential projects that were planned for this year, including: in-person province-wide professional practice workshops, governance review, new strategic plan development, revised communication guidelines, and new patient information materials.

The money set out in the budget to fund these non-essential projects and initiatives is being returned to CMRITO members in the form of a one-time COVID-19 pandemic fee credit of \$90 per member.

MRITs across the province are facing difficult times responding to the current pandemic – some are providing direct services to the sickest patients with COVID-19 in ICUs, some are providing other essential services to patients facing other health problems such as cancer or strokes, and some have been laid off or had their hours reduced as they provide patient services that have been temporarily identified by the Ministry of Health as non-essential at this time. MRITs continue to provide essential services to the public with professionalism, expertise and empathy. We hope that this fee credit makes their life a little easier during this unprecedented pandemic.

During this state of emergency, CMRITO is focusing its efforts and resources on registering as many MRITs as possible, and in meeting its essential regulatory functions. Additionally, CMRITO has taken the following steps set out in the State of Emergency Policy:

- Streamlined the reinstatement process for past members who resigned within the previous two years
- Suspended the late fee payment for members renewing their registration within three months after the due date
- Cancelled the Multi-Source Feedback (MSF) assessment component of the Quality Assurance Program for 2020
- All Council and Committee meetings are held by teleconference or videoconference
- Moved the CMRITO office to remote operations on March 17, 2020 and staff are adhering to physical distancing requirements
- Authorized statutory notices to be transmitted electronically
- Cancelled funding for staff, Council and Committee members for travel, accommodations and registration for attendance at conferences

The State of Emergency Policy, which is in effect from March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020, will be reviewed by Council at its meeting in September. Council will determine whether the policy needs to be extended past its current expiry date of September 30, 2020 at that time.

If you have any questions about the State of Emergency Policy, please contact communications@cmrito.org, or call 416.975.4353 or 1.800.563.5847.



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