

BCSRT Annual Presidents Report October 2011

The last year in the life of the BCSRT board has mostly focused on the inner workings of the society. In some respects, it has been a difficult year as the smallest working board ever attempts to manage the usual challenges of trying to retain a society secretary, keep up on communications with the membership, seek the participation of the membership and move ahead with the business of the society. It needs to be said that without an Executive Director in place, a lot of the progress that has been made in the last year, wouldn't have been as well facilitated.

At the AGM of 2010, the membership gave the mandate to the board to go ahead and implement an electronic database management system through Olatech. At the time of the AGM, the board did not have firm numbers as to the entire cost of the system. When these were finally obtained, the monthly costs of maintaining the Olatech system were significantly higher than originally estimated. In an attempt to ensure good communication and participation of the membership in the decision to move forward, the board called a special general meeting on March 23, 2011 to discuss how to proceed. Unfortunately a quorum at this meeting was not achieved. Despite this setback, the board made the decision to move forward with the purchase and implementation of the Olatech database system. At this present time, the executive director and secretary are being orientated to the system and it will soon be available to the membership for exploration. It is expected that the system will go a long ways to improving communication with the membership and perhaps more importantly, make the societies' secretary's work much more efficient and enjoyable.

2011 also saw the first full year of having an executive director in place and as indicated earlier, this made a huge difference to the workings of the society. To date the executive director has been integrally involved with the following major items:

- Organizing and compiling membership demographic information for CIHI
- Managing updates/changes to the BCSRT website
- Investigated and compiled information for presentation to the board & membership on possible database providers
- Picked up/assisted with orientation to secretarial duties
- Organized BCSRT Education Day and AGM

While the executive director position currently exists on a trial basis, it is my opinion that it should continue as a permanent paid position of the BCSRT. The minimal costs associated with the position reflect a large degree of value back to the board and membership specific to accountability; this is a very important element given that the BCSRT board is made up of small number of volunteers.

The entire topic of professional regulation was not as front and center to the society as it has been in past years. While communications with the government continue, they do so from the perspective of just keeping the lines of communication open. Many of the professional practice groups from the health regions have made significant progress in making the case for professional regulation and the BCSRT board has been of the opinion that it is important for them to continue their strategy and for the society to maintain a cooperative and supportive role.

Elizabeth Goodfellow
BCSRT President