

ATLANTIC COLLEGE OF THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE NEWS

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Welcome to this the thirteenth issue of the Atlantic College of Therapeutic Massage News! Through this newsletter we keep our alumni, faculty, staff and massage therapy professionals updated on present and future events and programs at ACTM, as well as trends in the profession.

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1. ALUMNI

A significant number of our March 2006 graduating class are enjoying a few months of break from studies, as they prepare to return to school in September 2006. Six of the 24 graduates have applied to enter the third year of the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology program at the University of New Brunswick. We wish them all the best!

2. STUDENTS AT THE FREDERICTON MARATHON

On May 14, 2006 nine senior students from ACTM worked tirelessly throughout the morning and afternoon to treat some of the 700 long distance runners at the Fredericton Marathon. Many runners had to be helped into the treatment area and onto tables, after their muscles had completely fatigued. All were thankful that the students were there.

Thanks to Clinic Director Lisa Ivany, Supervisor Cynthia Ratelle, and students Dave, Christelle, Jules, Christine, (our other) Christine; Eric, Amy, Paul and Darren for doing a great job!

3. PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND RESP'S

Do you have a Registered Educational Savings Plan (RESP)? If so, the money in that plan can be used to pay for your tuition at ACTM. The procedure to use money from an RESP is the

same for ACTM as it is for a University. For more information, contact your financial advisor.

The next start date for students who plan to attend ACTM is October 2, 2006.

Information and application forms are available here:

<http://www.actmonline.com/admissions.html>

4. CONTINUING EDUCATION

There are a number of continuing education courses upcoming at ACTM this summer, including Deep Tissue Therapy, Sport Therapy, Massage Therapy for Veterinary Technicians, Perinatal Massage, High Risk Pregnancy Massage, Canine Massage and more. Whether you are looking for a weekend course, or for a certification course to give you specialized knowledge and skills in a particular field, we have what you need. Full details of all courses are available on the Continuing Education page of our website at:

<http://www.actmonline.com/coned.html>

5. JOB MARKET FOR MASSAGE THERAPISTS

More and more employers are contacting ACTM, looking to hire massage therapists. During the past two months, we have received fifteen requests from New Brunswick, four from Newfoundland and Labrador, two from Nova Scotia and one from Prince Edward Island. With our online job bank (accessible only to students and alumni) and with direct email contact with our new graduates, we are doing our best to accommodate the demand from employers, who want to hire ACTM grads!

6. MASSAGE THERAPISTS' USE OF PROTECTIVE GLOVES

In 2005, three ACTM students (now ACTM alumni), Matthias Mann, Lynne McKenzie and Pierre Wust, completed a survey and a report entitled "Utilization of Latex Protective Barriers in Combination with Petroleum- or Vegetable-Based Lubricants". A summary of the report is published in the Spring 2006 edition of Massage Therapy Canada Magazine. The full report is available at:

<http://www.actmonline.com/pdfs/ACTMLatexglovesurveyreportJune2005.pdf>

7. OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND MASSAGE THERAPISTS

In the Spring 2006 issue of Massage Therapy Canada Magazine "Self Care for Therapists: Taking care of number 1", Fiona Rattray reports that: "While there is plenty of anecdotal evidence of massage therapists getting hurt at work, there's not much research available in English on this subject. In fact, an internet search of the literature turned up one study in progress on massage therapists and occupational injuries at the Atlantic College of Therapeutic Massage."

We are pleased to be doing work in this area. The data gathering is now complete, and the results of our survey of RMT's Occupational Health will soon be compiled and published in Massage Therapy Canada Magazine. Following is the general website for Massage Therapy Canada Magazine: <http://www.massagetherapycanada.com/>

8. COLLEGE OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

On December 13, 2005 the former "Board" of massage therapists became the College of Massage Therapists of Newfoundland and Labrador. It's the same organization, but with the name "College" to align it with regulatory Colleges in Ontario and British Columbia.

Dates for the 2006 registration examinations for the CMTNL have been set for:
July 22-23, 2006. Application deadline is June 22, 2006.
September 23-24, 2006. Application deadline is August 23, 2006.
November 25-26, 2006 (tentative, depending on demand).

The examination application form and Candidate's Handbook are available on the CMTNL website at www.nlmtd.ca

9. ONLINE RESOURCES FOR MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Are you looking for a template for a massage therapy contract? The Massage Therapy Association of Nova Scotia has produced a form of contract, particularly intended for use by massage therapists who wish to show that they are self-employed. The contract was prepared for use in Nova Scotia, but might be adapted for use in other provinces. Remember to consult with your legal advisor. To access a copy of the contract, go to the MTANS website at:

<http://www.mtans.com/cutenews/targetpage.php?subaction=showfull&id=1144862412&archive=>

Martin Salkey (ACTM '06) tells us of another Nova Scotia website, with information on starting a massage therapy business. Once again, although it is directed toward practitioners in Nova Scotia, it also contains useful information for massage therapists elsewhere. If you are interested, you can see it here:

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/econ/nsx/site/businfo/PrintProfile.asp?type=bus&infoid=9&id=105>

10. PRACTICE TIP

Today we are asking for your feedback on a practice question.

Let's assume that your clinic has a cancellation policy under which a client who cancels an appointment or fails to show up for an appointment is charged a flat fee of \$40.00 plus HST. Is it legitimate to have such a policy and charge clients for not showing up? If it is legitimate, can you enforce it against a first-time client who has not signed an acknowledgement of the policy? If a client pays the \$40.00, should she/he be able to claim this on a healthcare or insurance plan? If you think the policy is not legitimate, how do you deal with clients who do not show up for appointments or who cancel at the last minute?

Send your thoughts to us at rjactm@nb.aibn.com and we will publish the replies in the next edition of this ACTM Newsletter.

11. PUBLIC CLINIC

Our public clinic at Kings Place continues in operation. Appointments are available Mondays and Wednesdays, at 4:00, 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. An experienced Registered Massage Therapist supervises all of the student massage therapists. The cost is \$15.00 plus HST for each one-hour treatment. Please call us at 451-8188 for an appointment.

12. WHO WE ARE

We are massage therapy education at its best. Located at Kings Place, 440 King Street, Fredericton, N.B., the Atlantic College of Therapeutic Massage delivers a program of massage therapy education equivalent to the competency standards of the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario. Look to us for innovation in:

- massage therapy education;
- cooperative agreements for students pursuing University education;
- clinical outreach programs; and
- continuing education

13. WEB SITE SUGGESTIONS

Have you ever wondered how they make crossword puzzles? How do they link all of those words and clues together? A crossword puzzle can be a useful tool, as a teaching aide, a promotion for your clients, or as a game to make for your children. And now you can create one anytime you want. Go to: www.eclipsecrossword.com and download the program. Then you can make professional-looking crossword puzzles easily on your own computer. Enjoy!

14. THE FINE PRINT

We welcome suggestions for new items, such as classified ads.

Web Site suggestions are also welcome. Your input will be acknowledged.

If this newsletter is useful for you, feel free to pass it on to friends and colleagues.

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