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## President's Message

*By Susan Findlater*

I am very honoured to have this opportunity to serve you in the position of NBSMLT President 2010. I must thank those of you that encouraged me to accept this position, I am thankful that I did. I challenge the members of the NBSMLT, all of you, to reach out in any way that you can, push yourself to do something out of your comfort zone, volunteer in any aspect of your profession whether it be in your local Academy, Provincial or National level. You can do it!

I am pleased that the **medical laboratory technologists** in NB are continuing to maintain their PDP requirements. Our mandatory PDP program is doing what it was intended to do, allowing technologist as professionals to grow through learning endeavours. Continued learning provides us with a strong foundation for a bright future.

In February, Bernadette Muise, NBSMLT Past President and I had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Health, Hon. Mary Schryer, Lori Clarke, Laboratory Consultant, NB Department of Health, and Michelle Rousselle, Senior Policy Advisor, Health Human Resources to discuss key issues affecting medical laboratory professionals in New Brunswick. The meeting proved to be both informative and encouraging. This was an important opportunity for us to present ourselves as an integral player in the delivery of health care.

Also, in February, Janelle Bourgeois Whitlock and I travelled to the CSMLS head office in Hamilton, ON for National Advocacy Council and National Regulatory Council meetings. Highlights from these meetings were a presentation by the Foreign Credential Review Office, Government of Canada and an update on the Canada EU

*(Continued on page 2)*

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Trade Negotiations and the implications to us as a professional body.

In closing I must commend the many volunteers and our office staff for their continued work; it is because of them that we can all be proud of the work performed by our provincial professional society. It is through their continued efforts that the high standards for the practice and regulation of medical laboratory technology are maintained.

The Moncton Academy is planning the upcoming Maritech 2010 which will be held November 4-6, 2010. Make plans now .... Maritech always proves to be both educational and fun for all who attends. I hope to see you there.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at [president@nbsmlt.nb.ca](mailto:president@nbsmlt.nb.ca).



Susan Findlater (left), Minister of Health, Hon. Mary Schryer (middle), Bernadette Muisse (right)

**Key issues brought to the attention of Minister Schryer at the meeting were:**

- Point of care testing
- Recruitment and retention issues
- Lack of recognition of the profession

## From the Editor

*Janelle B. Whitlock*



The *Analyzer* serves as a means of communication between the Board of Directors and the members. I am certain that some of you who are reading this have picked up a copy that was sitting on a bench in the laboratory. The Board is currently exploring newer avenues of communication such as bulk e-mail and Website access. These tools have proven to be an efficient method of information sharing. Whether you are curious about the NBSMLT's mandate or you are simply looking for information, you should visit the Website. The newsletters are available online as are the synopses of board meetings.

In this edition, you will find the application grant for LABCON 2010. The Board is offering 3 grants of \$1,000 each this year. Take advantage of the grants for a chance to travel, learn and meet new colleagues.

**Next  
submission  
date:  
June 15  
2010**

*Submit your texts or comments/questions to:*

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Moncton, NB  
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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.*



## MLA Certification

Dany Maillet successfully completed the CSMLS MLA exam this fall in Moncton.

He presently employed at the Campbellton Regional Hospital Laboratory, in Specimen reception.

# Congratulations Dany!!

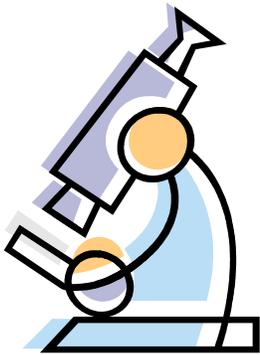
*Correction: Please note that this correction is due to an error in previous Analyser*

**Veronica Bourque** from the Moncton Hospital was successful in the CSMLS certification exam in 2009.

## Outstanding Performance in Medical Laboratory Technology



Claire Wright (left) presented a donation in the amount of \$200 to Stacey Knight (right), a student in the MLT program for "Outstanding Performance in Medical Laboratory Technology Year II".



# Maritech in Moncton 2010

**November 4 - 6th**

Planning has begun for Maritech in Moncton. Danielle Leblanc and Bernadette Muisé will co-chair this event. Scientific chair is Jennifer Enman and her team is still coming together, Sasha Wright will head the Social committee and Kathy Andrews will chair the Finance committee. The Academy is meeting to gather ideas and formulate a plan

of action. The Delta Beauséjour has been booked and room rates will be \$149.00 per night. The committees are hard at work and we expect this conference to be enlightening and refreshing. Watch for updates on the website and in the upcoming newsletters. Remember to save the dates for Maritech in Moncton!!

# CSTM Education Day

Anne Marie Robinson, MLT, ART  
Eastern Director CSTM

The intrepid board members of Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine braved a Maritime winter storm and held an Education Day in Moncton New Brunswick on January 29. This was the first time there has been a CSTM event held in New Brunswick and it was well attended both on site and by video conference.

Wendy Owens from the Ontario Regional Blood Coordinating Network shared the work done in that province on developing a plan to manage blood shortages. The National Advisory Committee along with representatives of Canadian Blood Services have developed a national plan and all provinces, health regions and hospitals will be developing corresponding plans to meet the needs of their patients should a shortage of blood products occur.

Maureen Foulkes-Jones highlighted some of the ethical considerations that arise as the plans are developed. In times of extreme blood shortage, it may be necessary to make difficult decisions and it is important to have the input of an ethicist while developing the plan to ensure the process is fair and ethical

Debbie Lauzon gave a great overview of IVIG including information on production, usage and administration of the product. The presentation was very timely for all of us in NB who implemented the use of an IVIG request form in December of 2009. The guidelines for administration were of particular interest to the nursing staff in attendance. Dorothy Harris CBS Hospital Liaison Specialist for NB and PEI gave a very interesting presentation on the measures taken by CBS to reduce waste. Everything from changing donor deferrals and buffy coat platelets to the new format for the Circular of Information has been done to realise

efficiencies. Hospitals too can do their part to constantly monitor and strive to improve the discard rate. For every unit that is discarded another needs to be collected. Reducing the discard rate in the country by 1% would lead to a reduction in approx. 8,500 units collected units (a value of approximately \$2.5 million). We are all responsible for managing this precious resource.

Kieran Biggins showed the audience all of the great benefits of becoming a CSTM member including access to expertise in Transfusion Medicine through the website, bulletin and annual conferences. (Not to mention the fact that you can claim the membership fee on your income tax return!)

Anne Robinson provided an overview of the transfusion audit activity at The Moncton Hospital.

Sandra Rooney, Chief Risk Officer for Horizon Health Network talked about sentinel events, why they occur, how to deal with them and how to prevent them. A very lively discussion ensued regarding the different perspectives of nursing, technologists and physicians. It was agreed that we can all learn a great deal and benefit from "walking a mile in another's shoes". CSTM with its multidisciplinary membership provides a great opportunity to do just that.

Thank you to CSTM and The Moncton Hospital laboratory for sponsoring this event. Thank you to the members of the board who gave so generously of their time to prepare and present the sessions

For more information on or membership application for CSTM go to the website at [www.transfusion.ca](http://www.transfusion.ca).



## ***A Reminder....***

**Board Meetings synopses are available on the website in the member's only section.**

***The latest teleconference was held on January 27, 2010***

[www.nbsmlt.nb.ca](http://www.nbsmlt.nb.ca)

# Interesting Facts...

## Medical Laboratory Technologist Database - 2008 Data Release

### Workforce Supply

In 2008, there were 19,043 registered medical laboratory technologists who were employed in medical laboratory technology in Canada. (*This total does not represent all employed medical laboratory technologists in Canada.*)

### Demographics

Medical laboratory technologists working in 2008 were predominantly female. For selected provinces including Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta, the average percentage of female medical laboratory technologists was 85.1%.

Medical laboratory technologists working in the regulated provinces in 2008 had an average age range of 39 to 47. In regulated provinces, the average age was 45.1 in Nova Scotia, 43.7 in New Brunswick, 39.7 in Quebec, 47.4 in Ontario, 47.1 in Manitoba, 46.0 in Saskatchewan and 43.6 in Alberta.

### Employment/Practice Characteristics in 2008

Most medical Laboratory technologists were employed as staff medical laboratory technologists; they accounted for 78.5% of the workforce in New Brunswick, 79.9% in Quebec, 74.7% in Ontario and 73.1% in Alberta. The remaining medical laboratory technologists were employed as managers, supervisors, technical specialists, educators, etc.

Most medical laboratory technologists worked full-time. The percentage of the workforce working full time was 76.4% in New Brunswick, 52.3% in Quebec, 71.8 % in Ontario, 68.2% in Manitoba and 56.3% in Alberta.

*For more detailed statistics or for further informations on methodology limitations or privacy visit their website at [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca), click on data collection, Health Human Resources database.*

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Reference: Medical Laboratory Technologist Database, 2008 Data Release—Highlights, [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca)

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**The NBSMLT Board would like to welcome new members**

Jim Sloan  
President-Elect

Monique Desjardins-Levesque  
Edmundston Director

# Thank You NBSMLT volunteers

*Your participation contributes greatly to the Society's achievements and demonstrates a sense of leadership and pride in your profession.*



LABCON 2010 will be held in Edmonton, Alberta, May 28 to June 1, 2010. At the November 2009 meeting of the NBSMLT Board of Directors, a motion was passed to award three (3) grants of \$1,000 each to facilitate attendance at the national congress. The application form is on page 7. Please complete if you are interested.

As in the past, recipients will be chosen based upon their commitment, professionalism and service to NBSMLT (at any level). All applicants who have contributed to the Society (as indicated on the application) in any manner, and have not previously received this grant, will be considered equally. Recipients will be chosen at random from qualified applicants and will be notified in writing by the Registrar as soon as the selection has been made.

On occasion, the Board of Directors may find an applicant to be outstanding and award one of the grants to that individual. When completing your application, please remember to complete all sections since this may be the only information that will be available at the selection process.

Congrès LABCON 2010 aura lieu à Edmonton, Alberta du 28 mai au 1 juin 2010. Le Conseil d'administration de l'ATLMNB, lors de sa réunion de novembre 2009, a adopté une motion en faveur de l'octroi de trois (3) subventions de 1,000\$ chacune afin de permettre à certains membres d'assister plus facilement au congrès national. Vous trouverez un formulaire de demande sur la page 7. Si vous êtes intéressé(es), veuillez remplir ce formulaire.

Comme par le passé, le choix des bénéficiaires sera fondé sur leur engagement, leur professionnalisme et les services qu'ils ont rendus à l'ATLMNB (à quelque niveau que ce soit). Seront examinées les demandes de tous les requérants qui, d'une manière ou d'une autre, ont contribué aux activités de l'Association (comme cela doit être mentionné dans la demande) et qui n'ont pas déjà reçu une subvention. Les bénéficiaires seront choisis au hasard parmi les noms des requérants admissibles, puis ils seront avisés par la registraire dès que les choix auront été faits.

Il peut arriver à l'occasion que le Conseil d'administration accorde une des subventions directement à une personne en raison de ses services insignes. N'oubliez pas de remplir toutes les parties de votre formulaire de demande, étant donné que ce formulaire sera la seule source d'information utilisée pour le processus de sélection.



**New Brunswick Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists**

**Association des technologistes de laboratoire médical du Nouveau-Brunswick**

**New Brunswick Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists  
Association des technologistes de laboratoire médical du Nouveau-Brunswick**

**Application for Congress Grant  
Demande de subvention pour le congrès**

Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address/Adresse du domicile \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone/Téléphone à domicile \_\_\_\_\_

Business Telephone/Téléphone au bureau \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment/Lieu d'emploi \_\_\_\_\_

Years of active membership in NBSMLT/  
Nombre d'années comme membre actif de l'ATLMNB \_\_\_\_\_

Previous grant/Subvention précédente  
Yes / Oui No / Non If yes, when? / Si oui, quand? \_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Activities/Activités professionnelles**

Academy/Au niveau de l'académie \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Provincial/Au niveau de la province \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

National/Au niveau national \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Mail or Fax to: / Postez ou envoyez par télécopieur:  
NBSMLT, P.O. Box/CP 1812, Moncton, New Brunswick, E1C 5T9  
Telephone: (506) 758-9956 Fax: (506) 758-9963**

**Applications must be received on or before April 2, 2010  
Toutes les demandes doivent être reçues pour le 2 avril 2010**

Go to [www.csmls.org](http://www.csmls.org) listing for a complete list of MODE courses!

GET **MORE**  
GET **MORE**  
with CSMLS!



**CSMLS**  
Canadian Society for  
Medical Laboratory Science

### New for 2010

Get **ONE FREE MODE COURSE** each month with your **2010 Membership!**

The CSMLS offers over 150 courses, including 60 MODE Modules.

### What is a MODE Module?

MODE Modules are created by the MODE Group (Medical Occupations Distance Educators), a group of experienced senior MLTs who have been involved with writing educational material for over 30 years. The **MODE Group** began writing correspondence courses for the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1978. Over time, these courses have become some of the most popular correspondence courses for medical laboratory professionals in Canada.

We are pleased to announce that **MODE** courses are offered exclusively through CSMLS. Don't miss out on this new member benefit! Visit our website for more information. [www.csmls.org](http://www.csmls.org)

\*Write the exam and receive even more educational credits! A nominal fee will apply.

[www.csmls.org](http://www.csmls.org)