



Bill 160

At the end of September, the Ontario Government introduced Bill 160, the *Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act, 2017*, and debate on the Bill began on October 4, 2017.

Among other extensive changes (including amending six statutes and repealing another four statutes), Bill 160 if passed will repeal the current *Medical Radiation Technology Act* and replace it with the *Medical Radiation and Imaging Technology Act, 2017* (MRITA).

This new Act has significant implications for CMRTO members and for the province's diagnostic medical sonographers:

1. In addition to earlier direction by the government to regulate diagnostic medical sonographers as part of the CMRTO, the new Act will change the scope of practice of medical radiation and imaging technology to add the use of soundwaves for the purposes of diagnostic procedures in the Act rather than a regulation.
2. The CMRTO's name will be changed to the new College of Medical Radiation and Imaging Technologists of Ontario (CMRITO).
3. The MRITA will add "diagnostic medical sonographer" as a title restricted to members of the new CMRITO. In other words, no person other than a member of the CMRITO will be permitted to use that title or hold themselves out as qualified to practise in the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography.

Registration Regulation Consultations

In anticipation of the MRITA, at the direction of the government the CMRTO had already drafted, and begun circulating to members and stakeholders for comment, proposed changes to the registration regulation for the profession. The consultation on the registration regulation closes on October 17, 2017 and Council will review these comments at their meeting on October 20, 2017. (The changes can still be viewed on the CMRTO's website at <https://www.cmрто.org/what-we-do/consultations/>.)

New Standards of Practice

As well, new standards of practice for medical radiation technologists, to include diagnostic medical sonographers, are already being developed, and the CMRTO will be consulting with MRTs and sonographers about the proposed standards of practice beginning in November.

Fall Information Workshops

Not surprisingly, the focus of this fall's workshops by CMRTO Registrar & CEO Linda Gough will be the regulation of diagnostic medical sonographers within the CMRTO. All MRTs and sonographers are invited to attend these free workshops. (You aren't required to register, just come out.) The workshops begin in Thunder Bay on October 11, 2017, and end in Barrie on November 1, 2017.

The complete list of workshop dates and locations is available on the CMRTO website at <https://www.cmrto.org/blogs/news/2017-09-21-cmrto-information-workshops/>



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