



## College Update

At the May 2009 AGM, members unanimously approved the motion to approve, in principle, the Act and Regulations as presented for the creation of the Nova Scotia College of Dietitians and Nutritionists.

External stakeholders have been consulted. Employers, unions, regulated and non-regulated health professions, other provincial dietetic regulatory bodies, and associations were identified as stakeholders. Letters of support have been received from several of the identified stakeholders. Department of Health officials are currently reviewing the proposed legislation.

Please refer to the members-only side of the NSDA website under College Update for updates.

### Special Interest Articles:

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Representatives from the *Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies*, *Dietitians of Canada* and dietetic educators from academic and practicum programs across Canada have formed a partnership to advance excellence in dietetic education and practice. This new Partnership for Dietetic Education and Practice (PDEP) will create new opportunities to work collaboratively in areas where the goals and achievements of the professional association, regulatory bodies, and educators overlap. The Partnership will undertake projects in areas of common interest to benefit the safety and quality of dietetic services and the advancement of the dietetic profession in Canada. The Partnership's initial goal is to develop integrated competencies for regulation, education and accreditation and undertake regular reviews and updating of the competencies as needed in a dynamic profession. For more information, please visit the website at [www.pdep.ca](http://www.pdep.ca).

## Continuing Development Tool Audit Results

The Quality Assurance Committee recently completed the fourth annual audit of members' Continuing Development Self-Directed Learning Tools (CDT). This year's audit was completed in the spring so that members would receive timely feedback and have time to make pertinent changes to their goals before acting on their plans. Members who were audited received individualized feedback, depending on their audit results; notifications were not sent to members with satisfactory audit results.

The most common audit finding was that goals were written as job tasks or business plans rather than goals to increase knowledge or skill in a specific area.

**Examples:**

To develop a survey

To revise policies

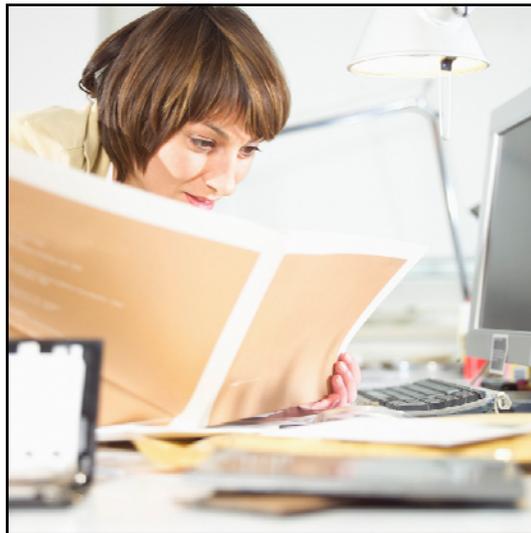
To conduct an evaluation

Another common finding was that goals were too broad or not written in a specific, clear or understandable manner. It is difficult to achieve and measure goals that are too broad; there will be no clear outcome, and it will be difficult to evaluate an impact of the plan on your practice.

**Example:** To maintain my knowledge of current nutrition

Of the 80 audits completed, 56 had satisfactory results and 24 members were sent letters that provided individualized feedback. Five members' audits were classified as "referral review" and will be flagged and reviewed according to policy IX-40 in April 2009. A referral review was warranted if the CDT was not completed in entirety and/or there was no documentation of the impact of the competency plan on competency and/or practice.

If you would like to discuss your audit result, please contact Jennifer Garus at (902) 835-0253.



## NSDA Website — Members Only

### **How do members log-on to the members-only side of the site?**

Currently, all members share the same username and password. It has been mailed and emailed to members; please contact NSDA if you need a reminder. For the 2010 registration renewal, members will be assigned an individualized username and password to enable a more streamlined electronic renewal process.

You will also find important dates posted on the calendar. For example, board meetings and registration deadlines.

Newsletters and bulletins are posted under the resource section so members can stay abreast of issues related to the regulation of their profession.

### **NSDA Policy Manual**

The NSDA Policy Manual is posted on the members-only side of the website under the *Volunteer* section.



### **Professional Directory**

To support members in their practice, members' employment information can be found on the members-only side of the website. NSDA seeks members' permission on the Annual Renewal Form in order to post this information. If you do not want your information listed, please contact Jennifer Garus at [nsda@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:nsda@ns.aliantzinc.ca).

## In Memoriam

Joan Stewart, a charter member of the Nova Scotia Dietetic Association, died in Halifax, Nova Scotia on July 16, 2009. As a dietitian, administrator “extraordinaire,” artist, leader, volunteer, and role model for countless dietetic interns and supportive colleague for dietitians across Canada, Joan will be remembered for her dedication to the profession, the energy and creativeness she brought to every task and her artistic talents which are so evident in her beautiful paintings, her home and gardens.

Joan graduated from Acadia University in 1951, interned at the Royal Victoria Hospital, and for many years, was Director of Dietetics at the Victoria General Hospital in Halifax. She was a founding member of the Nova Scotia Dietetic Association and also its President. She served as President of the Canadian Dietetic Association and on the Board of Directors. She was known for her passion to give the very best, her persistence in achieving her goals, and her concern for the welfare of all who worked for her. She was not one to send a problem to a committee! She tackled it head on with compassion and common sense and without delay so that little problems did not become big ones and all sides went away satisfied.

Those of us who live in Nova Scotia have lost a treasured friend, a colleague, a model of how we should serve our community and live our lives with joy, zest for life, giving of ourselves, and love of neighbor.

Submitted by: Judy Jenkins, Regional Executive Director, Dietitians of Canada

## May 2009 NSDA Education Day

A sincere thanks to Judy Jenkins, Regional Executive Director with Dietitians of Canada for providing us with an overview of DC's latest initiatives and introducing the panel discussion on preceptorship. A panel of dietitians, consisting of preceptors in both traditional and non-traditional roles exclaimed the benefits of preceptoring and helped to dissolve the barriers as to why dietitians may not volunteer to take on the role of preceptor. Thank you to Mary Jane Taylor, Marie Brown, Elaine Horne and Cathy Walsh for participating on the panel!



## Membership Update\*

Total Number of full registrants: 466

### New Members:

982 Jayme Saint Annand  
 1104 Leslie MacKenzie  
 922 Amanda Hampton  
 1026 Amanda Ettinger  
 1105 Heather Church  
 1106 Maria Raffel  
 1107 Erica Savage  
 1108 Lauren Ostler  
 1109 Chelsia Gillis  
 1110 Heather Hill  
 1111 Rhonda Davis  
 1112 Kristen Vernon  
 1113 Jennifer Touesnard  
 1114 Lisa MacDonald  
 1115 Joanne Blight  
 1116 Valerie Blair  
 1117 Micheline Brideau  
 1118 Jennifer MacPherson  
 1119 Erin Walker  
 1120 Natalie Thomas

### Temporary Members:

TM 211 Cheryl Richards  
 TM 214 Stacey Lake  
 TM 215 Deborah MacLean  
 TM 216 Janet Hemming  
 TM 217 Bria Inkpen  
 TM 218 Stephanie McVarish  
 TM 219 Ashley Carroll  
 TM 220 Allison Hopkins

### Resigned:

1102 Meagan Sullivan  
 1099 Stephanie O'Brien  
 259 Sandra McCorry

\* This update reflects membership changes since March 31, 2008.



## Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination - Fall Exam

**Date:** Saturday, November 7, 2009

**Location:** Mount Saint Vincent University

## 2009-2010 Board of Directors

President	Jennifer Hutchinson
President-Elect	Darlene Bogers
Vice-President	Howard Selig
Treasurer	Jane Pryor
Secretary	Heather Dillon
Registrar	Lisa Slauenwhite
Member at Large	Shelley LeBlanc
Member at Large	Cathy Lockerbie-Forrester
Member at Large	Kimberly London
Member at Large	Lisa Sutherland
Member at Large	Patti Simpson
Executive Manager (ex-officio)	Jennifer Garus



Members are welcome to attend Board meetings. Meetings will resume in October and dates will be posted on the calendar on the home page of the NSDA website.

### REMINDER

Please notify NSDA if your employment or home contact information changes. As we rely upon technology to communicate with you, it is especially important that your email address is current in the NSDA database.

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Thank you to Vanessa MacLellan for formatting this edition of *The Insider*. Vanessa, a student in the Bachelor of Science in Applied Human Nutrition program at Mount Saint Vincent University is a volunteer with NSDA.