

# NEWSLETTER



*Prince Edward Island College  
of Occupational Therapists*

Hi OTs!

It is hard to believe we are almost at the end of 2024. I wanted to send out an update regarding what PEICOT accomplished in 2024 and what to look forward to in 2025.

I have been working as the Registrar for PEICOT for the past two years. In addition to this role, I work as an Occupational Therapist with the School Therapy Occupational Therapy Program (STOT) on a 50% basis. As Registrar, my contract requires approximately 8-10 hours of work per week, though this can vary depending on the time of year. Typically, I work Monday and Friday mornings, as well as Thursday afternoons, for PEICOT.

## 2024 UPDATES

### Council

Our Council is comprised of six members: Allyson McDonell as Chairperson, Sophie Tonet as Secretary, Michael LeBlanc as Treasurer, Laura MacLean as an Ad Hoc Member, and Don Love and Nick Sims as Public Members. We hold meetings about four times a year, with our Annual General Meeting (AGM) taking place each June. A big thank you to all our Council members for their time and commitment!

### Website NEW!

Our website was updated in June of 2024 with ongoing updates still happening. Visit our website to familiarize yourself with helpful information. <https://www.peiot.org>

### HMS Database

Our HMS database was updated in February of 2024 to allow registration and renewal to become paperless. We continue to work with the database company to ensure ease of use of the database.

## REMOTE PRACTICE

As mentioned at our AGM, PEICOT signed a memorandum of understanding with the other Canadian provinces that allows out-of-province occupational therapists to provide remote services to clients residing in PEI as long as the OT is licensed in another province. This out-of-province OT is required to contact PEICOT registrar to provide information about their services. If a complaint was to occur regarding this out-of-province OT, their own jurisdiction would be responsible for the complaint.

Please see our website for more details.

<https://www.peiot.org/remote-practice>

## Occupational Therapy Assistants

In January of 2024, PEICOT presented on a new guideline to OTs and OTAs across the province. The document is on our website – ***PEICOT Practice Guideline: Task Assignment and Supervision of Occupational Therapy Assistants***. One area that PEICOT continues to monitor is Health PEI job postings for OTAs (especially with Mental Health & Addictions and Long-Term Care) to ensure correct use of title as well as supervision and list of duties is accurate.

## Naloxone

As sent out in a recent email, the "**Naloxone Guiding Document for OTs on PEI**" was recently developed in response to a concern brought forth by an OT several months ago. This concern, with several corresponding documents, was reviewed by our legal counsel and from that review, this guiding document was created. The College has been in contact with BMS insurance company several times, with the result of those conversations in the document as well. The document is located on our website.

<https://www.peiot.org/documents#standards>

## RENEWEL REMINDER

Reminder that renewal is from February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Please ensure that all personal information, continuing education, and documents are up to date.

## 2025-2026 RENEWAL – WHAT TO EXPECT!

### Quality Assurance

A new Quality Assurance Program is in the final stages of development for all registrants. Currently, PEI, Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick are the only provinces without QA programs. We have been collaborating with Nova Scotia to develop a similar program across Atlantic Canada.

Registrants will be required to complete a self-assessment checklist based on the new competencies and set goals to further enhance their OT knowledge throughout the registration year. The PEICOT Council is in the process of finalizing the fillable forms, and additional information will be provided soon.

### CIHI

Our HMS database will be updated this renewal period. Please see additional information that will be sent out in separate newsletter.

## **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion eLearning Module**

In the “Competencies for OTs in Canada” (2021) document, domain C focuses on “**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**”. A national eLearning module is currently being developed and will be required for ALL registrants to complete in the spring/summer of 2025. Funding for this project has been secured with a **Health PEI grant** that was offered to colleges for education.

## **FEE INCREASE THIS RENEWAL!**

In 2023, PEICOT Council agreed to a registration fee increase due to the rising costs of running a non-profit organization.

Last year the fee increased by \$50.00 and this year, the fee will increase by \$50.00 again, for a registration fee of \$500.00.

## **UPCOMING PROJECTS in 2025**

### **RE-ENTRY PROGRAM**

ACOTRO (Association of Canadian Occupational Therapy Regulatory Organizations) and the provincial colleges are developing a national re-entry program for occupational therapists across Canada. Currently, OTs who seek to return to practice who do not meet currency (practice hours) requirements are required to complete some form of re-entry, but those requirements are not consistent across Canada. The provincial colleges are working together to develop a consistent national re-entry program that has a competency assessment tool and that ensures OTs are competent and up to date with evidence-based practice, provincial legislation, and can provide safe and ethical care to clients. More information to follow in the new year.

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

ACOTRO and the provincial colleges are developing a national Code of Ethics template which will be completed by spring of 2025. The purpose is to provide a consistent Code of Ethics that outlines the ethical responsibilities and expectations for registrant conduct and is one of the ways that each College fulfills its mandate to promote and protect the public interest. PEICOT will use this template and customize it based on our PEI Regulated Health Professions Act.

**Happy Holidays and wishing you a wonderful new year!**

**Colleen MacPherson**

**Registrar PEICOT**