CAOT: Your career partners for life

Annual Report
2013-2014

Mission
Advance excellence in occupational therapy

Vision
All people in Canada will value and have access to occupational therapy

Values
Integrity
Accountability
Respect
Equity
The Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT) is proud to be the national voluntary professional association for occupational therapists in Canada. CAOT has made great strides to advance excellence in occupational therapy. CAOT has dedicated staff, members and volunteers who make a difference and continue to show their commitment to the profession of occupational therapy.

CAOT is privileged to support 9,118 members and affiliates as they enable the occupations of people in Canada. Partnering with members and stakeholders, it has been able to deliver on products and services to support Association growth, foster leadership, promote innovation, as well as enhance advocacy and representation efforts.

Meeting compliance with the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (CNCA) offered opportunity for growth and change for associations across Canada. The CNCA provides federal not-for-profit corporations with a new set of rules that are modern, flexible and better suited to the needs of today’s not-for-profit sector. CAOT completed its multi-year review process to ensure compliance with CNCA. This review catalyzed initiatives to lead the Association towards strong sustainable management changes to the by-laws to better serve its members and staff. We believe these changes offer a tremendous opportunity to contribute to the continued growth of the Association.

The environment in which CAOT operates has become more complex in terms of the issues it addresses on behalf of its members and in terms of the financial environment. As a critical component of CAOT’s future success, we have successfully established a number of relationships, services and revenues streams to support the Association’s ability to serve the membership. CAOT introduced the Corporate Associate. This category allows organizations, companies and service providers that share our professional interests, values and goals to establish an affiliation with CAOT and show their support for occupational therapy in Canada.

CAOT also introduced an e-book rental service that allows members to rent the book for a 120-day period. Along with the e-book offerings, this service has extended the reach of Canadian occupational therapy research and resources worldwide.

CAOT purchased and is currently renovating a building in Ottawa to house the national headquarters. Purchasing this building allows CAOT to develop equity in real estate, collect rent from tenants and lower the costs of housing and operations at the national office. All staff members are looking forward to the move in late summer 2015. Change is always a great way to foster innovation and new ideas.

The Canada’s anti-spam legislation (CASL) has also encouraged CAOT to reflect on its communication and outreach practices. CAOT is in compliance with this legislation and has made some significant changes in communicating with members, students and partners.

CAOT Board of Directors and staff are committed to work towards a common vision to advance occupational therapy in Canada. A vision that enables CAOT to provide leadership to actively develop and promote the client-centred profession at large; to ensure that occupational therapy services are valued and respected; and that Canadians will have access to occupational therapy to meet their occupational needs. We at CAOT are proud to be occupational therapists’ career partners for life.

Thank you,

Paulette Guitard
CAOT President

Janet Craik
CAOT Executive Director

The Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT)
Growth

- Membership has seen growth in most provinces and territories.
- Over 25 businesses and organizations have joined as corporate associates.
- Our social media platform has seen tremendous growth with new users and followers connecting to CAOT daily, learning and sharing resources and information. CAOT introduced three new platforms (Instagram, Google+, and YouTube) to better connect with occupational therapists in Canada and around the world;
- CAOT partnered with other international occupational therapy associations for two advocacy campaigns to promote and raise awareness of occupational therapy and occupational therapy services. Millions of people throughout the world saw our message during this campaign. Our last campaign #otlifehacks in July 2014 saw over 4.2 million impressions worldwide.
- CAOT enhanced the professional liability insurance program by transitioning to BMS Group. BMS Group increased access to practice risk support resources and specialized legal protection. CAOT and BMS Group published the first ever edition of Risk Proof: The Risk Management Magazine for the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists which provides information on managing risk in your practice. Look for the next edition in spring 2015.
- CAOT hosted over 35 innovative webinars in 2013-14 and provided eight workshops from coast to coast in 8 cities.
Leadership

- CAOT and the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) launched CarFit Canada at the 2014 CAOT Conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick. CAOT held a training session and public event and attracted local media. Since then, CAOT and CAA have held two other training events across the country training 65 people, including CarFit Technicians and CarFit Event Coordinators. These trained CarFit Event Coordinators have in turn held eight events and trained an additional 110 people.

- CAOT remains committed to accrediting Canadian occupational therapy university education programs, as well as partnering with Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada to accredit college programs for occupational therapist assistants and physiotherapist assistants.

- Our trainers in “Strategies for interprofessional health care providers to address elder abuse/mistreatment” have trained over 1,677 interprofessional health care providers across Canada to prevent, recognize and manage situations of elder abuse.

- The fifth edition of *Canadian Occupational Performance Measure* (COPM) was published. This latest edition has a new look and format and was launched at CAOT Conference 2014 with a golden tickets promotion for five free copies of the new edition.

- The 2014 Conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick, was a great success with 417 delegates, with well attended pre- and post-conference workshops. Occupational therapists from around the country converged, connected and exchanged state-of-the-art practices. Our conference, in its long-standing tradition, offered strong educational content and excellent networking opportunities, bringing together leaders in occupational therapy to discuss practical solutions and relevant research.

- Professional issues forums provided a time to reflect on the emerging role of occupational therapists in suicide prevention and on interprofessional education and collaboration. Reports have been published on our website.

- CAOT Research Fellow, Dr. Christine Guptill worked on numerous projects ranging from the role of occupational therapy in halfway houses, with aboriginal communities and within the criminal justice system. CAOT welcomed our new CAOT Intern Chelsea Gordon for the 2014-2015 year.
Innovation

• Our partnership with SAGE for the publication of the *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* continues to offer innovations and supports to our members, such as email alerts, digital first publishing and the promotion of articles on social media.

• *OT Now* released an open access edition on Universal Design that has been widely distributed to stakeholders, partners as well as members of the public interested in the principles of Universal Design.

• The versatility of CAOT’s e-book provider has allowed us to better suit the needs of our members with e-book rentals and access to electronic examination copies of CAOT publications, which will be provided without cost to instructors who are teaching courses relevant to the content matter.

• Momentum, the online mentorship module, was offered for a second time in winter 2014. Momentum consists of four webinars that explore the concepts of mentorship, coaching, networking and partnering. The module offered an opportunity for a mentee to be matched with a mentor based on similar values, interests and professional paths.

• The Occupational Therapy Exam Module (OTEM) assisted candidates to prepare for the National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination (NOTCE) through online group discussion of practice questions facilitated by an experienced occupational therapist.
Advocacy & Representation

• During Occupational Therapy Month 2013, CAOT started a 15-month advocacy and promotional campaign to increase the visibility of occupational therapy in Canada. CAOT developed monthly resources to help occupational therapists engage in a meaningful dialogue with clients, stakeholders, decision makers and other health care providers.

• The CAOT Board of Directors and senior staff used the Occupational Therapy Month resources to meet Members of Parliament from across the country to discuss and advocate for the role of occupational therapy in federal jurisdictions.

• CAOT advanced the role of occupational therapy in Canada’s health system by actively engaging in major national health coalitions, including the Health Action Lobby (HEAL), Research Canada, the Canadian Coalition for Public Health in the 21st Century (CCPH21), and the Group of Seven Health Professions (G7).

• CAOT established connections with funding partners (EDSC Human Resources Skill Development Canada, New Horizon), sponsors (Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation), and national think tanks (Conference Board of Canada) to provide opportunities to enhance the visibility of occupational therapy.

• CAOT was represented at the WFOT Conference in Yokohama, Japan. CAOT presented on projects such as CarFit, Elder Abuse and outsourcing of CJOT. CAOT-BC and CAOT hosted a booth that promoted CAOT products with our international partners.

• CAOT and CAOT-BC offered field placements for occupational therapy students.

Board of Directors 2013-2014

President
Paulette Guitard

President-elect
Lori Cyr

Secretary Treasurer
Jean-Pascal Beaudoin

British Columbia
Les Smith

Alberta
Judy Lee

Saskatchewan
Cheryl Johnston

Manitoba
Natalie MacLeod Schroeder

Ontario
Phillip Wendt

Quebec
Martine Brousseau

New Brunswick
Nicola MacNaughton

Nova Scotia
Carolyn Kelly

Prince Edward Island
Marilee Miller

Newfoundland and Labrador
Melissa Greene

Northwest Territories/Nunavut/Yukon
Alison Sisson

External Member
Elliot PausJenssen

World Federation of Occupational Therapists Delegate
Sandra Bressler
CAOT-BC

In the past year, CAOT-BC has continued to grow both in size and in activity. In November 2013, the Advisory Committee met in-person for a strategic planning review which renewed its commitment to strategic priorities focusing on representing the interests of occupational therapists, promotion of the profession, member engagement and advancement of CAOT-BC infrastructure. Some of province-specific activity highlights over the past year have included:

- Special interest group activity in 8 practice areas, with each group meeting 2-8 times in the past year
- Submission of a paper to the Government of BC as part of the Disability White Paper process
- Initial meetings with the First Nations Health Authority, Pain BC and SafeCare BC
- CAOT-BC representation at multiple events (consumer, interprofessional, interprofessional) to promote occupational therapy
- Representation on committees, task groups and other meetings including: Health Sciences Association of BC, Driver Fitness Advisory Group (BC), BC Workforce Collaborative, Pediatric Occupational Therapy Council, Professional Alliance of Canada, Occupational Therapy and Aboriginal Health Network
- Presentation of in-person CAOT-BC member forums held in Prince George, Victoria, Kelowna, Vancouver and Surrey

CAOT-BC continues work to fulfill its strategic priorities of representing the interests of occupational therapists, promoting the profession, increasing member engagement and advancing CAOT-BC’s infrastructure.

NOTCE

The National Occupational Therapy Certification Exam (NOTCE) protects public interest by assessing the written application of academic knowledge and professional behaviour of individuals entering the occupational therapy profession in Canada. The NOTCE is administered twice a year, in July and November.

NOTCE 2013 Writers

- Total Writers: 787
  - Pass: 667
  - Fail: 120
- English Writers: 757
- French Writers: 30
- Special Accommodations: 21
After almost twenty years of loyal and dedicated service, Claudia von Zweck decided to retire from CAOT to pursue other opportunities. During her tenure at CAOT, the organization has grown tremendously in terms of its professionalism, size, national reach and program offerings. Claudia has earned national and international respect for CAOT and the profession of occupational therapy. CAOT is grateful to Claudia for her years of service and wishes her well in all future endeavors.
Finance

CAOT ensures that all activities and resources of the Association are used effectively to address strategic initiatives and member services and supports. The unaudited financial statement for the 2013-2014 fiscal year resulted in a favourable year-end result; CAOT posted a surplus. This allowed CAOT to reinvest into new initiatives and specific projects, which included new member resources and an increased advocacy presence to promote occupational therapy and its role in Canada’s changing health care environment.

### 2013-2014 Statement of Operations

#### Revenue

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual Total Revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
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<td>2012-2013 Actual</td>
<td>$4,219,099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$2,872,527</td>
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#### Expenses

<table>
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<td>Special Project Spending</td>
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<td>2012-2013 Special Projects</td>
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<td>Net Revenue 2013-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
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This information is intended as a brief summary statement of CAOT finances. CAOT’s audited financial statements are available online at www.caot.ca. Members may also request a copy by contacting the national office at 1-800-434-2268 ext. 227 or by emailing finance@caot.ca. The reports will be presented at CAOT’s Annual General Meeting on March 31, 2015, 12:00pm to 1:00pm Eastern Standard Time. For more information, please visit www.caot.ca/agm.