

September 6, 2016

Therapeutic Recreation Ontario Announces Scope of Practice for Recreation Therapy

Therapeutic Recreation Ontario (TRO) is the provincial association that represents and supports Therapeutic Recreation (TR) professionals in Ontario. We are committed to advancing the profession of TR in Ontario and equipping TR practitioners with professional documentation and development opportunities to deliver excellent care to resident/clients/patients for their employers.

TRO Launches Scope of Practice for Recreation Therapy:

TRO proudly announces that at the June 2016 Annual General Meeting a TR scope of practice was accepted by the membership. The scope of practice has been added to the TRO collection of professional documents supporting TR practitioners in the province of Ontario.

Therapeutic Recreation Scope of Practice

Therapeutic Recreation is a collaborative and purposeful process facilitated by trained professionals offering recreation and leisure assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation to achieve individual goals. The profession uses meaningful recreation and leisure education, counselling and experiences to promote, restore, rehabilitate, and/or maintain quality of life and well-being. Therapeutic Recreation supports the development of strengths while addressing social, emotional, physical, spiritual and cognitive needs.

Background on the development of the scope of practice:

After a lengthy research process, it was decided to base TRO's Scope of Practice on the Regulated Health Professional Act's (RHPA) framework:

- What profession does (what)
- Methods it uses (how)
- Purpose for what it does (why)

Action:

Please take appropriate steps to ensure that key personnel in your organization are aware of this important information.

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About TRO's Registration Designation:

Currently, there are nearly 400 Registered TRO members. The Registration designation (R/TRO and R/TRO DIP) was built on competencies that demonstrate the essential skills required to ensure that residents/clients/patients receive high quality care that help them live the best life possible. In addition to the standards of practice, code of ethics and registration designations, *TRO's scope of practice will advance the field of Therapeutic Recreation in Ontario.*

What Employers Say about Hiring Registered Staff:

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 competency in four areas:

1. Formal Education
2. Professional Affiliations
3. Practical Experience
4. Professional Contributions

"As an academic hospital, and, to ensure accountability to high quality service delivery and excellence, it is imperative for Therapeutic Recreation staff at Holland Bloorview to meet and maintain standards of professional practice through the provincial designations offered through TRO."

*- C.J Curran, Operations Manager, Participation and Inclusion
Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital*

What is the Difference Between R/TRO and R/TRO DIP?:

The designations recognize how people have been prepared to be qualified recreation therapy practitioners. Effective September 2015, the R/TRO designation signifies degree-prepared practitioners, and the R/TRO DIP signifies diploma-prepared practitioners.

Looking to Hire an R/TRO or R/TRO DIP?

Target your job postings to TR professionals who are members in good standing of Therapeutic Recreation Ontario by posting your jobs on the TRO job board. To post your job, go to the TRO Website (<https://trontario.org/careers>). Be sure to put "R/TRO or R/TRO DIP preferred" as a qualification in both your posting and job descriptions to attract the best candidates possible.

Want More Information on TRO Registration designations?

Please visit our website at <https://trontario.org/r-tro> for further information. To receive regular updates, please like us on Facebook (TROntario) or follow us on Twitter (TR_ONTARIO)

Thank you for your continued interest and support of the Therapeutic Recreation profession.

Sincerely,



Sue Verrilli, R/TRO
President