June 1st, 2015

**Therapeutic Recreation Ontario Announces Changes to R/TRO Voluntary Designation**

Therapeutic Recreation Ontario (TRO) is the provincial association that represents Therapeutic Recreation (TR) professionals in Ontario. We are committed to ensuring that TR professionals deliver excellent care to residents/clients/patients for their employers.

**TRO Is Set to Launch Additional Designation, R/TRO DIP:**
TRO is proud to announce that effective September 2015, an additional designation called the **R/TRO DIP** will come into effect. This addition has been developed with the same high quality competency requirements as the R/TRO, but better reflects emerging trends and academic preparation for the sector.

Since 2003, nearly 400 professionals have qualified for their R/TRO designation which was built on competencies that demonstrate the essential skills required to ensure that residents/clients/patients receive high quality programs that help them live the best life possible. The new R/TRO DIP will expand the number of qualified professionals in the province.

Employers and key stakeholders acknowledge that those with an **R/TRO** or **R/TRO DIP** designation demonstrate the required skills and practical experience in the field of TR as well as an ongoing commitment to maintain competence in four areas:

1. Formal education
2. Practical experience
3. Professional affiliation
4. Professional contributions

**What is the Difference Between R/TRO and R/TRO DIP?**
Effective September 2015, the **R/TRO** designation is for degree prepared professionals, and the **R/TRO DIP** for diploma prepared professionals.
Looking to Hire an R/TRO or R/TRO DIP?
To ensure that your job postings are seen by TR professionals who are members in good standing of Therapeutic Recreation Ontario, go to the TRO Website (https://trontario.org/careers) to post your job. Be sure to put, “R/TRO or R/TRO DIP preferred” as a qualification in both your posting and job descriptions as this designation validates competency in TR.

Want More Information on R/TRO designations?
As of September 1, 2015, the R/TRO designation will have two titles: (1) R/TRO for degree prepared professionals; and (2) R/TRO DIP for diploma prepared professionals. Please visit our website at https://trontario.org/r-tro for further information.

Thank you for your continued interest and support of the profession of Therapeutic Recreation. In order to receive regular updates please follow us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/TROntario

Sincerely,

Sue Verrilli, B.A., R.T. (R/TRO)
President, Therapeutic Recreation Ontario