

# NLCD Annual Report 2013-14

## **Chairperson's Message**

In Newfoundland and Labrador, Registered Dietitians are regulated by The Newfoundland and Labrador College of Dietitians (NLCD). The College is incorporated under the *Dietitians Act* (2005) by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. NLCD is dedicated to the public receiving ethical, competent care from highly qualified food and nutrition professionals. NLCD regulates the practice of 178 registrants who are entitled to call themselves, Registered Dietitians and to use the professional designation 'R.D.'.

- The 2013-14 Board members are:
  - Marjorie Scott – Chair
  - Vacant- vice-chair
  - Valerie Barter – representative Eastern District and treasurer
  - Olivia Roebottom – representative Central District and secretary
  - Danielle Shea – representative Western/Labrador-Grenfell District
  - Andrea Stokes-representative Eastern District
  - Heidi Murphy-representative Eastern District
  - Dr. H Khalili- appointed public member
  - Vacant- appointed public member
  - Cynthia Whalen – Registrar & Executive Coordinator

## **Accomplishments: 2013-14**

The following is a summary of activities during the 2013-14 year:

- NLCD released a position statement in March 2014 titled “*Dietitians and Diabetes Self-Management Education: Insulin Dose Adjustment*”. This position statement directs practice in that it indicates that it is within the Registered Dietitians (RDs) scope of practice to insulin dose adjust (IDA). However, it is the responsibility of the Regional Health Authority (RHA) to establish the legal framework, overall competence requirements and expectations for the RD's when performing this specific activity. Dietitians must practice in compliance with the NLCD standards and code, polices within in their RHA and current based clinical practice guidelines and within their limits of competence. This document can be viewed in its entirety on the NLCD website under resources. The link to website is [www.nlcd.ca](http://www.nlcd.ca)
- NLCD released a “Telepractice Policy” in April 2014. The development of this policy was a joint effort by the Alliance of Canadian Regulatory bodies which NLCD is a member. The policy was developed due to the increased awareness that dietitians are using technology (e.g. skype, online counseling services etc.) more in their day to day practice. This new technology enables dietitians to practice outside

their traditional boundaries. This policy provides guidelines for dietitians who use electronic practice. This document can be viewed in its entirety on the NLCD website under resources. The link to website is [www.nlcd.ca](http://www.nlcd.ca)

- Ongoing partnership with Dietitians of Canada and stakeholders to advocate for the reinstatement of Memorial University's Dietetics Program (three years at MUN and one year at Acadia). NLCD is still participating on the *Dietitian Education and Training Steering Committee* that was formed and work is ongoing in this area. A small working group has been established to determine the financial costs associated with reinstating the program at MUN.
- Attended meetings of the Health Professional Regulatory Network on a whose purpose is to allow registrars of Newfoundland and Labrador professional colleges and associations to meet regularly to discuss issues of mutual concern. Attended education session in February 2014 with this group called "*Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): Navigating the Continuum*".

### **Issues and Challenges**

- Memorial University has MOU with Acadia University until 2015 that currently provides a Dietetics Undergraduate program including two years at MUN and two years at Acadia University (students will graduate from Acadia). The Board is concerned how this will affect the recruitment and retention of Registered Dietitians in this province. Currently, there are two sub-working groups gathering information to assist with the economic analysis.
- Recruiting of new board members and volunteers for sub-committees continues to be challenging.
- NLCD's second Public Appointed Director is still not in place.

### **Highlights**

- NLCD released Position Statement titled "*Dietitians and Diabetes Self-Management Education: Insulin Dose Adjustment*" in March 2014.
- NLCD released a "Telepractice Policy" April 2014.
- All registrants kept up to date with information from the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC). NLCD has developed polices for those RD who work in private practice.

- NLCD working with Department of Health on developing Dietetic Regulations. It is expected that the Dietetic Regulations should come into effect in 2015.
- In the process of seeking nominations for a new Vice Chair.

### **Next Steps**

- Welcome a second Appointed Director who represents the public and Vice Chair to the Board of NLCD;
- Continue to work on Regulations and prepare Registrants for the changes with the newly developed regulations.
- Continue to communicate growth and development of the College to its registrants;
- As a member of the Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies, this group plans to develop a Standards of Practice document that will be universal to each province for dietetic practice based on the new Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice (ICDEP).
- As a member of the Alliance a small working group has been established to develop resources with regards to Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR). This tool will assist regulatory bodies in the assessment of Internationally Educated Dietitians (IED's) to determine if they are practice ready.
- The Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP) has developed new Accreditation Standards for all dietetic education and internship institutions based on ICDEP into all parts of the dietetic curriculum. A pilot of these new accreditation standards is to take place in Fall 2014.

## REGISTRATION REPORT

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Total Active Registrants ..... 178

Of this number, there were:

New Registrants ..... 9

Resignations/non-renewing ... 8

Temporary ..... 1

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In the Newfoundland and Labrador College of Dietitians, there were 178 Active Registrants and 1 Temporary Registrant as of March 31, 2014.

By area of primary practice:

undeclared	18
administration	19
admin/clinical combined	4
business/industry	3
clinical	86
community health	22
consultant	12
education	3
other	10
research	0
<b>total</b>	<b>178</b>

By area of secondary practice:

administration	0
admin/clinical combined	0
business/industry	0
clinical	5
community health	0
consultant	2
education	0
other	0
research	0
<b>total</b>	<b>7</b>

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Whalen, M.S.c, R.D.  
Registrar & Executive Coordinator  
Newfoundland and Labrador College of Dietitians

### **Continuing Competence Information**

Currently NLCD has a voluntary continuing competence program. 115 registrants submitted points in the 2013-14 fiscal year. Note that points were for the 2012 calendar year.

### **Disciplinary Complaints**

NLCD received no complaints in 2013-14.

Submitted by,



Marjorie Scott, R.D.  
NLCD-Chair