



Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists • **British Columbia**
Association canadienne des ergothérapeutes • **Colombie-Britannique**

September 2012

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of CAOT-BC, I would like to thank the College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia for according us this important opportunity to contact all registrants in the province. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, to briefly describe our activities, and to invite new CAOT-BC members.

I have been practicing as an occupational therapist in BC for over 15 years. I work in private practice in the areas of cost of future care/life care planning and community rehabilitation (brain injury, orthopedics, and spinal cord injury). In my career, I have a long history of volunteering with the BC Society of Occupational Therapists in a variety of positions including board director, committees and executive positions.

As you may already know, following the closure of BCSOT on September 30, 2011, the CAOT board of directors adopted an integrated model for professional representation and on October 1, 2011, CAOT-BC began operations. CAOT-BC is the first provincial chapter of CAOT and its mission builds on the CAOT mission of to advance excellence in occupational therapy. CAOT-BC is the new voice of occupational therapists in British Columbia. This integrated model was initiated to provide efficient and streamlined of services that avoid duplication.

As a member of CAOT living in BC, you will automatically be a member of CAOT-BC. Not only will you receive all the benefits you are used to from CAOT (e.g. national representation, national advocacy campaigns, journal access, insurance access and much more), you will *also* receive the following unique, province-specific benefits:

- BC specific advocacy
- BC specific representation
- Advisory committee (regional and practice-specific representation)
- CAOT-BC website and CAOT-BC blog
- BC specific monthly e-bulletin
- Access to Special Interest Groups
- Managing Director, dedicated to CAOT-BC

CAOT-BC is already hard at work in the areas of representation, advocacy and engaging occupational therapists in the province. If you are already a member of CAOT-BC, thank you for your continued support of the occupational therapy profession. If you are thinking about becoming a member, I invite your questions and comments. I also invite you to subscribe to the [CAOT-BC blog](#) to keep up to date on our activities.

Working together, the voice of occupational therapy in BC is louder and stronger. United, our political presence and influence is louder and stronger. We are CAOT-BC. I encourage you all to join CAOT-BC and if you are able, to volunteer with the association. For information about volunteering opportunities, please contact me directly.

Thank you again and I look forward to working and meeting with many of you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Giovanna Boniface
Managing Director of CAOT-BC / Directrice générale de l'ACE-CB
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists / Association Canadienne des Ergothérapeutes