

OT Month



During national Occupational Therapy Month, occupational therapists will be highlighting the importance of communities that are inclusive, diverse, and promote participation from all people, regardless of age or ability.

CAOT and its provincial associations present Citation Awards during National Occupational Therapy Month. These awards acknowledge agencies, programs, and/or individuals who are not occupational therapists who have contributed to the health and well-being of Canadians.

The CAOT and its provincial affiliates represent over 10,000 practicing occupational therapists in Canada. It was founded in 1926 to provide support, leadership, and services to its members. CAOT also works actively to develop and promote the profession of occupational therapy for the health and well-being of all Canadians.

For more information, check out their website at: www.caot.ca

National OT Month October

The web site provides a wealth of information about October being National Occupational Therapy Month, a time to celebrate occupational therapy's contributions to helping people live healthier, more satisfying lives. The month is a joint public awareness initiative of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT) and its affiliate provincial and territorial occupational therapy associations. These associations will hold various events across the country to increase the understanding of the important role occupational therapy plays in creating inclusive, diverse communities. Occupational Therapy Month is an expansion of Occupational Therapy Week - CAOT's annual awareness initiative that began in 1987 - and is an annual event.



An OT works with anyone who is having difficulty doing the activities that are important to them. OT's define occupation as everything that a person does each day, within each of the following categories:

- self-care (getting dressed, bathing, cooking and eating).
- leisure (hobbies, sports, social activities).
- productivity (paid or unpaid work, housework and school).

OT began in large psychiatric asylums and tuberculosis sanatoriums. Post World War I, the profession expanded greatly to assist injured veterans, both physically and mentally, to reintegrate and regain their occupations in civilian life.

OT's are university-trained, regulated health professionals whose unique training enables them to understand not only the medical and physical limitations of a disability or injury, but also the psycho-social factors that impact on an individual's ability to participate in the activities that are important to them. OT's help people to attain their potential in their desired occupations of daily living.

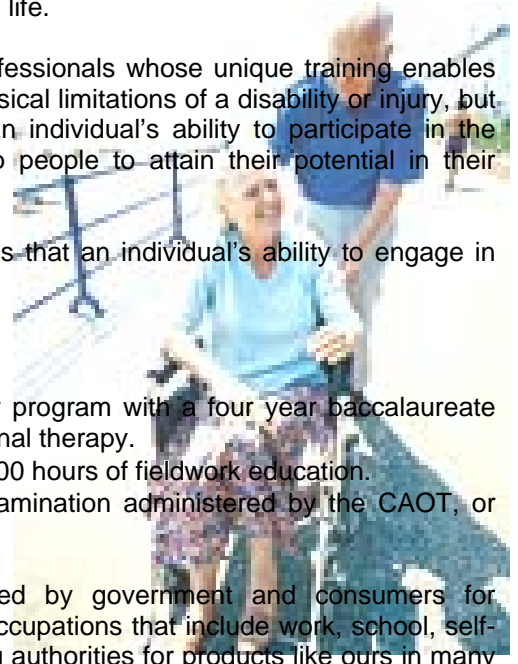
Their approach is based on research that proves that an individual's ability to engage in occupation increases their health and well being.

Qualified occupational therapists have:

- Graduated from an accredited university program with a four year baccalaureate degree or a master's degree in occupational therapy.
- Successfully completed a minimum of 1000 hours of fieldwork education.
- Successfully passed the certification examination administered by the CAOT, or met provincial registration qualifications.

Occupational therapists are experts, recognized by government and consumers for evaluating and promoting performance in daily occupations that include work, school, self-care and leisure pursuits. They act as prescribing authorities for products like ours in many provincial jurisdictions.

We look forward to our next trade show event with the Ontario Society of Occupational Therapists this weekend in the Toronto area where we will exhibit and provide sponsorship for the Friday evening social event!



Play2Podium Always a Way to Play

49 Bespoke is proud to be a **Gold Sponsor** of Play to Podium magazine. From the publishers of Active Living, the new publication encourages youth to discover their potential through adapted physical activities of all kinds.

Play to Podium is for parents, healthcare professionals and activity providers working to help youth with disabilities be active, learn, grow and discover their potential.

"At its core, it's about ensuring that all kids have the chance to play, to reach for their dreams and achieve their personal podium," says publisher Jeff Tiessen. "And companies like 49 Bespoke are stepping up to help us make this a reality for thousands of families across Canada." To learn more, visit www.play2podium.com

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IRGLM - Montreal Rehab

I had the pleasure of joining staff at the Institute of Rehabilitation in Montreal a couple weeks ago for a day of wheelchair assessments and prescriptions. It gave me an opportunity to better understand the « fusion » that is taking place within the French and English centers associated with the University of Montreal. Further to a consultation process with partners, physicians, staff, and other stakeholders, the Institute of Rehabilitation Gingras-Lyndsay Montreal (IRGLM) presented a strategic plan June 2, 2010.

Issue 1: A pertinent, safe and secure offer of services Strategic orientations:

- position and adjust services offered according to the evolving needs of our clientele;
- introduce a culture where innovative clinical and non clinical best practices are valued;
- provide our clientele with safe quality care and services.

Issue 2: The availability of required competencies Strategic orientation:

- create conditions that are favorable to attracting and retaining the best competencies.

Issue 3: The success of the merger plan Strategic orientation:

- give effect to the organizational transformation.

Issue 4: The integration of academic activities to the mission Strategic orientations:

- strive to integrate research into all clinical, teaching, technology assessment and modes of intervention activities in support of the decision-making process;
- enhance the organization's teaching / learning mission;
- develop technology assessment and modes of intervention in the health care field;
- achieve the academic institute status.

Issue 5: Organizational performance Strategic orientations:

- optimize the use of available resources;
- develop a culture based on moderation;
- contribute to the development of a durable environment.

Issue 6: The modernization of the tech and IS infrastructure Strategic orientations:

- be on the cutting edge of medical and rehabilitation technologies;
- develop an organizational vision of the management of informational resources.

Issue 7: The promotion of knowledge and competencies Strategic orientations:

- contribute to the development of physical rehabilitation and physical health through the sharing of our expertise and knowledge with professionals of the health care network and the population at large.
- be present in the mind of the population, the business community and the Health and social services network;
- position ourselves on the regional, national and international fronts.

Bits and Bytes

- OSOT Conference and Trade Show September 24-25, Mississauga, ON., all information is here www.osot.on.ca/eng/workshops/conference.asp ;
- MEDiChair Regina Trade Show and Education Day October 5, Regina, SK;
- MEDiChair Saskatoon Trade Show and Education Day October 7 Saskatoon, SK;
- Rolling Rampage Ottawa, ON., October 28, 2010;
- TO Rehab - 4th National SCI Conference October 28-30 Niagara Falls, Ontario.

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If what we do is not up to the standard you expect, please give us a call, or if you have something that you think we should be expounding on in this forum, please contact the editor, Reg McClellan.