SUMMER WRAP UP

There’s no doubt Fall has officially arrived. Teams are on the practice field, ice time is hard to book and the OATA is welcoming new members as students sign up and others prepare for certification. The OATA has arranged for deep discounts on professional liability car and home insurance. We strongly recommend you consider the OATA’s professional liability insurance. We made sure it would meet the College of Kinesiologists’ insurance requirements. We remain hopeful ATs will be regulated with Kinesiologists in 2013. See the regulation update in this issue of SPRINT. The countdown to regulation renewal begins. Renewal is available online starting November 1. Let’s kick off a great final quarter to 2012.

View from the Podium

With the 2012 Olympics in the rear view, the OATA would like to congratulate its members who made the trip to London to look after Canada’s athletes. Surinder Budwal, Andrea Prieur, Sam Gibbs and Alicia Crelinsten made the OATA proud. Our Olympians pulled in an impressive 18 medals. Despite only one gold we were truly inspired by all of our athletes who gave their all representing Canada. As expected, every athlete embodied the Canadian spirit, giving their all in each event. We know that as Athletic Therapists, our work can be the difference between fourth place and a trip to the podium! Our social media team will now turn its attention to the promotion of upcoming AT courses in Toronto run by MSK+.

Prepped

MSK+ is a leading provider of extraordinary presentations for health care professionals dealing with musculoskeletal problems. Their courses are beneficial to anyone in Athletic Therapy, Kinesiology, Massage Therapy or Strength and Conditioning Coaches and Trainers. Courses are great even for students. For information on courses offered in Toronto by MSK+ visit the OATA website or www.msk-plus.ca/.

While on the subject of education, the OATA will be hosting its very own CATA certification prep program at Humber College. This two-day course will run from Saturday, November 3rd to November 4th and is aimed specifically at students getting ready to take their certification exams. The OATA will be offering a number of packages that include clinical and on-field practice, review and discussion as well as mock exam sessions.
Students will be able to register for each option or the entire bundle to ensure they receive a thorough review of all areas of AT practice before heading into their certification exams. Look for pricing and registration details on the OATA website under the Event Calendar.

ATHLETIC PROMOTION
The OATA has two new brochures to increase awareness of the Association and Athletic Therapists. The first brochure explains the OATA mandate and what Athletic Therapists do for a living. It details the steps we take to treat athletic injuries (e.g. injury assessment and the utilization of techniques facilitating a safe return to participation) and advises individuals about the certification and education process all Athletic Therapists must complete should they be interested in such a career. This brochure can be used as an effective marketing tool to develop new partnerships, attract new members, and generate public education/awareness about Athletic Therapists. The second brochure is specifically focused on the role of the Athletic Therapist in the treatment of MTBI/concussions. The brochure covers everything on the subject of brain injuries, from recognizing a concussion, how to be aware of the symptoms and the necessary treatment protocols.

The concussion brochure was recently distributed at the Keep Your Edge: Hockey Sports Medicine 2012 conference in Toronto. The concussion brochure was a tremendous success and created a great deal of discussion at the conference.

Thanks to Erin MacLean from the CATA for volunteering her time to hand out the brochures on behalf of the OATA. The OATA plans to use the brochures at future events and is making them available to the accredited institutions. The Association also hopes members will order them for their clinics. Every OATA member is urged to contact the OATA should they wish to purchase either brochure in bulk at cost.

Karen Holland
Karen Holland is the new OATA representative on the CATA Board effective immediately. With her superior understanding of corporate governance Karen can provide us with a special insight into the CATA’s workings as she previously served on the CATA Board. Karen is currently the Vice-President of The Whole Nation Inc., works as an Athletic Therapist at the Sport Medicine Centre in Kanata and is a part-time professor at the University of Ottawa where she received her Bachelor degree in Human Kinetics. Karen has received many University awards of excellence as both a student and professor. We are pleased to welcome someone as skilled and knowledgeable as Karen to the leadership team. Karen is committed to advancing the OATA position on important issues at the national level.
Data Collection
The push for evidence-based practice continues as the OATA data collection project moves forward. If you missed the chance to sign up or are still on the fence about participating, it isn’t too late to join the study. After hosting three successful webinars, all the necessary forms have been designed and can be found on the OATA website under the Scope of Practice and Programs of Care tab. Several participants have already begun to submit completed documents. You can view the short three-part webinar series on the OATA website to get a quick understanding of what our goals for the project are and how we plan to achieve them. If you would like to participate in the project please contact Sarah Rabinovitch, Director, Third Party Insurance Committee, at applecreek.sarah@gmail.com.

New Professional Liability Insurance Programme Highlights
✓ Lower Premiums for all members (5% - 10% savings from last year’s premiums)
✓ New or Enhanced Coverage for Out of Country Services, Legal Expenses for Coroner’s Inquests, Sexual Abuse Counselling and Voluntary Suspension of Business Operations
✓ Instant Policy Issuance on Line Free Claims Assistance from Hub International’s Claims Assistance Department

New Group Home/Condominium/Tenants and Auto Insurance Programme
✓ 25% discount off Waterloo’s regular rates on auto insurance
✓ 20% discount off Waterloo’s regular rates for homeowners insurance
✓ Dedicated Insurance Broker - Al Dicarlo & his team; not a call centre
✓ Free Claims Assistance from Hub International’s Claims Assistance Department

Renewal Period
The OATA is now gearing up for our fall schedule and preparing for the registration renewal process. Renewal period will be from November 1st, 2012 to December 31st 2012. Members who do not renew on time will be charged a $25.00 late fee each month until payment is received. The OATA Secretary and head of the Members & Nominations Committee will notify the CATA of your membership standing.

Hub international Ontario is now providing the OATA an option for members’ insurance coverage. The Board has finalized terms on a new insurance program just for Ontario Members with Trisura Insurance through Hub International. The complete details and application procedures will be made available soon, but here are the brief highlights of the program:
SUMMER WRAP UP

Membership

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Update on Regulation

There isn’t a lot that we can report on in terms of tangible progress on the regulation file. CATA did respond to the OATA Board’s request to declare its position on the regulation of ATs in Ontario. CATA’s letter is available on the OATA website under the Regulation Project tab. In addition, the Transitional Council for the College of Kinesiologists of Ontario (TCCKO) has been studying the documents that we provided pertaining to CATA’s examination, certification and accreditation processes. We also understand that the TCCKO is waiting for the results of a consultant’s study to define the core competencies of a Kinesiology degree that necessary to define “equivalencies”.

Nonetheless, ongoing discussions with representatives of the TCCKO suggest both a willingness and desire to reach an understanding with the OATA pursuant to which ATs would be regulated by the College of Kinesiologists of Ontario as a specialization in the first instance and ultimately as a class of members.

The OATA Board understands that several of the transitional councils for the other “new” professions have told the government that they will not be ready to launch regulation on April 1, 2013 as scheduled. It is also our understanding, however, that the TCCKO has indicated to the government that it will be ready to launch the College of Kinesiologists by April 1, 2013.

It is important that OATA members understand that the OATA Board will negotiate the best arrangement it can for ATs with the TCCKO. If the OATA reaches an agreement with the TCCKO, that agreement will be presented to the OATA membership at a special meeting of the members or at the OATA AGM. It will be up to the membership to determine whether to endorse the agreement and it will ultimately be up to individual OATA members to determine whether they wish to register with the College of Kinesiologists. In the meantime, we continue to update and refine information on the regulation project provided on the OATA website.

The TCCKO’s proposed Registration, Professional Misconduct and Quality Assurance regulations have not yet been approved by Cabinet. This means that “advanced registration” cannot begin yet. The TCCKO is also understandably reticent to go too far in discussing the creation of a specialization for ATs until the authority to recognize specializations in the Professional Misconduct regulation has been approved by Cabinet.