

2017: A Year in Review

CSMLS Celebrates 80 Years

Throughout the year, CSMLS looked back on the last 80 years and recognized the society and the profession through memories, photographs and stories. An online store to purchase 80th anniversary items was also launched.



- CSMLS launched survey asking medical laboratory professionals their perspective of Electrocardiogram (ECG) task shifting trends as most provinces and territories lack delegated acts for this procedure

- Released of the 8th edition of the CSMLS Laboratory Safety Guidelines
- Medical Laboratory Professionals across the country celebrated National Medical Laboratory Week (April 16 – 22, 2017)

Employer Forum on Clinical Placements and Simulation

On Saturday April 29, CSMLS, together with the Michener Institute of Education at UHN, hosted an Employer Forum where employers discussed what they perceive the future of clinical placements may hold and how simulation could target student training gaps and increase capacity as laboratories and the profession change.



CSMLS Released/Updated the Following position statements:

- Medical Laboratory Professionals: Integral to Patient Safety
- Maintenance of Competence
- Medical Laboratory Responsibility to the Environment
- Diversity
- Respiratory Protection for Medical Laboratory Personnel
- Support for Regulation: Medical Laboratory Assistants (MLAs)
- Support for Regulation: Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLTs)



- Dinner & Dialogue event hosted in Toronto, ON sponsored by BD Canada

CSMLS Partners with Becton Dickinson and Company

CSMLS announces partnership with BD Canada.

CSMLS will create a series of educational products including live events, webinars and digital content that will be accessible to CSMLS members and BD customers.



We are working collaboratively on two new awards:
BD Young Leaders Scholarship
BD Quality Assurance Project Reward.

Unveiling of the Interactive National Report Card online

This has allowed for faster, real-time easy access to information. The report specifies how many candidates from each accredited education program challenged the CSMLS certification examination and the pass rate for each program.



- Introduction of specific Medical Laboratory Assistant website which included ideal personality types, information on the CSMLS certification exam, benefits of membership and advice from those currently working in the field to support our MLA members and those entering the field. (mla.csmls.org)
- Launch of a new exam portal to ensure quick and efficient results. Candidates receive an email with a link to access the exam portal through the CSMLS website to view their results.
- Dinner & Dialogue hosted in Winnipeg, Manitoba
- Board of Directors Election
- LABCON2017 hosted in Banff, AB

- Introduced the one-step registration for Express Courses and corresponding exams in The Learning Centre
- Launched the CSMLS podcast *The Objective Lens*

Lobby Day 2017

In an ongoing effort to advocate for the medical laboratory profession, CSMLS took its messaging to Ottawa for our annual Lobby Day on April 4. A team of CSMLS staff, board members and volunteers headed to Parliament Hill to meet with MPs to address solving the shortage of laboratory professionals by introducing a National Medical Laboratory Simulation Study and asking for support.



- Board of Directors Election Results:
 - Lucie Alain, Director, Quebec (re-elected)
 - Patricia Verbeke, Director, Manitoba & Saskatchewan
 - 2018 CSMLS Vice-President Maria Klement
- Mentorship Program pilot came to an end. Thanks to those who took the time to share their wisdom and experience or learned from someone with more experience.
- Dinner & Dialogue hosted in Moncton, New Brunswick

Creation of New Strategic Plan

With the changing landscape in the medical laboratory environment and the evolution of CSMLS itself, a new strategic plan will facilitate the continued success of the organization in 2018 and beyond.



- The Professional Standards Council (PSC) approves shortening the length of the MLT exams (MLT General, Diagnostic Cytology and Clinical Genetics) to 3.5 hours. The change will be implemented with the June 2019 MLT exam session.
- As a follow up to Lobby Day meetings, eight laboratory tours were hosted to give MPs an in-depth look at the importance of the work done in the lab and its effect on healthcare.
- The Mental Health Toolkit was updated to include new information and resources.
- Establishment of Accreditation Canada as the new accrediting body for medical laboratory education programs.
- Dinner & Dialogue hosted in Vancouver, British Columbia.