



Become a Board Member

COTNS COLLEGE of OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPISTS of NOVA SCOTIA

*Ensuring Safe, Effective,
and Ethical Occupational
Therapy Practice in Nova
Scotia*



What is the Board?

According to the *Occupational Therapists Act*, a board comprised of both registered occupational therapists and public representatives must be established to govern the College. The Board makes decisions that will, ultimately, determine how the practice of occupational therapy will be regulated and advanced in the public interest. Because occupational therapy is a self-regulated profession, Board members owe primary allegiance to the public and are expected to make decisions in accordance with the College's mandate to protect the public.

The Board governs the College by establishing and maintaining operational policies, establishing and monitoring strategic priorities, and providing oversight for Committees and the Registrar.

Who can be a Board Member?

Any registered occupational therapists that hold a license in good standing with the College or any member of the public is eligible to serve on the Board.

What are the Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members?

All members of the Board must act honestly and in good faith in the best interest of the College's mandate and act with reasonable competence and diligence according to their skill.

Chair: The Chair is primarily responsible for the effective functioning of the Board in governing the College. Among other responsibilities, the Chair oversees the preparation of Board agendas, chairs Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting, and meets regularly with the Registrar.

Vice-Chair: The vice-chair is primarily responsible for assisting the chair and serving in their absence.

Treasurer: The treasurer is responsible for overseeing the management and reporting of the College's finances. The treasurer meets with the Administrative Manager and the Registrar on a regular basis.

Secretary: The Secretary is responsible for ensuring that meeting minutes are recorded, their accuracy, and their availability. The secretary corresponds regularly with the Administrative Manager.

FAQ's

What are the terms of office?

The term of office for any of the Board positions is two years. Board members may serve three consecutive terms.

How frequently does the Board meet?

The Board typically meets monthly, however, no meetings are held during the summer. Meetings are scheduled at the convenience of board members and generally last 2 hours.

What compensation is offered to Board members?

The College provides an annual honorarium equivalent to the College's registration fee to all board members. In addition, Board members have access to funding to attend educational opportunities.

"I have always been intrigued by the College and the role it played for OT's. When the opportunity presented itself to become a member of the board, I jumped at the opportunity. In a general sense, I had an idea of what the purpose of COTNS was, but it was not until I became a member that I fully appreciated what the board does. It is amazing to see how far in advance projects are being worked on and the impact other provinces can have on us down the road. Although I am no longer part of the board, I am still involved with various committees when I am available."

Scott Thieu



What are the Benefits?

For you

- Network with occupational therapists from across the Province
- Exposure to trends in occupational therapy practice provincially and nationally
- Have a voice in decisions that guide practice in Nova Scotia
- Enhance your skills and professional development through leadership training
- Attend educational opportunities to enhance your skills
- Inspire other occupational therapists through your leadership
- Contribute to your Continuing Competence Portfolio

For occupational therapy

- Ensure the College meets its Provincial obligations to ensure we stay a self-regulating profession



There is a whole world of OT out there that most clinicians don't get to truly experience. It helped me to understand the importance of professional regulation, the role of the regulatory body in protecting the public as well as ensuring all Occupational Therapists practice safely, ethically and professionally. I had the opportunity to meet many other OT's which isn't an opportunity I have at my workplace.

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