



# NSDA Newsletter

June 2016

## President's Message

On behalf of the NSDA board of directors and the membership of NSDA as a whole, I want to thank Megan Austen for her dedication and leadership during her two year term as president of NSDA. **With Megan's leadership, the board has been able to effectively operate as a governance board.** I would like to wish her the very best in her future endeavours and I look forward to her ongoing involvement with the NSDA board. Her support and mentorship has made me confident to assume my role as NSDA president.

On May 6, 2016 we hosted the 60<sup>th</sup> NSDA Annual General Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Truro. This was the best attended AGM in recent years for NSDA, with 115 dietitians, nutritionists and interns present. On behalf of the board of directors, I would like to congratulate Theresa Glanville and Jane Pryor who received Honorary Life Membership Awards. Theresa and Jane were recognized for their outstanding contribution in the field of dietetics.

The education portion of the day provided us with an insightful presentation on evidence-based practice and **NSDA's new position statement on the sale of nutrition products** by Dr. Theresa Glanville and Kelley Hiltz- Cameron. The afternoon provided three interesting concurrent sessions: Mentorship – Facilitating a Community of Practice; Interprofes-

sional Practice; and Cultural Competence. Thank you so much to Tina Strickland, Jennifer Garus, Sarah Campbell-Bligh, Shannan Grant, Judy Fraser-Arsenault, Connie Foote and Laura Reid for sharing your knowledge. Lastly, two Acadia interns, Amy Breuers and Anthony Forsyth, presented on **NSDA's position statement on the use of social media in dietetic practice.**

At the AGM, Connie Foote and Sue Conlan completed their terms on the board. Thank you both for your commitment and dedication to the board. I wish you well in your future activities. I would also like to welcome two new board members, Kelly Poirier and Amy MacDonald.

I look forward to the year ahead, as we continue our journey towards college proclamation. I hope that you all have a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Melissa Campbell  
President

## Honorary Life Membership Recipients

This year NSDA honored two deserving recipients with Honorary Life Membership Awards: Dr. Theresa Glanville and Jane Pryor.

Theresa is currently a professor at Mount Saint Vincent University in the Department of Applied Human Nutrition and will be retiring in June of 2016 after 26 years in the MSVU community. During her time at the Mount she has played a key role in the development, evolution and maintenance of the undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as the internship education program. Theresa has also played a key role in increasing the visibility, knowledge and skills of the profession, and promoting the evidence-based approach to practice. Her contributions definitely warrant this honor!



Theresa Glanville and NSDA President, Megan Austen.



Jane Pryor and NSDA President, Megan Austen.

Jane was actively involved in NSDA almost immediately after entering the profession in 1985. She was a board member from 1986 to 2010, president of the Association from 1992-1994, and recipient of the NSDA Merit award in 1997. She was also an NSDA board member as it transitioned to a regulatory body in 1998, and went on to become the Atlantic representative on the Dietitians of Canada's board of directors. **Jane has been recognized nationally for her involvement in the Canadian Association of Foodservice Professionals and because of her professional involvement, has always encouraged the same with her students. A role model for our profession!**

Congratulations Theresa and Jane! Good Luck with your future endeavors.

## Introducing NSDA's New President

Melissa Campbell brings significant experience on the NSDA board of directors to her role as president. At the 2016 Annual General Meeting, Melissa began her two year term as board president. Her previous NSDA board roles include serving as president elect (2014-2016), chair of the Governance and Nominations Committee (2014-2016), treasurer (2012-2014) and member at large (2011-2012).

Melissa is a clinical application specialist with the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA). In this role she provides technical and clinical training, education and ongoing support to NSHA regional and community hospitals who use the Vision Food Service Software. Prior to her work with the NSHA, Melissa worked in various positions in acute and long term care. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Applied Human Nutrition at Mount Saint Vincent University and her Bachelor of Commerce at Saint Mary's University.

In her free time, Melissa enjoys spending time with her husband, Robert, and dog, Lucky. She is also patiently learning to golf.

## Two important surveys coming soon!

### Dysphagia Competencies Validation Survey

The survey will enable the Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies to validate the 2016 Practice Competencies for Dysphagia Assessment and Management. The goal of the survey is to explore how dietitians across Canada practice in the area of dysphagia assessment and management, and to ensure that the dysphagia competencies and performance indicators reflect current practice in Canada. These new competencies will build upon the entry to practice Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEPs).



### Nutrition Prescription Survey



**A working group of NSDA's Professional Practice Committee is developing a resource for dietitians. It will be a directory of drugs and agents related to nutrition diagnoses that dietitians will be authorized to order under the Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists. The resource will include information such as dose, contraindications, and potential adverse effects of specific drugs and agents. The survey will pose questions related to what drugs and agents dietitians currently recommend in their practice.**

The results of these surveys will support practice and inform the standards and policies that impact dietetic practice. Please take the time to participate.

## Jurisprudence e-Learning Modules

NSDA is seeking volunteers to pilot the jurisprudence e-learning modules and provide feedback on the questions and platform. The pilot is expected to start in the fall and will involve providing feedback through focus groups. You can participate in person or by distance.

The learning modules will become a component of the Continuing Competency Program, and will promote an understanding of provincial legislation relevant to dietetic practice and college expectations related to scope of practice, conflict of interest, boundary issues, privacy and confidentiality, consent to treatment, record keeping, standards of practice and professional regulation.



## New Membership Database

Members can access the new online database throughout the year. Please keep your email address, mailing address and employment information up to date by logging onto the membership database and updating your profile details.

Link: <https://members.nsdassoc.ca/>

If you have a change in email address or wish to change your password, log on and click on your name at the top right corner of the screen. Then click Account.



To access your renewal receipt, log on and click on My Applications (found on the left side of the screen under Applications).

**The Continuing Competency Program's learning log is online. It is easily accessible from your computer, tablet or Smartphone.** As of March 2017, all members will be required to submit their learning log every year with their renewal.

## Continuing Competency Program - Audit Results

2016 CCP submissions have been audited. Fifteen percent of submissions were randomly audited. Only those audited will receive individualized feedback based on the [audit rubric](#). If you would like feedback on your submission, please contact Jennifer Garus at [info@nsdassoc.ca](mailto:info@nsdassoc.ca) to arrange a phone or in-person meeting.

The Continuing Competency Committee is seeking volunteers to join the committee. Upcoming work includes review and revision of policies pertaining to the CCP. Please contact Jennifer Garus at [jgarus@nsdassoc.ca](mailto:jgarus@nsdassoc.ca) for more information.



The session on Interprofessional Practice at NSDA's Education Day featured round table discussions after viewing video clips from the University of Toronto's Office of Interprofessional Education. Every interprofessional team can benefit from viewing these clips to help incorporate new communication strategies and team norms. If you would like to borrow the video, please contact [info@nsdassoc.ca](mailto:info@nsdassoc.ca)

## NSDA is on Facebook

A well known benefit of social media is the ease in which information can be exchanged. There is now a Facebook group to enhance communication with members about regulatory related issues. Employment and continuing education opportunities will also be posted.

With any social media site, there are risks because information is not private. Inappropriate or misinterpreted posts can harm the reputation and integrity of individual professionals or the profession. Posts will be monitored. If you have concerns, please contact NSDA directly. It is not intended to replace the networking forums that already exist (e.g. [Dietitians of Canada's Practice Blog](#), [Dietitians Network of Nova Scotia](#)).



## 2016-17 Board of Directors



President  
President-elect  
Vice president  
Treasurer  
Members at large

Melissa Campbell Megan Austen  
Judy Lowe  
Megan Austen  
Janice Terry  
Marsha Arnburg  
Rachel Graham  
Shannan Grant  
Sarah MacDonald  
Leisje MacDougall-Young  
Amy MacDonald  
Kelly Poirier

Nova Scotia Dietetic Association  
301-380 Bedford Highway Halifax, NS B3M 2L4  
Phone: (902) 493-3034 [info@nsdassoc.ca](mailto:info@nsdassoc.ca)  
[www.nsdassoc.ca](http://www.nsdassoc.ca)