



INSIDER

Spring 2007 NOVA SCOTIA DIETETIC ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF THE NSDA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WHERE: *Quality Inn & Suites
980 Parkland Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia,
Conference Room*

WHEN: *MAY 3, 2007*

TIME: *1200 – 1330*

FAQ *What if I am unable to attend?*

If you are unable to attend in person, **please send your Proxy.** The election of Members of the Board and all other questions voted on at a meeting of the Association, shall be decided by a plurality of the votes of Members or their proxies present in person, or in such other manner as may be provided by the by-laws, each Member being entitled to one vote. R.S., c. 361, s. 7; 1990, c. 43, s. 4.

Please note, if not enough members are present either in person or by proxy, quorum will not be met. Motions and votes will not be able to be completed and will be delayed until the next general meeting. If you are unable to attend, please fax or mail your proxy to Deborah Everett .

Long Term Care Day – May 3rd, 2007 at Quality Inn & Suites

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 0930 – 1000 | Registration & Coffee |
| 1000 – 1030 | Standards Development for
Food & Nutrition Services in
LTC – Sandi Berwick |
| 1030 – 1200 | Guest Speaker – Susan Weagle
Director of Policy and Standards
Development for Continuing
Care |
| 1200 – 1330 | Lunch (to be provided)
NSDA AGM |
| 1330 – 1530 | Net-working session for LTC
Dietitians for Standards
Development |

NSDA HAS A NEW HOME

As of February 1, 2007
NSDA has moved to:

212–1496 Bedford Highway
Bedford, NS B4A 1E5
(902) 835-0253
FAX: (902)835-0523

Some of you may recognize the location as the Bedford Tower building. We have moved all of the files into the office and are able to accommodate the Board and committee meetings in this location as well. Please join us on May 3rd after the LTC Day (4 – 6 pm) to have a look at our new space.

2007 Elections

Under the Professional Dietitians Act, 1989, and the by-laws of this Association, 2005, an election will take place on May 3, 2007, at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations must be received by NSDA no later than March 31, 2007. Participation on the Board and its committees offers an exciting opportunity for personal growth as you learn about professional self-regulation.

Professional input and participation in the Association is an essential element of a self-regulating profession. This is the model of health profession regulation used in Nova Scotia and other Canadian jurisdictions. It is contrasted by state regulation found in most of the USA, where the state legislatures and state-run agencies directly license and regulate professions. The expression of self-regulated ownership is knowledge of and participation in NSDA. You can participate in dietetic profession self-governance in many ways including seeking a Board position or contributing to committee work.

Please use the forms you have received and consider nominating a colleague or committing yourself to a 2 to 4 year term with NSDA.

Board Meetings 2007 Open to members and the public

March 7, 1600	NSDA office
April 4, 1600	NSDA office
May 3, 1600	(AGM) Quality Inn
June 6, 1600	NSDA office

NSDA Register – Must be Kept Current

NSDA has a legal requirement to maintain a current Register of member information. By regulation members are required to inform the association, in writing within 30 days, of any change in their::

- Name
- Home address
- Home phone number
- Business address
- Business phone number
- Change of employer
- Change of Employment Status

BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE 2007 – 2009 TERM

President

President – Elect

Secretary

Registrar

Treasurer

Members – at – Large

1. Quality and Discipline
2. Act and By-Laws
3. Standards

Public Member

The Professional Dietitians Act tells us we may not have less than two nor more than five Members at Large. The Board has determined that having specific assignments for some of the Members at Large will assist in the flow of work.

Position Descriptions for NSDA Board of Directors

POSITION

(TERM OF OFFICE)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

President (2 years)	To preside at Association and Board meetings to ensure all orders and resolutions of the Association are carried out in accordance with the Act and By-laws.
President-Elect	To become familiar with the responsibilities of the President, perform those functions in the President's absence and co-ordinate the activities of any Ad Hoc Committees.
Treasurer (2 years)	To receive funds into the Association's account, to keep full and accurate records of all receipts and disbursements.
Secretary (2 years)	To be responsible for all official correspondence of the Board of Directors.
Registrar (2 years)	To co-ordinate the activities of the Registration Committee.
Member-At-Large (Public Member) (2 years)	To serve on the Board of Directors for the protection of the public.

NOVEMBER EXAMINATION RESULTS

The fall Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) was written on November 18, 2006 in Halifax at Mount Saint Vincent University.

Congratulations to the EIGHT members who passed.

Spring 2007 Examination May 12, 2007 Deadline for Applications

February 23, 2007
All applications must be submitted .

March 24, 2007
All documentation must be submitted
and fees paid.

For application forms and procedures please visit our website at www.nsdassoc.ca or contact
Deborah Everett, Registration Coordinator

(902) 835-0253 or info@nsdassoc.ca

Atlantic Canada Workforce Analysis Survey

NSDA, along with the other Regulatory Bodies for Dietetics in Atlantic Canada, in partnership with Dietitians of Canada will be conducting a survey to assist in identifying issues that may impact future Human Resource – recruitment, retention, training, etcetera – realities in our region. The information gathered will be used for advocacy for our profession and for future planning. When you receive the survey, please take the 10 – 15 minutes required to complete it and take this opportunity to give input into the future direction of dietetics in Atlantic Canada.

The Alliance and the Essential Competencies

The Alliance has been working on the Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice for the last few years and has now finished the development phase. Howard Research & Management Consulting Inc. conducted the National Competency Validation Survey and the survey data analysis. The Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice capture new competencies as well as all of the existing standards and competencies. The NSDA board has approved the Essential Competencies and will be moving forward with their release in the near future. The CDRE will be retooled based on these competencies in late 2008.

Work has been completed on the CDRE policies and procedures. Dr. Judy Dewolf will be the new CDRE chairperson.

The Alliance has launched it's website, check it out at www.dieteticregulation.ca

Susan Moriarty

NSDA Alliance Representative

Preferred Future for Dietetics

NSDA has been involved with Dietitians of Canada in visioning for a preferred future for the dietetic profession. DC will be distributing a survey to solicit feedback on the vision and strategic directions. NSDA encourages you to respond to the survey and to share it with fellow NSDA registrants who may not have received it.

Certificates of Registration

Welcome to new registrants,
June 2006 to February 2007.

New Members

Kimberley London #1028

Lindsay M. MacKinnon #1030

Laurie Curry #1031

Mary Sue Waisman #1033

Lianne Boudreau Maltais #1034

Lindsay Carter #1035

Sonya Ellis #1036

Veronica Lawen #1037

Lindsay Manley #1038

Leanne Murphy #1039

Alexia Trail #1040

Temporary Members

Louise Deveau LeBlanc TM#147

Kelly Hanrahan Lawless TM#146

Patricia MacLeod TM#154

Krista Leck TM#155

Patricia Willis TM#156

Kendra Leigh Scallion TM#157

Paula Serratore TM#158

Resignations

Adrienne Butler #1004

Angela Companion #1003

Amanda Ettinger #1026

Amanda Hampton #922

Susan Jardine #895

Shanthi Johnson #864

Stephanie LeBlanc #976

Jennifer Sampson #960

Megan Shannahan #977

Lindsey Young #987

Forfeitures

Elizabeth Shears #706

Title for Temporary Members

It seems there is some confusion surrounding what Temporary Members are entitled to call themselves. Our current policy indicates that they should be called NSDA candidates and they are informed of this when approved for Temporary Membership. However, it appears not necessarily to be the case, once in the workplace. In reviewing the policies of the other Regulatory Bodies, and taking into consideration what is currently happening in the province, the Board has decided that the title to be used in the future will be Professional Dietitian (candidate) or P.Dt. (c). It is felt this gives a clearer indication of who they are and of their status.

CDT Audit

As all of you are aware at this point, the first audit of the CDT submissions has been completed. Most NSDA members are doing a great job with their CDTs but there are issues with some. The initial audit was to get us started and identify common problems. The next audit will not only be used to identify problems but will also precipitate responses to individuals who need help with completing the tool properly. To fulfill our mandate as a self-regulating profession, memberships will not be renewed unless a properly completed CDT is submitted along with the renewal form and the appropriate fee.

NSDA BOARD DEVELOPMENT

The current structure of the NSDA Board combines activities of Policy Making, Management and “hands on” work. With the evolution of the organization to a Regulatory Body with representation on and responsibility to participate in the Alliance of Dietetic Regulatory Bodies, and the ever increasing tasks and complexity of issues coming forward to the Board, we think that the time has come for the Board to relinquish the “hands on” work which has been carried out by Board members. Many Board members, both past and current, have committed extensive personal and employer resources to the Association. The work load of the Registration Coordinator has also increased.

To help the organization grow through professional management and in Professional stature among its peers, we are recommending that the NSDA Board move to a Governing Board model with an employee assigned to implementing Board decisions and carrying out the day-to-day activities of the organization, in addition to the tasks assigned to the Registration Coordinator’s position.

The cost of moving to this model is partially included in the current budget through the position of the Registration Coordinator and some committee expenses. Expanding the position of the Registration Coordinator to encompass additional responsibilities and duties will, however, increase the cost to NSDA Members. The organization is in a strong enough financial position, however, to pay this expense from current members’ fees and investments for at least the next year.

Our current contract with the Registration Coordinator ends May 31st, 2007. We are proposing that an employee assigned with expanded terms be in place at that time to continue the activities of the Association.

Please support this initiative of the Board to help your Association meet its current and ongoing commitments. Your suggestions are welcome. info@nsdassoc.ca

Howard Selig. President NSDA

Important Bylaws Update

The Board and Legislation Committee is asking the membership to review the enclosed changes to the 2005 Bylaws. The membership will have the opportunity to approve the proposed changes at the Annual General Meeting. If the bylaws are approved, the Board has 30 days to submit the bylaws for approval to the Department of Health.

Current By-Law

- (c) A Temporary Member is a sub-class of Associate Members.
 - (1) Any person who has satisfied all of the requirements for Associate membership except the completion of a qualifying examination shall be admitted as a Temporary Member of the Association upon payment of the prescribed fee and upon acceptance of her written application, pending successful completion of the qualifying examination.
 - (2) A Temporary Membership who fails to pass a qualifying examination shall automatically cease to be an Associate or Temporary Member of the Association.

Proposed Change

- (c) A Temporary Member is a sub-class of Associate Members.
 - (1) Any person who has satisfied all of the requirements of a Licensed Member with the exception of having successfully challenged a qualifying examination prescribed by the Association shall be admitted as a Temporary Member of the Association upon acceptance of a written application, payment of the prescribed fee, and indication that they will sit the next available exam, with the restrictions placed on Associate Members in Section 2. Subsection (b)(1).
 - (2) A Temporary Membership is valid until one of the following conditions ensues:
 - a. the Temporary Member becomes a licensed member or
 - b. the Temporary Member fails the exam.
 - (3) A candidate who has failed the exam may request an extension of their Temporary Membership. They must be able to support their request for an extension to the Registration Committee. The Registration Committee may grant one extension to a Temporary Member for a period of up to one year from the date the Temporary Membership originally took effect.
 - (4) A **candidate** shall have three opportunities **in four years** to challenge the qualifying exam. **If the first** two attempts **result in failures**, proof of upgrading will be required to become eligible to challenge the exam for the third and final time.

Current By-Law:

4. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- (a) Licensed Membership must be renewed annually on or before March 31. A Member's License shall be renewed upon completion of the Continuing Competency Program, Continuing Development Tool, or such instrument satisfactory to the Board, and upon payment of the prescribed annual fee.
- (b) A Licensed Member who fails to renew his or her license by March 31 of each year shall be subject to the following process:
 - (i) On April 1 the Licensed Member shall be notified that his or her registration has not been renewed. At this time registration may be renewed only upon payment of a late registration penalty as established by the Board and approved from time to time.
 - (ii) If a Licensed Member's registration has not been renewed by April 14, his or her employer will be notified of the failure to register.
 - (iii) If a Licensed Member's registration has not been renewed after 45 days from April 1 of the current year, the Member's license will be revoked, the Member's name will be struck from the register and both she and her employer will be notified.

Proposed Change:

4. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- (a) Licensed Membership must be renewed annually on or before March 31. A Member's License shall be renewed upon completion of the Continuing Development Self-Directed Learning Tool (CDT) or such instrument satisfactory to the Board, and upon payment of the prescribed annual fee.
- (b) A Licensed Member who fails to renew his or her license by March 31 of each year shall be subject to the following process:
 - (iv) On April 15 the Licensed Member shall be notified that his or her registration has not been renewed. At this time registration may be renewed only upon payment of a late registration penalty as established by the Board and approved from time to time.
 - (v) If a Licensed Member's registration has not been renewed by April 30, his/her employer will be notified of the failure to register.
 - (vi) If a Licensed Member's registration has not been renewed after 45 days from April 1 of the current year, the Member's license will be revoked, the Member's name will be struck from the register and both the member and employer will be notified.

Current By-Law:

12. CODE OF ETHICS

The Association has adopted a Code of Ethics for Professional Dietitians in Canada. A copy of the Code is available from the Registrar. Members who violate the Code of Ethics will be subject to disciplinary action as provided in the Act.

Proposed Change:

12. CODE OF ETHICS

The Association has developed and adopted the Nova Scotia Dietetic Association Code of Ethics for Professional Dietitians. A copy of the Code is available from the NSDA office and on the website. Members who violate the Code of Ethics will be subject to disciplinary action as provided in the Act.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

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