



ALBERTA ATHLETIC THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION

Presidents Report

This has been a great first year as the President of the AATA. In all, it was a quiet administrative year, although we experienced several challenges with coordinating Educational Courses (due to low interest) and Marketing projects (due to the departure of or Marketing Chair in August). I do believe, however, that as your Executive Committee, we are all making solid progress forward and amidst everyone's busy schedules, we are working very hard to progress our association and profession as a whole.

Progress has been made with the Alberta Education Initiative. The prerequisites required for working towards the "Foundations of Athletic Therapy Certificate" have been approved and as added as a curriculum pathway in Alberta Education's Career and Technology Studies (CTS) program. The CTS is a complementary program designed for Alberta's secondary school students. The course structure of CTS enables schools to design unique programs that meet the needs of students and take advantage of community resources. Therefore, high school students across Alberta have been briefed and many have begun heading towards certification. I have also attended two Alberta Education Learning Symposiums on behalf of the AATA and was able to set up booths, and talk with the teachers. They were able to confirm the extent of interest in the "Foundations of Athletic Therapy Certificate". Thus, as this initiative continues to become widespread, certified members, please be on the look out for students or teachers that might contact you in search of 25 practicum placement hours as part of the prerequisite for this certificate. This is an exciting and unique opportunity to further promote our profession and introduce the population to Athletic Therapy as a career path.

Additionally, the Provincial Presidents Committee (PPC) convened on December 5, 2010. The following was discussed.

- Administrative Fee for Financial Transactions: due to the accumulation of bank and credit card fees, CATA and its BoD have decided to add an administrative charge to a max 4% on all financial transactions that would have taken effect on February 1, 2011.
- Membership Dues Payment Plan: CATA is considering other forms of payment option for its members. They are looking into a monthly pre-pay option to help alleviate year-end costs. They are also looking into the use of PayPal.
- Legal Fund: Discussions have been made towards the creation of a legal fund. They are looking into ways on how to make this possibility occur. This is in response to the accumulation of costs that were incurred from the Judicial Proceedings against a member of the Manitoba Athletic Therapists Association.

The following options were suggested:

- Suggestion to take a % of members fees to support the legal fund
- Suggestion to membership to increase their membership fees to apply
- Suggestion to take money from the future fund and apply it a legal fund

The following motions were made by the PPC:

- Support a 1% reassignment of present membership fees to a legal fund
- Support an option to move money currently from the future funds into legal fees

In summary, we have another exciting AGM weekend planned. Hopefully you all will be able to make it out. I look forward to seeing and catching up with you.

Respectfully Yours,
Breda Lau, MSc, CAT(C)
AATA President