



2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

February 2, 2025

Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel & Suites

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Alex Kidd, Chair of the RMTAO Board of Directors, provided a land acknowledgement, introduced himself and the head table. He called the meeting to order, provided an overview of today's agenda and welcomed members to the 2025 Annual General Meeting. Mr. Kidd advised the membership of the meeting process on motions and voting for clarity of procedure.

With the permission of those present, Mr. Kidd asked Dylan Crake, Secretary of the RMTAO Board of Directors, to act as recording secretary for the meeting.

2. Notice of Meeting

Mr. Kidd advised the members with respect to the Notice of the Meeting. He advised that in accordance with the By-Laws, the Notice of the Annual General Meeting was issued on November 26, 2024, and sent by email to all Active and Life members of the RMTAO. It was also posted on the RMTAO website and through social media.

3. Meeting Regularly Constituted

Mr. Kidd advised that on January 17, 2024, at the proxy deadline, the RMTAO had 6,996 Active and Life members. He noted that the by-laws require 1% or 70 members present in person or by proxy. He further advised that 88 valid proxies were received by the deadline of 4:00 PM on January 17, 2024. There were 67 voting members present; thus, there were 155 members at this meeting exceeding quorum requirements.

Mr. Kidd declared that the meeting was regularly called and properly constituted for the transaction of business.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, January 28, 2024.

Mr. Kidd noted that the draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on January 28, 2024, had been posted on the website, and copies of the minutes were also sent to the virtual meeting attendees.

MOTION: For the adoption of minutes of the Annual General Meeting held January 28, 2024.

MOVED: Susan Shipton

SECOND: Susan Bessonette

CARRIED.

5. Board Chair's Report

Mr. Kidd noted that the 2024 Annual Report had been distributed to members and was available on the RMTAO website prior to the meeting. He presented the highlights of the Chair's Report, noting the accomplishments of the Board of Directors over the past year. Highlights outlined were in relation to:

- Queen's Park Day success
- Development of strategic plan for 2024-2027 focusing on strategic priorities of programs and services, governance framework, management and administration, and business planning resources
- Review of position statements
- Role in monitoring Executive Director and Operational Plan
- Completion of Pilot Project
- Representative at Canadian Massage Therapist Association, and current Interim President

Questions:

- There were no questions.

MOTION: To accept the Board Chair's Report on behalf of the Board of Directors.

MOVED: Andrea Wichmann

SECOND: Sasha Goudriaan

CARRIED.

6. Executive Director's Report on Operations

Michael Feraday, RMTAO Executive Director and CEO, presented the 2024 Report on Operations. He provided highlights on each of the activities and accomplishments for the year. Some key highlights were:

- Membership increased with over 7,000 active members and over 1,000 student members
- New member programs Intelligent Office and OrthoCanada
- Member surveys including annual membership survey, fee survey and education survey
- Webinar program continues to grow, offering 28 webinars in 2024
- 2024 Conference focused on excellence in practice, and the next 2025 Conference will be a one-day virtual event on April 6, 2025
- New infographics and blog posts, and The Friday File e-newsletter and Massage Therapy Today magazine continue to be valuable resources
- Highlighted the successes of Massage Therapy Awareness Week activities
- 21 active Community-Based Networks (CBNs) held 73 meetings in 2024, and added new virtual CBN for early-career RMTs and massage therapy students
- Successful Town Hall meetings across Ontario in partnership with College of Massage Therapists on Ontario
- Celebrated award winners at conference, and offered Master's grant of \$10,000
 - RMT of the year Award: Erika Kuehnel
 - Educator of the year Award: Peter Becker
 - Professional Service Award: Dani Faucher

- o Research Award: Morgan Richard
 - o Master's Grant Recipient: Rebecca Brenneman
- Queen's Park Day was successful, and included a variety of meetings with MPPs and a reception
- Successful inclusion of RMTs in CommunitiCare Health (formerly West Toronto Community Health Services)
- Other advocacy including tax exemption, and working with CMTO, insurance companies and other health professionals and government officials
- Mr. Feraday thanked the staff, volunteers, and partners that helped to make 2024 a success.

Questions:

- Why is there no RMTAO booth at the Pri-Med Conference?
 - o Part of the RMTAO strategic plan is to reach out to other healthcare professions. There are a number of initiatives the RMTAO is participating in the coming year, including a conference at CMHA, and a booth at the conference with the Alliance for Healthier Communities, which is the association that includes Community Health Centres.
- Why does the CMTO use the American corporation in regards to the entrance to practice exam?
 - o This is a question we can bring to the CMTO.
- How many Massage Therapists belong to the RMTAO? How many RMTs are in Ontario? What is the RMTAO doing for retention and recruiting new members?
 - o 6696 members as of the writing of the script, and there are 14,000 RMTs in Ontario according to the latest CMTO report but it could now be as high as 16,000. The RMTAO has a lot of initiatives to increase the number of RMTs in the association, and aggressive goals for member retention and recruitment. We continuously improve our offerings, increase our advocacy efforts and social media.
- Will there be a pro-rated fee for the RMTAO for those joining later in the year?
 - o Yes, the RMTAO offers prorated fee quarterly.

MOTION: To accept the 2024 Report on Operations.

MOVED: Jadwiga Brzozowska

SECOND: Amanda Winter

CARRIED.

7. Report on Finances

Mr. Kidd invited Ms. Deborah Coburn, Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee, to present the Report on Finances.

Ms. Coburn noted that excerpts of the Auditor's Report had been provided to attendees and were made available on the website. Copies of the full Auditor's Report were available upon request.

Ms. Coburn reviewed the Auditor's Report and the Audited Financial Statements, and the findings of the Board as it reviewed the year-end statements. She noted that the Auditor had found that the statements were representative of the financial condition of the organization and that they had been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. She advised that excerpts from the Auditor's report could be found alongside the Annual Report and on the website.

Questions:

- There were no questions.

MOTION: To accept the Auditor's Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the period October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024 as presented.

MOVED: Frances Tregurtha

SECOND: Jane Mical

CARRIED.

8. Appointment of the Auditor

Ms. Coburn noted that it was the duty of the members to appoint the Auditor of Record for the RMTAO and that the Board of Directors recommended to members that the RMTAO continue with the current Auditor.

Questions:

- There were no questions.

MOTION: To appoint Kriens~LaRose Chartered Accountants as the Auditor for the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario for the fiscal year October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

MOVED: Erin Pierson

SECOND: Renata DeForest

CARRIED.

9. Secretary's Report on Nomination and Election to the Board

Mr. Kidd invited the Board Secretary, Ms. Dylan Crake, to report on the Annual Election of the Board of Directors.

Ms. Crake advised that a Call for Nominations had been issued on October 7, 2024, noting that three (3) Director positions were open for nomination. Two (2) nominations were received for the three (3) Director positions available. As the number of nominations was less than the number of vacancies, the two individuals were acclaimed to the Board of Directors.

Ms. Crake welcomed the following Directors to the Board for a three-year term:

- Terri Rowan
- Elizabeth Snook

In addition to the two (2) members acclaimed as Directors this year, the Board has several Directors continuing to serve their terms. They are:

- Catherine Roe, Shannon Marshall, Susan Shipton, Vicente Zabala (two years remaining)
- Alex Kidd, Ian Kamm (one year remaining)

Questions:

- There were no questions.

MOTION: To accept the Report on the Nominations and Election process for the 2025 Board of Directors as presented.

MOVED: Shahnaz Suteria

SECOND: Devon Mayer

CARRIED.

Mr. Kidd acknowledged Erin Pierson, Dylan Crake and Deborah Coburn, who have completed their terms on the Board of Directors and did not run for re-election.

10. Presentation of the RMTAO Awards

Mr. Kidd recognized the individuals who received the 2024 Award Winners. They are:

- RMT of the year Award: Erika Kuehnel
- Educator of the year Award: Peter Becker
- Professional Service Award: Dani Faucher
- Research Award: Morgan Richard

Mr. Feraday recognized new life time members and RMTAO members whom have been a part of the Association for 30 + years

Mr. Kidd and Mr. Feraday introduced the 2025 Award Winners. They are:

- Amanda Winter, Research Award
- Jim Smyth, Professional Service Award
- Dr. Amanda Baskwill, Honorary Membership
- Marvin Mohring, Educator of the Year
- Sasha Goudriaan, RMT of the Year

11. Other Business

Mr. Kidd asked if there was any other business to properly be brought before the meeting.

There was no other business brought forward.

12. Adjournment

There being no other business, Mr. Kidd thanked everyone present for attending and for their support. He asked if there was a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: To adjourn the Annual General Meeting.

MOVED: Melissa Hampson

SECOND: Susan Bessonette

CARRIED.

Dylan Crake, Secretary, RMTAO
Recording Secretary
February 2, 2025