



# NEWS LETTER

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## Practice



A national or provincial association has developed a new evidence based guideline that has been sent out to all members. This new guideline does not align with current practice at your worksite. **What action should the MIRTP take?**

- Discuss how you might update facility practice with your manager
- Ignore the guideline as it did not come from the regulator
- Implement the new guideline into practice immediately
- Wait until you received a directive from your manager before implementing any changes

## CONTACT US

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## Policy and Position Statements

For initial release of new policies and position statements that impact registrants they will be shared via the [news](#) tab on the website. NSCMIRTP is currently determining best option for longer term access. The Board has recently approved the [position statement](#) related to the production of PET radiopharmaceuticals as it relates to nuclear medicine practice and expects to release one shortly on breast ultrasound as it relates to radiological technology practice. If you have any questions please email [info@nscmirt.ca](mailto:info@nscmirt.ca)

## Annual Report, AGM & Spring Education

We are pleased to share our [2020 Annual Report](#) that highlights some of the ways we delivered on our mandate of protecting the public last year. The Annual Report is a demonstration of how we prioritized our efforts in 2020 to deliver transparent, effective and accountable regulation as Nova Scotia's MIRT regulator.



We recognize our achievements would not be possible without the contributions of others, including the over 700 MIRTs across this province. We thank the public, MIRTs and all stakeholders across Nova Scotia for their commitment and support.

[Register and join us](#) on **June 5th** for NSCMIRTP's 1st Annual General Meeting to learn more.

Prior to the AGM there will be a plenary talk from 930-1030am

### ***“The impact of change fatigue on health care workers and their patients”***

given by **Dr. McMillan** who is as Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, University of Ottawa and an academic mentor in the Palliative Care and Nursing Ethics Hub (PCNE)

For those not available to attend the live stream the recording will be available for viewing on our [YouTube Channel](#) approximately a week after the live event.

CPD credits can be claimed for both the plenary session and the AGM. In order to claim verified CPD credits for the please contact [joannejones@nscmirt.ca](mailto:joannejones@nscmirt.ca) who will confirm your attendance on the webinar electronic register and provide a certificate which you can upload to the CPD platform.

Registrants that were unable to attend the live stream can watch the on demand webinar once it is uploaded and claim unverifiable CPD credits.

## COVID-19 updates

During the current COVID-19 pandemic NSCMIRTP staff continue to work a blended model of approximately 1/2 time in office and 1/2 time remotely. All public health guidelines are being followed. We ask that anyone who requires in person assistance to please book an appointment. Where possible these will be conducted virtually. NSCMIRTP is also working to provide regular [COVID-19 updates](#) so please check out our website to keep yourself informed on guidelines for who can access care, immunization programs, research and other resources for healthcare providers.



## Changes to Dues Refund and Proration of Dues

NSCMIRTP are making changes to the current dues refund policy, and proration of dues. Both of these will become effective Jan 1st 2022. At that time refunds of dues will no longer be offered after Jan 1st of each year.



**Dues Refund** –This means individuals who renew in the fall but resign prior to Jan 1st can still receive a full refund but those resigning after Jan 1st of each year will no longer be eligible for partial refund of dues.

**Proration of Dues**- Additionally effective Jan 1st 2022 dues will only be prorated May 1st of each year. This means those seeking licenses between Jan 1st and April 30th each year will pay the full annual dues which is \$450. Those seeking licensing between May 1st and Dec 31st will pay \$225. The proration will align with the principle graduation of students from Dalhousie University. Given the discounted fees incorporated into the prorated dues the Nova Scotia New Grad discount will be discounted.

These changes are being made to help streamline administrative processes and costs and better align with standard regulatory practices.

## Currency Hours Change

The College has received several inquiries asking when the College currency hours will be applied and how they will be audited. The full [currency hours policy](#) and the [alternative assessment for currency](#) policy can be viewed through the provided links. All registrants are expected to meet currency requirements by Dec 31st of 2021. Currency hours will be self reported during renewal each year. Those registrants selected for audit of their CPD will also have their currency hours audited.

## Informal Audits

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NSCMIRTP is performing several informal audits to ensure accuracy of registrant data.

**Professional Liability Insurance (PLI)-** PLI became a new requirement for registrants with proclamation. All active MRT registrants were audited in January. Two were found not to be carrying proper PLI . They were contacted and issue was resolved. We are currently carrying out the same procedure for DMS registrants.



**Name in Registry-** This year it has come to our attention there are several individuals licensed under a name they use in practice that does not align to their official ID. The NSCMIRTP has a legislative responsibility to keep an accurate registry of registrants. This means the names in the registry must be verifiable as per 8(1)(c) of the NSCMIRTP Regulations.

All registrants who we do not hold government issued photo ID or it does not match the name on the register have been contacted by Joanne Jones Administrative Assistant requesting that photo ID be provided. Registrants can provide the ID in one of the following formats;

- uploaded directly to the secure registration platform or
- send by email to [info@nscmirtp.ca](mailto:info@nscmirtp.ca) or [joannejones@nscmirtp.ca](mailto:joannejones@nscmirtp.ca)
- send a good quality photo copy to NSCMIRTP offices
- arrange a virtual or in person meeting with the office where the ID can be shown to a member of staff.

Please note registrants that have received an email requesting photo ID must provide it in one of the above forms prior to renewal of license.

All requests for proof of identification have been sent via a legitimate NSCMIRTP email. Please do not ignore College requests. If you are unsure as to whether an email you receive from the college is legitimate, please contact us.

Registrants who initially applied after 2018 using the new online platform have already provided government issued photo ID as part of the registration process.

As the College is responsible for verification, we cannot delegate this responsibility to a third party such as the employer.

## Registration & Renewal Guide Books

The basic steps of the registration process is outlined on the College website. In an effort to assist applicants and registrants in having detailed directions and information related to registration and renewals the NSCMIRTP is in the process of developing guide books. They are expected to be available prior to renewal season and will be posted to the website.





## Shielding requirements

Some of you may have recently received a new position statement from the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) on '[Discontinuing the Use of Gonadal and Fetal Shielding for Patients](#)'. While this position statement aligns with current practice for most MRTs in Nova Scotia it has created questions and conversation amongst many radiological technologists. In line with the practice advisory question in this issue, it is important that all MIRTTPs understand the roles of associations and regulators and how to best use practice guidelines put out by these bodies.

In this case for **Nova Scotia** MRTs there have been **no changes** to the provincial legislation or the NSCMIRTTP Standards of Practice and MRTs must continue to comply with facility policies regarding the use of radiation protection devices, including shielding. Please visit our website for [further details](#).



## Strategic Planning

The College is in process of developing a new strategic plan in keeping with its new mandate of public interest. As part of this process NSCMIRTTP will be reaching out to stakeholders with a 5 min survey to help inform strategic direction and initiatives. As stakeholders all registrants will be receiving a link to the survey. We ask you to answer this survey from the perspective of a registrant. There will also be a survey sent out to other stakeholders such as School of Health Sciences, DHW, Public, NSH, and IWK. If you are a registrant that receives a 2nd survey in your role as another stakeholder we ask that you fill the 2nd survey out from the perspective of the stakeholder role that you fill.



## YouTube Channel - NSCMIRTTP Webinars



NSCMIRTTP now has its own YouTube Channel. Any webinars put out by NSCMIRTTP will be available through this link on demand. There are 6 playlists to make it easier to locate webinars of interest. Click [here](#) to view.

## CAMRT Atlantic Vote

Between **June 14th and 27th**, MRTs in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador will be voting on whether to implement a new model for provincial association services, CAMRT-ATL. This is an important vote that will impact you and your profession in Atlantic Canada.

Please use the provided links to check out the CAMRT website for more [information](#) or to view the [Poster](#).



## Lunch and Learns

Just a reminder that the education committee has \$2500 allocated in 2021 for lunch and learn sessions. If you are interested in accessing this support please reach out to the education chair Hannah O'Laughlin at [holaughlin@nscmirt.ca](mailto:holaughlin@nscmirt.ca) for more information.

## Practice



A national or provincial association has developed a new evidence based guideline that has been sent out to all members. This new guideline does not align with current practice at your worksite. **What action should the MIRTTP take?**

- Discuss how you might update facility practice with your manager - **Correct choice.**
- Ignore the guideline as it did not come from the regulator - **Incorrect.**  
As the guidelines are **based** on current best evidence it should not be ignored. Where appropriate it should be used to help inform change in worksite policy and practices, and standards of practice with the provincial regulator.
- Implement the new guideline into practice immediately - **Incorrect.**  
Even though guidelines are based in current best evidence a MIRTTP should not unilaterally change practice at their worksite. By standards of practice they are expected to comply with policies of their worksite.
- Wait until you received a directive from your manager before implementing any changes. - **Incorrect.**  
This is not the best answer. While doing this is not wrong it is not proactive to the delivery of best evidence based care. Working with your manager to update policy is a more proactive option.