

Message from the CSCT President:

This past spring, the CSCT Board sent a survey to our entire membership as a way for us to hear feedback from our members. It was very encouraging to have received over 1200 responses. Your response has helped to identify common concerns across the country and helped in setting new goals for the upcoming year. The following topics were identified by our membership as key concerns: the role of the CSCT, how annual dues are allocated, professional legislation, educational opportunities and the promotion of our profession. I would like to take this opportunity to address each of those concerns.

Who is the CSCT and what do we do for the members? The CSCT is a professional certifying body governed under the Canada Corporations Act since 1970. We are a non-profit organization that is affiliated with eight provincial associations to ensure excellence in standard practice of care across the country for all cardiology technologists. CSCT facilitates the national certification exam and keeps it current to ensure appropriate entry to practice qualifications. We have also standardized the guidelines for continuing education units.

Where do your annual dues go? Members are required to pay dues to their provincial associations annually. Each association sets their provincial dues based on what is required to manage their province. A portion of the dues paid to your province in the amount of \$65.00 for active and \$55.00 for inactive members is forwarded to the CSCT. This amount is essentially your CSCT dues. These funds are used for a variety of initiatives and expenses including; the upgraded exam platform, BOD and committee meetings, professional fees, and the maintenance and upkeep to both our own website and provincial websites. This year we have also subsidized member rates to attend CCC and sponsored the members' banquet.

What about professional legislation? Legislation of professions is a provincial matter, which must be negotiated with the provincial government. Many of our member societies have faced challenges in moving forward within ever-changing political climates.

How can I access more educational opportunities? Members have voiced interest in additional education opportunities in order to obtain continuing education units (CEUs). Currently, the CSCT has added educational links on our website. In the coming year, pacemaker courses will be accessible from our website and upon completion of each course the member will receive a certificate. CSCT is an educational partner with the Canadian

Cardiovascular Congress (CCC) and we coordinate an education day for our members in conjunction with the CCC annually including CCCLive.

The CSCT Communications and Public Relations committee is working diligently on several initiatives to promote our profession both internally and externally. Several of these initiatives will be launched in the coming months.

Once again, this is valuable feedback for the Board and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all members who participated in the survey.

Over the last two years, we have implemented working groups within our board meetings to provide an environment where all of our board members can actively contribute to the resolution of any issues and completion of any tasks that have arisen. One of our biggest tasks has been revising and organizing both the Membership and Board of Director's Policy Manuals. The updated Membership Policy Manual is posted on the CSCT website.

I look forward to celebrating the CSCT's 50th anniversary in Edmonton next year.

**Crystal Shendaruk RCT, CCDS
CSCT President**