

Good afternoon,

It is my pleasure to address you on behalf of CASLPM Council. Thank you for taking time from your busy schedules to join us. This is my third and final consecutive year as president of the College. While I am pleased to speak to you today, I look forward to listening to a speech from a new president at next year's AGM 😊

While 2021 was a year of change for the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Manitoba, 2022 was a much more stable and productive year. CASLPM was fully staffed for most of 2022 and by the end of the year, our Registrar, Colleen J. Braun, and Deputy Registrar, Suki (Kaur) Alix were settled into their roles. Throughout the year they were supported by Donna St. Vincent, administrative assistant until her retirement in September, and Marianne Crewson, office manager from September onward. Consultants Sheryl Slosower and Kristin Holt also provided supporting roles.

Council and committee members continued to work diligently in 2022. Council met eight times throughout the year with four full day meetings, three evening meetings, and one education day. Each Council member sits on one or more committees which also include volunteers from our registrant body and members of the public as appointed by the Manitoba government. Active committees in

2022 were the Continuing Competency Committee, Complaints Investigation Committee, Practice Advisory Committee, and Executive Committee. Additionally, an Advanced Competency Working Group was established to assist the Practice Advisory Committee with updating Advanced Competency #4: Swallowing and Voice Restoration Through the Use of Tracheotomy Tubes or Speaking Valves.

As you can see in the Annual Report, many people provided their time and talents to ensure that the College met its mandate of protecting and serving the public by regulating and ensuring competent, safe, ethical practice of audiologists and speech-language pathologists in Manitoba. We are grateful to everyone who offers their time, energy, and expertise to the College. Since working group members are not published in the Annual Report, I would like to acknowledge the Advanced Competency working group members of 2022: Treena Bilous, Lindsey Lorteau, Lorraine Lesiuk, Sheila Veldhuis, and Kelly Tye-Vallis.

In 2022, three Council members' terms came to an end and a call was made for new members. In the end, Colita MacTavish and I let our names stand for another term and we were acclaimed to the positions. Leslie Goerzen however had completed three consecutive terms on Council and as per the by-laws could not let her name stand again. We are very grateful to Leslie for her many contributions to CASLPM since its inception. It would be impossible to list the many ways Leslie has contributed over the years, but she could always be

counted on to provide history and sound advice. She was also an excellent resource for a host of regulatory topics. It bears noting that, despite repeated calls to fill the position for a speech-language pathologist to represent district 2, the position remains vacant. Although our preference is for an SLP who resides outside of Winnipeg city limits, any SLP registered with CASLPM may apply for this vacant seat on Council. If this position interests you, please contact the registrar for more information.

Registrants interested in reviewing actions and decisions of Council can visit the CASLPM website for Meeting Highlights throughout the year. These are posted in the Council section under the tab "About the College". At every regular Council meeting, the Registrar and President report on the operations of the College as well as correspondence with local and national regulatory bodies. The financial condition of the College is reviewed and discussed, and all committee chairs provide updates on committee work. Members of the public are welcome to observe Council meetings. A schedule of Council meetings is posted on our website. Should you wish to observe a future meeting, please contact College staff to make arrangements.

CASLPM continues to encourage university graduates to write the Canadian Entry to Practice exam for the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. The exam is not currently mandatory for new applicants to the College, but

representatives of CASLPM met with provincial government representatives in 2022 to begin the process of updating the Practice of Audiology and Practice of Speech-Language Pathology Regulation to allow for this change. Given that 2023 is an election year, CASLPM has been advised that changes to the regulation will likely not happen until 2024. Before any changes to the regulation can go into effect, there will be a consultation period where registrants and members of the public can weigh in. If this interests you, watch your emails and the CASLPM website as information will be posted when it becomes available.

In all, 2022 was a good year for CASLPM and the Council is pleased with the direction the College is taking to become more efficient and transparent in its interactions with registrants and members of the public. We hope that those of you who have interacted with CASLPM staff in the past year have felt heard and that your matters were addressed in a reasonable amount of time.

Once again, I wish to thank each of our registrants for your professionalism and dedication to your clients, and colleagues. The province of Manitoba is well-served by the audiologists and speech-language pathologists in this community.