

NEWS RELEASE



Victoria, BC
September 18, 2017
For immediate release

Andrea Bowden Appointed Director of Practice and Policy at the College of Occupational Therapists of BC



The College of Occupational Therapists of British Columbia is pleased to announce that Andrea Bowden has accepted a full-time position with the college as the Director of Practice and Policy. She will start in her new position on January 2, 2018. Andrea was seconded from Island Health Authority, and began her work with the college as a Practice and Policy Consultant on December 1, 2014. This arrangement concludes at the end of this year.

Registrar Kathy Corbett can't say enough about Andrea's expertise. "She brings sound practice knowledge, a commitment to teamwork, excellent communication and leadership abilities, and a general enthusiasm for the regulatory world and its challenges. She is always eager to learn more and expand her skills. Andrea is an asset to the college. Everyone enjoys working with her, and I am sure she will contribute to ensuring excellence in our work ahead."

In the past three years, Andrea has added significantly to the college's engagement with registrants by building the practice advisory services and expanding standards of practice and advisory statements. She also is involved with a number of initiatives with external stakeholders and partners, representing the college on practice and policy activities such as the Driver Fitness Advisory Group, administration of naloxone, and teaching at the University of British Columbia's Master in Occupational Therapy program on professional issues.

Andrea graduated from the University of Victoria in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and then began her occupational therapist career at UBC, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy in 2002. She is now completing her Masters of Public Administration at the University of Victoria with her major project exploring strategic planning processes for health professional regulatory organizations. Most of Andrea's career to date has been with Island Health where she began as a clinician and quickly grew into educator and administrative roles, the last one as a Practice Consultant in their Professional Practice department.

Kathy Corbett expressed gratitude to Island Health, in particular Joanne MacLaren and Louise Stevens for the secondment opportunity. "It was instrumental in assisting us to explore and build our practice and policy portfolio and confirm its direction. With our plan to increase engagement with our health system partners, we will be reaching out more to health authorities so we trust this is just the beginning of a rich and rewarding relationship."

Although Andrea's new position does not begin until January 2, 2018 she is available now for practice consultations, four days a week. She can be reached by email: abowden@cotbc.org or 250-386-6822.

Questions regarding Andrea's appointment or this news release can be directed to Kathy Corbett at 250-386-6822 or by email: kcorbett@cotbc.org.

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