

#### MISSION

The NBSMLT regulates the profession of Medical Laboratory Science through high standards of practice, education and collaboration to ensure public protection.

#### VISION

- Grow and expand through collaboration and engagement
- Advance our leadership in healthcare

#### VALUES

- Engagement
- Professionalism
- Collaboration
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Public confidence
- Innovation



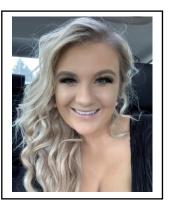
# THE BEAKER

#### A message from our 2024 President: Brittany Larkin

Dear NBSMLT Members,

I am writing to provide further clarity about the significant update regarding the administration of examinations and prior learning assessments for individuals seeking to enter the Medical Laboratory Technologist (MLT) profession in Canada.

The Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) and the Canadian Alliance of Medical Laboratory Professionals Regulators (CAMLPR) have recently announced that CAMLPR will assume responsibility for delivering prior learning assessments and examination services. This transition will affect those seeking entry into the MLT profession across Canada.



CAMLPR, is an alliance of the provincial health regulatory authorities for medical laboratory technology, including NBSMLT as one of its members. This decision aligns with CAMLPR's regulatory mandate and will follow the completion of their current initiatives, namely the "Gateway for MLTs" and "Flexible Registration Pathways" projects. As part of these projects, CAMLPR is developing new processes for prior learning assessment and entry-to-practice certification examinations as part of this transition. This will ease the burden on internationally educated MLTs and allow for more seamless entry to practice. The CSMLS has committed to collaborating closely with CAMLPR during this period to ensure a smooth transition.

### Please be assured that, as a current MLT registered with NBSMLT, these changes will not affect your existing registration status.

We are confident that the continued regulation of our profession by NBSMLT will remain robust and responsive to the evolving needs of laboratories across the country, but more specifically in New Brunswick.

I want to extend our gratitude to the CSMLS for their dedicated oversight of the MLT certification exam in Canada over the past 85 years and we look forward to them continuing to advocate for our profession.

For further details about CAMLPR, the Gateway for MLTs and Flexible Pathways projects, and further updates, we encourage you to visit the CAMLPR website.

Sincerely, Brittany Larkin, NBSMLT President

### **REGULATORY RUNDOWN**

#### **Registration Renewal now OPEN for 2025**

2025 Online Registration Renewal is **NOW OPEN** August 29 - October 31, 2024 *Renew Today: It only takes 5 minutes* 

#### Click here: <u>http://nbsmlt.nb.ca/renewal.asp</u>

Important Considerations

To successfully renew your NBSMLT registration for the upcoming year, there are <u>THREE</u> necessary components:

- 1. Completion of your online renewal form
- 2. Submission of 2025 dues payments
- 3. Valid PDP

Be sure to **update your contact information** including name, phone number, mailing address and email address. Your email address should be the one that you check most often. If you are going to be on an extended leave, be sure to update your email address to one that you will regularly access while on leave. Be sure to check your junk/spam folders and mark NBSMLT correspondences as 'safe'.

Be sure to **update your employer information and employment status** if this has changed since your last renewal.

If you have **changed employers** and are no longer with the same regional health authority, you will be **required to set up a new account** to be able to access your online registration form. This is a very simple process that only takes minutes to complete. Please contact us if you need to set up a new account.

When reporting your practice hours for 2024, enter the estimated practice hours you anticipate to have completed by the end of 2024. A Full-time MLT would achieve approximately 1950 practice hours in a calendar year. This is a self-reporting item that relies on all MLTs to uphold ethical standards of honesty and professionalism. If you have been on leave or work less than full time hours, it is your responsibility to report your anticipated practice hours for the year as accurately and honestly as possible. Practice hours should encompass activities that require a member to use their skill, knowledge and judgement as it relates to the practice of medical laboratory technology.

If you have been on leave and **do not meet the eligibility** requirements for renewal, please **contact us** to discuss your registration status options.

When you have completed your online renewal form, please note, your form will **NOT** be noted as paid until we have processed your payment in the system. This is a manual process that may take several days from the time you submitted payment.

Once you have completed your online renewal form, you will receive an autogenerated

message prompting you to submit payment. If you have paid through your employer payroll deduction program, you may simply ignore as we have already received your payment.

If your PDP is due in 2024, submit your PDP to registrar@nbsmlt.nb.ca before midnight on September 15th. Your PDP due date is noted on your 2024 license. You can log into the Service Provider Database at any time to check on the expiry of your PDP or to make changes to your contact information. <u>https://spd-bdsf.gnb.ca/jTap/Orchestrate.do</u>

If you do not submit your PDP documents to the Registrar before midnight September 15, a **\$110 late processing fee** will be applied and the late submission will trigger an **automatic audit**. No exceptions.

If you do not complete BOTH your online registration renewal form AND submit payment before midnight October 31<sup>st</sup>, a **\$110 late processing fee** will be applied (no exceptions). Any submissions received after December 19<sup>th</sup> will not be processed until January and will be subject to the reinstatement process.

Are you currently on **parental leave**, **long term leave or sabbatical**? The same rules and regulations apply to those on leave who wish to practice in the upcoming year. You may still log into the database from home/phone/tablet with your work login. You may still view our emails from the Horizon /Vitalité web portal from home. Please call Service NB to reactivate your password if it expired. If you are uncertain on your return to work or which registration category best reflects your registration status, please contact <u>registrar@nbsmlt.nb.ca</u> and we will be happy to assist you.

Is this your first time renewing your registration with the NBSMLT? Please send us your username you created through the IAMS database. The Registrar would have sent you the account creation guide at the time of your initial application. You will have three years from the time of initial registration to complete your first PDP submission of 45 hours.

#### Are you retiring and not renewing for 2025?

Let us know to remove you from our roster and avoid multiple reminders. Please remember, it is free to register as a retired member of the NBSMLT. A retired registration permits for use of title MLT Ret and allows you to stay informed with news from the Society.

Are you an MLA or Inactive member who paid their 50\$ membership fee to the NBSMLT last year? You may renew using the same process according to regulations.

Are you an MLA who would like to sign up for membership? LINK: <u>NEW APPLICATION FOR MLA MEMBERS</u>

\*Submitted forms without payment are not processed\*

*Please note:* we are a separate organization from the CSMLS - you must renew your membership with them directly.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

#### 2024 PDP Reminder

PDP submissions with an expiry date of 2024 are to be received no later than midnight **September 15, 2024** 

If you have already accumulated your 45 credit hours, there is no need to wait!

Avoid late fees and submit in advance.

Log into to the member section of our website at <u>https://nbsmlt.nb.ca/member-login.asp</u> and visit the PDP section for guidelines and forms.

#### PDP - Indigenous Canada Free Course

The NBSMLT Board has been working diligently to educate ourselves on issues of social injustice, specifically the history of Canadian Residential Schools and the various calls to action as outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Report. The report contains specific calls to action regarding the Education and Health Care of Indigenous Peoples. We would encourage all NBSMLT registrants to complete this FREE course on Indigenous Canada to begin the journey of understanding and healing. This completed course will be eligible for 15 PDP Credit hours as it will assist members in gaining a better understanding of issues facing Indigenous Peoples when seeking health care services from regulated medical health professionals.

Click here to register: Indigenous Canada | Coursera

#### AutoAntibody Summit - September 12-13, 2024

Crowne Plaza Fredericton–Lord Beaverbrook, Fredericton, NB Autoantibodies: Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, and Prognosis Keynote Speaker: Andrew McKeon M.B., B.Ch., M.D. Mayo Clinic Please click HERE for registration & detailed information.

#### 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Bug Day – October 17, 2024

In Collaboration with the University of Manitoba, the Health Sciences centre Winnipeg presents the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Bug Day.

Overall program objectives:

- State the names of the key pathogens that have been clinically and socially relevant over the past 27 years
- State how the determinants of health influence a person's risk for infection
- State how to modify risk factors for the acquisition of infection

Fore more details on program details and registration, click here: www.hsc.mb.ca/bugday.html

#### Information Collection Survey - Strategic Planning 2024

The Board of the Society will be undertaking a strategic planning session later this year. In preparation for strategic planning, the Directors would like to survey members to collect information and feedback. The directors invite members to respond to the questions below and provide other comments.

1. As an MLT, what do you see as the biggest opportunity for the profession?

2. What do you feel are the biggest threats or challenges for the profession?

3. If you could name only one thing you would like the Society, in its regulatory role, to accomplish in the next three years, what would it be?

4. As an MLT, what keeps you awake at night?

Click <u>here</u> for survey link

### AWARDS & GRANTS

#### 2024 ANITA LINDSAY AWARD – DEADLINE EXTENDED

Do you know a member deserving of the Anita Lindsay Award?

Who was Anita Lindsay? CLICK HERE

#### **SELECTION CRITERIA:**

- Must be leaving (**retiring** or changing careers) the profession of Medical Laboratory Technology after at least **20 years** as a registrant of NBSMLT.
- Must have demonstrated professionalism, integrity and a commitment to high personal standards throughout their 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 with a letter by an active member of NBSMLT, stating a biography, volunteer initiatives, and why they are deserving of the award.

The award will be presented at the 2024 AGM.

Please submit your nomination letter before September 15th to office@nbsmlt.nb.ca

#### AUTOANTIBODY SUMMIT GRANT

Congratulations to Amy Wilson, who was the recipient of the NBSMLT grant of \$200 to provide financial assistance for attendance at the 2024 Auto Antibody Summit in Fredericton this fall. We trust Amy will find the conference informative and beneficial in her career development.

For more information on the Summit, please click here

#### LABCON GRANTS

Congratulations to Jeralyn Mallaley and Thesa Beaupre, who were the recipients of the NBSMLT LABCON grant, valued at \$500 each, to provide financial assistance for attendance at the CSMLS LABCON in St. John's NFLD this past June.

A message from the recipients:

"I'd like to thank the NBSMLT for the \$500 LABCON grant. LABCON was well organized and I had the opportunity to attend multiple sessions over three days, including the Opening Ceremonies. The conference started strong with 'Drugs of Abuse' by Drs Nash Denic & Shane Randell, detailing the evolution of drug abuse and the associated accidental deaths in Newfoundland & Labrador. Pauline Tomlin from the Provincial Lab for Public Health in Edmonton presented interesting 'Parasitology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' case studies, while sharing her concerns that moving towards more PCR and automated testing is contributing to the loss of microscopy expertise, as well as the potential for missing organisms/parasites on smears. I also attended Julie Coffey's presentation 'Confused about Validation and Verification' with colleagues from NB. I believe we all left with a better understanding and the desire to review more CLSI and ISO documents. While we are all aware of the staffing challenges in NB, it was obvious that we are not alone, as I spoke to many CSMLS members from across Canada with the same concerns. There were sessions specific to student training, collaboration between MLTs & MLAs and 'Creative Approach to Staffing Shortages', detailing how a Healthcare Alliance in Ontario staffs some smaller rural sites with MLAs, allowing the MLTs to be at the larger site performing remote verification.

I was able to take advantage of the beautiful weather in St. John's, hike Signal Hill, enjoy Newfoundland & Labrador hospitality, chat with Exhibitors, CSMLS Board Members and make new acquaintances. Thank you again for the opportunity and LABCON grant."

#### Jeralyn Mallaley MLT

Clinical Specialist Haematology Medicine, Fredericton and Upper River Valley Area Horizon Health Network

"LABCON2024 was an amazing experience for so many reasons! Great times were spent reconnecting with old colleagues, making new connections and some education along the way. The highlight of the event for me was Chief Warrant Officer Lucie Alain's lecture on leadership. Her take on how to be an impactful leader was inspiring; I certainly came away with a few reads in mind. Also took some time to take in some sights and a bit of culture, a trip to St. John's Newfoundland would not be complete without exploring a few pubs and a night on George Street! I would like to thank you for your support. I am honored to have been selected as a recipient."

**Thesa Beaupre,** BSc, MLT Medical Laboratory Technologist Clinical Pathology Department of Laboratory Medicine Saint John Regional Hospital









#### NBSMLT 2023 Annual Report

The 2023 NBSMLT Annual Report and Audited Financials are available on our website under the News section and under the Annual Report section of the Members Page.

#### 2023 Annual Report & Financials



### What is the role of the NBSMLT Board of Directors?

The government of NB establishes the rules for selfregulated health professions, and the board of directors enforces the rules. The NBSMLT has the authority to license MLTs and the ability to discipline licensees.

The role of the Board is to regulate the profession, and oversee the NBSMLT's activities such as management, actions, and policy development. Professional staff, with the support of the board, conduct the regulatory and administrative work of the NBSMLT. The Board meets monthly.

Board of Directors duties include:

- Regulating MLT registration
- Setting and enforcing Standards of Practice
- Performing disciplinary measures as needed
- Setting continuing education requirements
- Maintaining a public register of NBSMLT registrants
- Strategic Planning
- Policy Development
- Financial Oversight
- Compliance and Legal Oversight
- Executive Leadership Oversight
- Board Development and Education
- Emergency Preparedness and Continuity Planning
- Ethical and Legal Integrity

Please visit <u>WWW.NBSMLT.NB.CA</u> to find out more.



Questions or comments? Email : <u>OFFICE@NBSMLT.NB.CA</u>