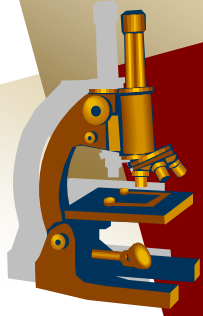




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MLT

Analyzer

Bulletin of the New Brunswick Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists



Winter Issue
Volume 45 Issue 3

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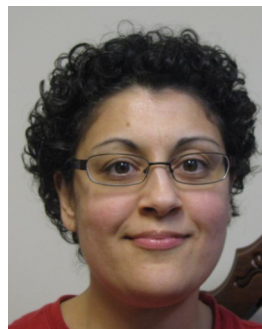
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President's Message...



By Rania Elhalabi

As 2014 starts to wind down, we can look back through the year and reflect on everything that has happened. I look back now at the accomplishments and achievements of the NBSMLT and as my term as President comes to an end, I am confident that great work will continue to happen and much more exciting changes are to come for the future. I've been very fortunate this year to be a part of the Board of Directors who are a group of wonderful individuals. I am proud of their accomplishments and achievements, as well as their exceptional professionalism and dedication to the Society and its members. Of course the Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Administrative Assistant and Executive Director who work tirelessly day in and day out ensuring continued success of the Society through excellence of quality service. Their combined skills and knowledge, expresses great trust and confidence in everything they do. Their guidance and expertise has been invaluable.

My role as President has reaffirmed what I already know: MLTs constantly show dedication and passion for their profession. It's our passion and dedication that makes us who we are, as a vital part of the healthcare team. The Society is definitely strong because of you, our members. The NBSMLT has seen many

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successes most recently with the launching of the Bridging Program, as well as moving up into leadership roles chairing several key committees, one of which was an NBSMLT initiative. Government, both Federal and Provincial, has recognized the NBSMLT as a key partner and an organization with great respect and extraordinary values. We will continue to maintain current practices and projects, as well as work on our strategic plan. Some of the goals from our plan include volunteer recognition, continuing education, service to members, governance and MLA regulation to name a few. In order to maintain and advance our current position and status among our peers and stakeholders, we must realize there is a need to invest in the Society. We need to devote time and resources to continue to lead, develop our assets and stimulate as well as motivate positive changes in healthcare.

Assets to the Society are definitely member volunteers. Volunteers are extremely vital to the Societies' operations and recognizing their importance is imperative. I strongly encourage members to become volunteers, great satisfaction and gratification comes from

volunteering and being part of something bigger. I guarantee that you will not regret that decision! We need your expertise and talents to bring unique perspectives and viewpoints. Each Society committee exists to provide an important role in which they guide the Board in key decisions through offering expert recommendations. Having those committees and volunteers truly enriches the NBSMLT by contributing to the overall function and value of the Society. Ultimately your voice can support ideas and make change happen.

It's been an honour and privilege to be President of the NBSMLT; hopefully I have made a meaningful contribution during my time on the Board. I have enjoyed the work, the friendships, and seeing the great changes as well as the progression and advancement of the Society. It's been a very rewarding and fulfilling experience in which I have immensely enjoyed.

I feel it's important now to look to the future. Moving forward we want to stay focused and keep growing as a Society by taking on new projects and challenges for the future to grow and expand ourselves to incredible heights. The skies the limit for us, we must dream big and take risks for the greatest rewards.

NBSMLT Anita Lindsay Award

The Anita Lindsay Award is awarded annually to a technologist who exemplified exceptional professional service.

Applications for the 2014 award will be accepted until Dec. 31, 2014.



Objective

The Anita Lindsay Award is presented to a member who is leaving the profession of Medical Laboratory Technology. The award will only be given when a suitable recipient is nominated.

Selection Committee

The Awards Committee shall select the recipient by reviewing the résumé of the nominees submitted on or before January 31st. The Award Committee will purchase the award.

Presentation

The recipient shall receive an expense paid trip to Annual General Meeting where the President will present the award at the AGM banquet.

Selection Criteria

Must be leaving the profession of Medical Laboratory Technology (retiring or changing careers), at least 20 years as a member of NBSMLT.

Must have demonstrated professionalism, integrity and a commitment to high personal standards throughout his/her career.

Must have significantly contributed to the professional society at the academy, provincial, national or international level for at least 5 years.

Must be nominated by an active member of NBSMLT.

Publicity

A résumé and picture of the recipient shall be made available for press releases and publication in the Analyzer.

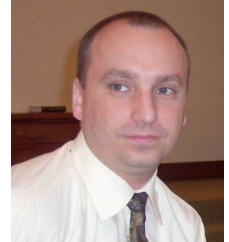


From the Editor...

We can't be afraid of change. You may feel very secure in the pond that you are in, but if you never venture out of it, you will never know that there is such a thing as an ocean, a sea. Holding onto something that is good for you now, may be the very reason why you don't have something better."

— C. JoyBell C.

William Allen



It's hard to believe 2014 is coming to an end and 2015 is just beginning. The Society has seen some personnel changes in the past few months. In September, Caroline Dupuis decided to leave her role as Deputy Registrar to spend more time with her family and in October, Janelle Bourgeois decided to embark on a new opportunity with Oulton College. Both Janelle and Caroline have made great contributions to the NBSMLT and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both and wish them well in their future endeavours.

This issue of the Analyzer has the final message from our acting president, Rania

Elhalabi, who will be assuming the role of Past President for 2015. Included in this issue is the farewell message from Janelle Bourgeois, former Executive Director. The Board of Directors has hired Paula Steeves to assume the role of Executive Director/Registrar with her Registrar duties beginning in April 2015. I would like to take this time to welcome Paula to the NBSMLT. I am sure she will do a great job working with the Board of Directors, members, and stakeholders and continue growing the society. Paula's message is also in this issue. Please join me in extending her a warm welcome.



Submit your texts or comments/questions to:

488 Centrale Street,
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Editorial policy

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a means of communication between the members of the NBSMLT and its Board of Directors. The opinions expressed in the MLT Analyzer are those of the contributors and do not constitute official policy of the NBSMLT. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions as required.

AGM Past President Award/Gift



Picture: Carlene McCaffrey, (left) 2014 Board of Director past President receiving the Past President's plaque and gift for her time served as president Elect, President, and Past President.

***The Board of Directors
would like to thank Carlene
for a job well done.***

Charity Contest Winner

The Moncton Academy had challenged the other academies to raise as much as they could for their favourite charitable organizations. The Saint John Academy had won this challenge with \$1,568.94.



Picture: Melissa King, Moncton Director (Right) presented Suzanne Turcotte, Saint John Director (left), for the Saint John Academy the award for winning this challenge.

Way to go Saint John!



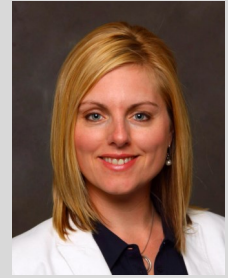
The Board of Directors would like to wish its members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with prosperity!

Rania Elhalabi	President
Carlene McCaffrey	Past-President
Chrystal Allen	President Elect
Dorothy Harris	Treasurer/CE Representative
Danielle McLennan	PR Representative
Michael McWilliam	Lay Representative

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Marsha Cook	Edmundston Area Director
Jan Graham	North Shore Area Director
	Miramichi Area Director
	Fredericton Area Director



Message from Janelle Bourgeois



Dear MLTs across New Brunswick,

For the past eight years, I have had the privilege to represent you as Executive Director of the NBSMLT. When I was hired as Executive Director, the Society was about 15 years old. Janet Kingston, Executive Director/Registrar at that time had worked diligently with dedicated medical laboratory technologists, pioneers, who had volunteered countless hours of their time to ensure our profession was recognized and regulated. I came into an organization that had a solid foundation with a legislative framework, standards of practice and a very old, but functional membership database. The Professional Development Program was only being implemented the year I was hired.

When I took over the position, a lot had been done. The Society was ready moving forward and it has since become a leader in every sense of the word. My mentor, for whom I will always have the greatest respect, Bernadette Muise had told me when I took on this role: “This position is an excellent opportunity for your professional career and it will grow with you”. Bernadette was right. It did. As soon as I was hired, I was flying to Ottawa for national meetings, and it feels like I never stopped traveling since. Attending national and provincial meetings gave MLTs in New Brunswick a chance to be at the table and have a voice for the profession and for the province. I hope that my contribution to the NBSMLT brought visibility to our Society and our profession, the respect from our peers, and from government that came with our participation and leadership. I have had the chance to work with a dedicated team of staff and volunteers. Together, we showed that MLTs in New Brunswick are leaders and that the sky is the limit.

I have decided to pursue another professional opportunity which will bring my career in a new direction. It is an exciting time for me.

I am pleased to inform you that Paula Steeves has been hired to take on leadership of the NBSMLT office. Paula is a Medical Laboratory Technologist, has a host of experience and the charisma required to bring the NBSMLT in a new direction. I am relieved to leave the NBSMLT in such capable hands along with our staff, William Allen and Alva Morrison who have been with the NBSMLT for many years.

Please keep in touch. Feel free to connect with me on LinkedIn or Twitter.

Thank you for your confidence and support during my time with the NBSMLT.

Regards,

Janelle Bourgeois

NBSMLT's New Executive Director



Paula Steeves

My name is Paula Steeves, and I have been selected by the NBSMLT Board of Directors to be your new Executive Director. I will also be assuming the Registrar duties in April 2015.

My experience as a Medical Laboratory Technologist has been broad over the last 17 years. Since graduating from NBCCSJ in 1997, I have experienced working in both rural and urban hospitals, as well as in research and government organizations in two provinces, one territory and two countries. With the help of several mentors I've met along the way, I have been fortunate to gain skills and knowledge in every discipline of the Medical Laboratory Sciences, including Point of Care and Quality Management. With my strong commitment to Continuing Education, I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Technology and a Graduate Certificate in Quality Management.

As Executive Director and Registrar, I stand by our society's mission statement, vision and values, and will comply with our act, bylaws and rules pioneered by our devoted colleagues and volunteers. For anyone who volunteers on

a committee or becomes a member of the Board of Directors, working together for a common cause definitely fuels the passion for being a Medical Laboratory Technologist, especially in New Brunswick. I am looking forward to the challenges and triumphs, as well as the people I will meet along the way.

The NBSMLT will be forever grateful to Ms. Janelle Bourgeois who increased our visibility across the country and overseas by founding valuable partnerships with our counterparts, and putting New Brunswick on the map as a national leader with the Bridging Program. She has left big shoes for me to fill, but rest assured I will do my very best to move new initiatives forward, while continuing to support the members of the NBSMLT. I would like to thank her for the time and effort granted to me during this transition, as well as the board of directors for their support and confidence in my abilities.

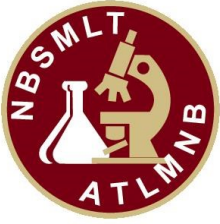
COURSES OFFERED ON-LINE BY THE UNIVERSITÉ DE MONCTON

Université de Moncton offers a *Baccalauréat appliqué en Sciences de laboratoire médical* which includes a number of courses normally taken in the fourth year, or part-time while working. Note that during the Winter 2015 semester (January through April), one of those courses, BICH3413 (*Biologie moléculaire I*), will be offered online, in French. To register for this course, people must contact the *Service de l'Éducation permanente* at the Moncton campus of the *Université de Moncton*, during the fall 2014.

See: www.umoncton.ca/edperm/



UNIVERSITÉ DE MONCTON
EDMUNDSTON MONCTON SHIPPAGAN



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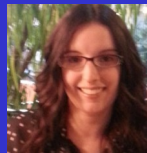
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Suzanne Turcotte
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Lay Representative/ Représentant du public

Michael McWilliam
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UGLY SWEATER



Christmas



Contest

Christmas is almost here and soon we will be in the holiday spirit. This year NBSMLT's Public Relations Committee (PR) has come up with the idea for an ***Ugly Sweater Christmas Contest***. A prize of a \$50 gift certificate will be awarded to each Academy (one per Academy) for the most ugliest sweater. **Wear an ugly Christmas sweater to work and submit your pictures.** The PR Committee will then judge the submissions and pick the winners.

RULES:

- ***Both MLTs and MLAs can participate***
- ***Pictures must be of someone wearing the sweater at work (according to health and safety regulations)***
- ***Sweater can be handmade or purchased***
- ***One winner per Academy. If an Academy doesn't submit picture, a bonus winner will be chosen from the other entries***

Submit pictures by emailing them to christmas@nbsmlt.nb.ca by December 19th at 4:30 pm.

Please include in the submission:

Subject line **"UGLY SWEATER CONTEST"**

Submit pictures with contact information; name of person to be contacted; email; phone number; name of lab and/or department and Academy.

The results will be announced no later than December 22th.

Any submissions on or after 4:30 pm on December 19 will NOT be entered into the contest for judging. However the entry (pictures) may still be posted on the NBSMLT website for others to enjoy.



Good luck finding that perfect Ugly Sweater!



Board of Director Meeting Synopsis
are available on the members only
section of the NBSMLT website

www.nbsmlt.nb.ca

Please note that if you wish to receive NBSMLT
e-mail correspondence, submit your e-mail address to:

office@nbsmlt.nb.ca

**Here are the winners who
each received a \$250 Grant
to use towards their
Maritech or APSC registration**

Daniel Arseneault

Genista Garnett

Krista Quinn

Jennifer Enman

Congratulations to the winners!



Maritech 2014 – Headed in the Right Direction

By Jennifer Enman, Grant Winner

I'd like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to the NBSMLT for the grant to attend Maritech in Charlottetown, PEI. It was a busy, fun, and informative couple of days.

The opening key-note speaker, Timothy Andrade, definitely offered a motivating and engaging session. It was set up as a blind date where the participants had to woo the speaker to our profession. We had to answer all the hot button questions of a date - Who are you? What do you do? What is attractive to you? and What isn't so attractive to you? The best moment for me during this session was when he asked for someone to tell him what we, as lab professionals, do for a living. The response was very matter-of-factly stated that we analyze clinical specimens to aide in patient care. The speaker was taken aback and asked if that was really the description we wanted to use to entice a prospective suitor. He then offered an alternative. Standing up straight, hands planted on hips, throwing out his chest and using his best super-hero voice he said, "I (dramatic pause) keep Canada healthy." What a great way to answer!

The rest of the program continued to be engaging. I learned about quality improvement strategies from Philip Morehouse, went through allergy case studies with a pediatric allergist, took a visual journey through renal function, discovered the uses for the Hevlylite assay from the Binding Site, was updated on lab testing related to dyslipemia, and how to offer constructive feedback in particular when working with students. There were also sessions offered on new assays in the lab, transfusing 1 vs 2 units, TRALI, methadone treatment program, therapeutic drug monitoring, and more. If only it were possible to attend every session.

It was wonderful to catch up with former classmates, check in with former co-workers, and make some new friends. The exhibitors had some great information to share and didn't disappoint when it came to the all-important pen haul. I'm looking forward to returning to the Island when they host LABCON 2016.

Connect with the world of laboratory science...



LABCON2015: a bilingual conference experience

Top 5 reasons to attend LABCON:

1. Educational opportunities
2. Networking with your peers
3. Meet vendors and explore new technology
4. Learn about key issues in the profession
5. Keep up with industry trends

May 22-24, 2015

Fairmont Queen Elizabeth
Montréal, QC

labcon.csmls.org

CSMLS  SCSLM

Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science
Société canadienne de science de laboratoire médical

LABCON  2015

CSMLS's National Conference of Medical Laboratory Science
Congrès national de science de laboratoire médical de la SCSLM