

Candidate Statement

Lindsay Martinek

District 4

Reasons for running in the election

I have been an active member of the CRTC for the past several years and have been the Executive Chair and Board President for the last two. I have a passion for strengthening the profession and ensuring the RTs across all districts are represented at the regulatory level and at the level of government. I have been able to bring together members of the profession, members of the board, members of the public and the staff at the CRTC in a meaningful way to continue to make a presence for Respiratory Therapy during exceptionally trying times. We must be flexible, responsive, and nimble to navigate the pace of change! Through the pandemic, the tragic loss of the CRTC Registrar, the recruitment of a new registrar and looking to the future to ensure the health and strength of the profession, I have been able to influence, as Chair & President, many issues impacting RTs in Ontario. I hope to continue the work that has been started and to shape the work of the future as we enter the pandemic recovery. It is essential that RTs in the province are supported in everything from professional scope to presence/voice at the same tables as our larger professional counterparts, with the same recognition! I hope to continue my role as Chair & President to be a voice within the role and responsibilities that are afforded the CRTC. I have grown personally and professionally through the last several years and have been able to translate my professional experience into this unique capacity at the College. With the support of District 4 RTs, I will continue to represent you in the best way I can within the scope of my duties.

Relevant skills and experience

I have been an RRT for 20 years and have worked with all patient populations in various hospitals across the district. I have worked in large teaching hospitals as well as in smaller community hospitals. This has given me a unique depth and breadth of experience to bring to the Council. As a member of the Council in previous years, I have been able to sit on many of the committees within the CRTC. I have acted as the Chair of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports, Discipline, Quality Assurance and Executive committees. I have been the Board President for the past 2 years, responsible for the challenge of leading the recruitment of a new Registrar and chairing all Executive and Council meetings. It has been a challenging role through the pandemic, one that I have taken head-on with positivity and utmost respect for the

profession and the public we serve as healthcare professionals. I have represented the CRTO board with the Registrar at meetings of the National Alliance of Respiratory Therapy Regulatory Bodies, which has afforded me an opportunity to understand the landscape of respiratory therapy regulation at a national level. I have held hospital leadership roles for the past 11 years, from Manager of Allied Health; to Director of Allied Health, Practice, Renal and Oncology; to my present role as Associate Vice President of Practice, Quality and Academics, all the while continuing to work casually at the bedside to ensure I am staying current with both my RT skills as well as the issues impacting front line RTs in the district. Outside of my work life, I am a busy wife and mother of two very active kids and love to be outdoors, exploring and experiencing new things.

In your opinion, what are the key issues facing the profession today, as they relate to the public interest?

First and foremost, the health human resources challenge for RTs is significant. One of the primary roles of the College is to protect the public interest as it relates to the regulation of Respiratory Therapy practice. To meet this mandate, the province must be equipped with the personnel needed to deliver safe, timely and effective respiratory care. This will continue to be a complex challenge during the period of pandemic recovery. Supporting and consulting on new programs to enter more into the workforce, ensure those transitioning from other provinces and nations into practice in Ontario do so safely, without compromising the high standard of practice that Ontario RTs are known for and continuing to represent the profession regulatory and government tables will be essential to starting to address these challenges, in alignment with the scope of role and responsibility afforded to the College. Another issue for the profession is equality. As we have all experienced, the pandemic has illuminated inequity between professions and the recognition, voice, and representation afforded to some professions that have not been afforded to all. We will need to continue to work with partners and stakeholders to advance the presence and the voice of the profession at the level of government, within the mandate the CRTO is provided, to start to bridge this gap. The College Performance Measurement Framework (CPMF), a tool recently introduced and mandated by the government, is one that enables the CRTO to measure and report in a standardized way how it is acting in the public interest. It also ensures accountability for the CRTO by ensuring that it is protecting the interests of the people and patients we care for as RTs. As a new requirement for the CRTO, this will require considerable focus and consultation in the coming year to ensure success.