

Health Record Association of British Columbia

Your Leaders in Health Information Management

ANNUAL REPORT September 08, 2014

Executive Position: Past President

Committee Name: Past President and Chair Nominating Committee

My three year HRABC presidential commitment has come to a close and as I reflect on the Association's accomplishments I am completely appreciative of the support of the volunteers and the Membership as a whole. I've enjoyed representing the HRABC and tried to bring a province-wide perspective by working collaboratively with the regional CHIMA SMRTT Committee representatives and other professions. The intent during my presidential year was to promote our professional as a whole to other healthcare groups and to bring you the latest in Health Information Management. During this time I also enjoyed being a member of the CHIMA Labor Recruitment Committee, National Health Information Management Association and participated in pilot work for the National Association with Provincial Chapters (NAPC).

For the future, I'd like to encourage those who are passionate about their careers to volunteer. It's through volunteerism that working members, students or honorary members can bring forward valuable ideas to the provincial and national professional level. Professional dialogue and development is each of our own responsibility, but collaborating on a provincial or national level with HIM peers provides a unique opportunity to learn about the challenges we face and the opportunities we all have to move our profession forward. Healthcare System Transformation affects all healthcare professions. If we don't stand up and keep up with our changing work environments our knowledge and skills could be absorbed by other professions. In saying this, patients need us to be advocates who will ensure their healthcare information is managed properly. This includes consistent and better documentation methods that enable appropriate record retention, ease of access and accurate data reporting. The electronic world doesn't change our professional roles; it just requires us to have a stronger voice at a high level from the get-go. I see our role as being proactive in reminding care providers that what they document today impacts the patient and related healthcare data both concurrently and for the future. We need to be able to consistently find the same patient information in the same place when it's needed.

At the end of the day, as we seek to maintain a good work-life balance, we have to remember those closest to us come first. Our families and our personal health are the most important. Learning to ask for help when you need it and to take a step back to reflect when the challenges are overwhelming are key to being resilient and re-energized in order to forge ahead again. For the HRABC, our national family is important. Provincial chapter model work is a challenge, but this dialogue needs to continue because this is the single biggest opportunity to reduce the number of

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volunteer hours we as a provincial association are required to provide. We've had a small break from these discussions, so I'm happy to report new models are starting to be discussed again.

In closing, I'd like to thank Past-President Kenny Der for his wisdom and support, Shebnum Devji for accepting my nomination of her as President-Elect, CHIMA for providing an in-person speaker at the 2013 HRABC/BCHIMPS Integrated Partnerships for Better Outcomes Educational Symposium, Tena Peters for her endless hours of support in order for the symposium to have been possible and many thanks to the Executive team for their consistent and valued contributions. I'd also like to thank Linda Lee and the PSBC team for their ongoing sponsorship of the HRABC on many levels including T-Con lines, record storage, Website management and organizing the AGM each year.

I'd like to wish the incoming Executive all the best. Under Dawn Lawrie's leadership, an exciting year is planned for all of us to participate in. I'm looking forward to taking a step back and learning from her team.

Sincerely,

Linda