



The Canadian Board of Examiners for Biomedical Engineering and Dialysis Technologists and Technicians



Le Jury Canadien D'Accréditation en Génie Biomédical et Dialyse Pour Les Technologues et Les Techniciens

January 25th, 2010.

Dear Colleague,

Let me first take this opportunity to welcome the new Certified Dialysis Technicians and Technologists (cdt) and Certified Dialysis Perfusionists (CDP) who have joined our ranks during the past year. As you are already aware the National Certification Team for Dialysis Technology Certification were exploring the possibility of becoming certified under the ICC late in 2008. In 2009, after much discussion and negotiation, we welcomed the Dialysis group into our fold, providing them with both national and international recognition through the ICC. The cdt examination process follows a similar course as that for BMET's, but with a separate, field specific, examination content. This, of course, meant a change in name for the Board to that which you see on the letterhead above. The Board structure has also changed to a Co-Chair model, with Murray Greenwood CBET(C) as the Co-Chair Biomed and Mukesh Gajaria CDP as Co-Chair Dialysis. In future years the Co-Chair Dialysis will co-author this annual letter to the membership. A number of other Dialysis folks also sit on the Board. Currently there are 16 cdt/CDP members that have been offered recognition through this new Board of Examiners. All those existing Certified Dialysis Technicians and Technologists, that were recognized by OACETT at the time that the transition took place, will receive their "cdt" lapel pin with their certification renewal this year.

I must also welcome those BMET's who became certified in 2009. There were six successful candidates who received their "CBET" lapel pin and, if not already, will soon receive their certificates. Well done! There are several more approved to write who are waiting for the right time for them to take the plunge and write the examination. This brings our total to 80 active members, 4 retired paid up members, 8 approved to write and 5 awaiting re-writes. We have only one member in arrears. Over the life of the programme there have been 14 members resigned or terminated. Please make every effort to promote our programme and encourage others in your workplace, that are not already certified, to join the increasing ranks and challenge themselves to become certified.

Some adjustments were also made with the BMET technician and technologist level certification examinations. After much discussion the Board decided to rationalize the technician and technologist level examinations into a single entity. Examinations have been restructured to reflect this decision, with the essay section being the only differentiating element.

In conjunction with the Dialysis group joining us, a promotional pamphlet has been designed and printed to outline the benefits of having certified biomedical and dialysis personnel working in the health care setting. It is intended to distribute these wherever interested parties may be gathering at conferences and seminars etc.. A copy may be viewed on-line and downloaded if desired - <http://bmetcertcanada.ncf.ca/>. Printed versions may be requested from the Secretariat at no charge for those organizing clinical/biomedical engineering and Dialysis technology events.

In an effort to try to stimulate more interest from the general membership to play a role on the Canadian Board of Examiners, the Board passed a motion that would limit to two, or three years, the time that an individual can sit as a Co-Chair on the Board. In addition, it is proposed that Vice-Chairs will be elected to take over if the Co-Chair is not available. It is hoped that this will encourage others to take on a leadership role and encourage more movement from the general membership to the Board. The general membership will be asked to nominate interested members to the Board in 2010.

The Board's financial position has been maintained on a sound footing and the 2010 budget submission from the Treasurer was unanimously approved. The 2010 budget reflects a small deficit, primarily due to the increase in Secretariat hours approved in the budget figures. The cost of running the Secretariat has been held unrealistically low over the past five years. It was the decision of the Board that paid hours should increase to reflect a more realistic time involved in maintaining the Secretariat operation. This has resulted in an increase in the annual renewal fee for 2010, the first in five years. Certification renewal dues increase to \$60, effective January 1st, 2010. In addition, the cost of full certification examinations for both BMET and cdt candidates increases to \$195, with BMET supplementary examinations and cdt re-writes being set at \$90 per examination. Study Guides are now free of charge and can be downloaded from the Canadian Board Web page.

As always, we look forward to your continued support, by sharing the values of being a certified professional, encouraging new candidates and being there as mentors.

Best regards.

Murray Greenwood, CET, CBET(C)

Co-Chair Biomed