



Alberta College of Occupational Therapists

eNews

December eNews

Registration Renewal 2010-2011

Current practice permits expire on February 28, 2010 and **must be renewed online**. Renew before midnight February 1, 2010 for the lowest renewal fee.

With the new database this year, you will need a new user ID and password to access the Members section at www.acot.ca. For the User ID, use your ACOT registration number. To get your new temporary password, click on 'forgot your password?' and follow the online instructions. A temporary password will be emailed to you. Online renewal instructions are also included on your renewal notice mailed in early December.

Each member should review/update their secure online profile in the College database. With an up-to-date profile, the renewal process is very quick. Your renewal form will automatically include your profile information. To renew, simply (a) review your information, (b) confirm your currency hours, (c) complete your declarations, and (d) submit the online payment (or send a cheque if you prefer).

If you need more help, contact Claudette Hutchinson, Registration Coordinator, at E: registration@acot.ca or T: 780.436.8381 x104.

ACOT Commentary on the Use of Weighted Blankets

The l'Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec (OEQ) released a position statement in 2008 on 'Use of Weighted Covers' in response to a judicial recommendation that clear instructions on the use of weighted covers (blankets) be communicated to the members of OEQ. This recommendation arose from a judicial fatality review on the death of a child who died of suffocation under a weighted blanket.

The College circulated a translation of that position statement in April 2009 to all members and, in July, an ACOT adhoc task force of expert pediatric occupational therapists met to discuss the recommendations contained within the position statement. A draft commentary on the position statement was developed and distributed to clinical experts in the occupational therapy community for their critique. The conclusions and recommendations of the ACOT task force are now published at www.acot.ca. See *ACOT Commentary on l'Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec's Position Statement on Use of Weighted Covers* under Resources> Professional Standards and Practice Guidelines.

Courses and Workshops

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Have a look at the new courses, conferences and workshops for occupational therapists listed under the Continuing Competence tab at www.acot.ca.

Professional Liability Insurance

The importance of professional liability insurance should not be underestimated. In order to provide you with information on the risks of not having the proper insurance, the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists has collaborated with Bell, Temple Barristers and Solicitors to create an article that will provide you with important legal information relating to professional liability insurance. To view the article, please use the following link http://www.caot.ca/pdfs/Membership/BellTemple_2.pdf. ACOT does not endorse one provider or carrier over another. Professional liability insurance may be purchased through:

- Society of Alberta Occupational Therapists (www.saot.ca)
- The Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (www.caot.ca)
- An independent insurance broker: a listing of Alberta members is available through the Insurance Brokers Association of Canada (www.ibac.ca)

New Report from CIHI

Occupational Therapists in Canada 2008 will be released later today. This is the third annual report of its kind, prepared by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) examining supply, demographic, geographic and education characteristics of occupational therapists across Canada. The full report will be available at www.acot.ca under the Resources tab.

College offices closed for the Holiday Season

The College offices will close for the holidays at noon on Thursday, December 24 and re-open on Monday, January 4. Our best wishes to all for a healthy and happy holiday season.

To make sure you continue receiving ACOT eNews, please add acotmail@acot.ca to your email address book. To change your profile (email address or other contact information) go to Members Login at www.acot.ca.