

Thursday, June 16: Pre-Conference Workshop

W01: 0930-1500

An Introduction to Ethics and Professionalism for Medical Laboratory Science

Speaker: Sharon Leal, RT, MEd.

This collaborative workshop is meant to be FUN, using critical thinking skills to gain a better understanding of ethics and professionalism and how they pertain to MLS.

The introduction will be interactive as participants will be asked to respond to "good" or "bad" ethical practises.

Case scenarios and short course readings are the basis of discussion groups and group presentations.

Thursday, June 16: Pre-Conference Workshop

W02: 0930-1500

Pre-Brief: Preparing for the Unpreparable

*Speakers: Megan Parrish, BSc (MLS), MLT
Amanda VanSpronsen, BSc (MLS), MLT, MSc
Rhonda Shea, BSc (MLS), MLT, MA
Gwen Clarke, MD FRCPC*

Pre-briefing provides information and expectations in preparation for an event, topic, task, meeting, or simulation. Pre-briefing is a vital step in creating a safe atmosphere to enhance discussions with a wide variety of applications. Workshop participants will learn about the type of situations where pre-briefing is ideal and how to create an environment where people are more receptive to discussions. This workshop is ideal for any level of professional involved in training others, such as students or new employees, or simply those who want to enhance their ability to communicate with other professionals on a daily basis.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Define pre-briefing and recognize important elements that contribute to a safe learning environment
2. Practice key pre-briefing skills, such as setting clear expectations
3. Apply pre-briefing skills to a variety of situations, including training, competency assessment, performance assessment, and simulations

Thursday, June 16: Pre-Conference Workshop

W04: 0930-1200

Transfusion Medicine: Hands On/Wet Workshop - “Capture” The Antibody!

*Speakers: Marie-Hélène Robert, TM, RT
Christine Danks, MLT*

An overview of Capture-R® Solid Phase Technology used in Blood Bank Laboratories for the screening and identification of IgG clinically significant antibodies.

This workshop will introduce the principle of Capture-R Technology and the technical procedural steps. Each participant will then “get involved” with hands-on experience using Capture-R Technology in identifying a mystery antibody and will have the opportunity to win a few prizes playing Blood Bank!

Included with this workshop is a bonus session: “Variant and Partial D’s ... is anyone Rh negative anymore?”

This session is an overview of the commonly misunderstood variants of the Rh gene Weak D and Partial D. How various Anti-D reagents with automation are causing serological questions?

Historical results compared to present case examples and how to report these variant Ds.

Thursday, June 16: Pre-Conference Workshop

W05: 0930-1230

Bricks 4 Biz®: Leadership, Management & Communication Skills

Speaker: Amber Jadis, PEng., MBA

LEGO® is more than a toy for children. At this Bricks 4 Biz® team building seminar, the facilitator will lead your group through a series of activities using LEGO® bricks as a tool to encourage a sense of fun and create a relaxed environment to deepen understanding, sharpen insight and create connections. This Bricks 4 Biz® workshop will build on leadership, management and communication skills, with the goal of having participants leave feeling empowered and confident.

Bricks 4 Biz® is part of the Bricks 4 Kidz® international franchise that was founded in 2009 in St. Augustine, Florida, and can now be found in almost 700 locations around the world.

Thursday, June 16: Pre-Conference Workshop

W06: 1300-1500

Minimizing the “Ouch” – Child Friendly Blood Collection

*Speakers: Paula Carroll, MLT, BSc, MHS
Kim Hober*

Bloodwork can be scary, especially for children. Memory of previous painful events can have psychological and physiological consequences including lack of cooperation, unsuccessful pokes, and variations to laboratory results. Using child friendly strategies can build trust, both for the immediate procedure as well as future visits.

Join us in this fun and interactive session to:

- Explore underlying causes of anxiety in patients and caregivers,
- Learn strategies across developmental levels for preparing patients and caregivers,
- Discover ways to minimize pain during procedures,
- Learn how to safely and effectively involve caregivers and
- Find ways to minimize the “scary factor” in phlebotomy areas.

Friday, June 17: General session

P01: 0915-1030

Working Together for Optimal Laboratory Utilization

Speaker: David W. Kinniburgh, PhD, DABCC, FCACB

Appropriate Laboratory Utilization continues to be an important area as laboratory professionals, health care administrators and governments search for efficiencies and improved quality and safety of patient care. History has taught us that utilization management solutions must come from collaboration among laboratories, physicians and other health care providers. Together, laboratory medicine specialists and health care providers can determine the best strategies to provide the best patient care, maximizing positive clinical outcomes and minimizing negative ones. Labs can provide data on test utilization and costs to inform effective strategies, and can play an important role in educating users on best practices.

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

A01:1115-1230

Lean Six Sigma in the Phlebotomy Lab – A Learned Experience

Speaker: Chrystal Allen, MLT, ASCP (CT)^{CM}, BHSc, CLSSGB, CLSSBB

This session will present a learned experience by sharing a Lean Six Sigma Project within Horizon Health Network in which I was the Project Lead for Phlebotomy Process Time Reduction. Average process times from when a patient pulled a ticket to the time they left the chair were an average 57 minutes (with some waiting much longer) at baseline, to just over 28 minutes after the final test. Using the Lean Six Sigma methodology we identified the challenges within the process (patient scheduling, patient culture, capacity and demand, and systems flow) and made improvements.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the basics of how Lean Six Sigma can assist you in improving your processes
2. Define the basic concepts of Lean Six Sigma and how they apply in the lab
3. Understand how to apply data based decisions and come to the correct solutions
4. Learn how Lean Six Sigma was used to improve blood collection wait times and process times and apply learning to your own lab

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

A02: 1115-1230

TRON: Laboratory

*Speakers: Michele Sykes, BSc, MLT, CAE
Dylan Smitzniuk*

You have been granted authorization to immerse yourself into this virtual laboratory space. Explore a panorama of the Microbiology Laboratory at Red River College created for prospective and new students (or anyone else interested in the world of microbiology). Discuss how this project was carried out from design to implementation. Take advantage of the opportunity to interact with the laboratory in the comfort of your own seat. No PPE required, just an interest in participating in laboratory adventures!

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Identify the steps required to plan, create, and implement a panorama
2. Examine the use of a panorama as a tool for determining program fit for prospective students
3. Identify a variety of panorama features that aid in reaching a diverse student population

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

A03: 1115-1230

Plasma Utilization: Saving at Capital Health after the Implementation of New Guidelines

Speaker: Eiad Kahwash, MD, FASCP

Recent recommendations from AABB on plasma transfusion and alternatives have brought to light that changes were needed with how plasma and alternatives were being utilized at Capital Health.

We began with a review of the most recent published papers and studies on indications for plasma usage. From there we created our own guidelines which were presented to our division, department and clinical affairs. All groups were supportive and in agreement to implement these guidelines. The guidelines were implemented and every plasma request was monitored. As with any change, it was difficult in the beginning but the residents and nurses learned quickly and from there it went smoothly. After a few weeks we started to see the difference in plasma utilization. Calculating the number of units transfused compared with the previous years showed a savings.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the updated guidelines for plasma transfusion
2. Recognize contraindications of plasma transfusion
3. Evaluate the efforts and side effects of saving plasma
4. Reflect on what else can be done to increase plasma savings

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

A04: 1115-1230

A Debate! Should individuals be able to directly order their own clinical laboratory tests?

*Speakers: Amanda VanSpronsen, MSc, BSc, MLT
Valentin (Tino) Villatoro, MEd, BSc, MLT*

Diagnostic laboratory test ordering is changing. In some areas, individuals can order their own tests directly from the laboratory, without a physician requisition. Should this occur? Presented as a spirited debate, a proponent and an opponent will describe what impacts this increased access may have. The audience will hear about the roles the internet, government, corporations, and other healthcare providers may play while the debaters present arguments on multiple fronts (scientific, social, political, financial) and attempt to reveal weaknesses in their opponent's position. Audience members will be encouraged to generate their own opinions, and ultimately decide who wins!

At the end of this session, you will:

1. Understand major aspects of the proponent's position
2. Understand major aspects of the opponent's position
3. Appreciate the social, political, financial, and scientific arguments for and against direct ordering by the general public
4. Become aware of the major areas of concern for the field of laboratory medicine as availability of biochemical and genetic testing to the general public increases

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

A05: 1115-1230

Precision Biologic: Identifying, Measuring, and Treating Coagulation Factor Inhibitors

Speaker: George Fritzma, MS MSC

Factor inhibitors complicate hemophilia therapy and cause life-threatening hemorrhage. Allo-anti-factor VIII is an IgG immunoglobulin that develops in 30% of hemophiliacs in response to replacement factor therapy; additionally, auto-anti-FVIII appears in susceptible individuals. Likewise, factor IX inhibitor arises in 3% of factor IX deficiency (Christmas disease) cases. The hemostasis laboratory employs partial thromboplastin time (PTT) mixing studies to detect inhibitors and follows up with factor assays and the quantitative Nijmegen-Bethesda assay (NBA). We will discuss the clinical challenges in inhibitor management, inhibitor detection and measurement via PTT mixing studies, and the means for monitoring factor concentrate therapy or factor inhibitor bypassing therapy. We will describe current initiatives to establish NBA standardization and normalization. A PowerPoint illustrated lecture with a question and answer session.

Friday, June 17: General session

P02:1300-1415

TEEM Impacts of Pre-Examination Error

Speaker: Michael Noble, MD, FRCPC

The National Academy of Medicine points out that as many as 5% of patients experience a diagnostic error. Many of these errors occur before the sample reaches the laboratory. Doing work on laboratory samples with pre-examination errors costs time, effort, energy, and money with no value or return and potentially creating harm. While the laboratory may not be able to catch pre-pre-examination errors, and some pre-examination errors, many are detectable and can be halted (and sometimes amended) thus reducing many poor quality costs. Reducing harm requires establishing firm rules and following them.

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

B01: 1530-1645

Using a Learning Health System to Drive Quality Improvement

Speaker: Christine McRoberts, MLT, CLQM

Reliance of health care organizations on externally executed and prospective studies to ascertain the effectiveness of health care practices can result in delays in the implementation of quality initiatives. In-house information technology can be used to direct change and measure the effectiveness and impact of applied changes, supporting timely and evidence-based practice. This is the basis for a “Learning Health System.”

Newborn Screening Ontario (NSO) has developed a “data warehouse” which provides information, used both internally and shared with our partners, and converts that data into practice changes which improve care and services and support NSO strategic goals.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand what a “Learning Health System” is
2. Recognize the value of using in-house data to ascertain issues and propose effective corrective and preventative actions

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

B02: 1530-1645

Introduction to the CSA Tool Kit for Sample Collection Facilities and Medical Laboratories

Speaker: Anne-Marie Martel, TLM/MLT

The standard CSA Z316.7 *Primary sample collection facilities and medical laboratories — Requirements for requesting, collecting, transporting, and storing samples for patient safety and quality of care* was developed for use by medical laboratories, sample collection services and other health care facilities. A tool kit was created by CSA in 2015 to provide concise and user-friendly templates to assist users of this standard. This kit contains templates and examples of manuals, procedures, policies, checklists, forms and instructions in an electronic format. This presentation will introduce these templates and guide users on how to adapt them to their own work settings.

At the end of this session, you will:

1. Understand the purpose of the CSA Z316.7 standard
2. Know how to access the CSA Tool Kit
3. Know what templates are included in the Tool Kit
4. Understand how they can be used to increase the quality of pre-analytical activities within your workplace

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

B03: 1530-1645

PEI HCV Monitoring

*Speakers: Lisa Barrett, MD, PhD, FRCPC
Andrea Dowling, MLT*

PEI is the first province to publicly provide access to highly effective, interferon-free curative therapy for genotype 1 HCV. The HCV program provides the recognition, triage and treatment of HCV positive patients, with the end result of curing Hepatitis C in PEI patients.

Panel discussion will focus on the diagnostics and the algorithms developed for the study, background information on the study and the study population, and also how the laboratory developed their processes in order to provide efficient service between provinces.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the diagnostics of the HCV study
2. Understand the concept of 'cure' for HCV
3. Collaborate with other professionals in order to carry out a study
4. Work together with diagnostic reference laboratories

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

B04: 1530-1645

Meeting students on a higher level by encouraging creativity, innovation & critical thinking

*Speakers: Heather McMullen, BScMLS, MLT, MEd.
Kal Randhawa, MLT, MEd.*

The world becomes a better place as we individually and collectively develop critical thinking processes. We can work within our sphere of influence – the medical laboratory – to make small changes that have great impact.

As technology and innovation allow for easier testing and operation of instruments, interpreting outcomes, troubleshooting problems and explaining unexpected results has become more complex. The need for creative, critical and collaborative thinking is becoming increasingly necessary to develop innovative, flexible individuals prepared to challenge their advancing and changing profession. Content can be used as a tool to instil creative, critical and collaborative thinking.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Explicitly articulate a definition for critical thinking that is relevant to teaching and training laboratory professionals
2. Identify new challenges that current students face
3. Use critical thinking to endow students with the tools they need to survive

Friday, June 17: Concurrent session

B05: 1530-1645

Siemens: End to End Solutions in Patient Outcomes - Providing accurate results regardless of the setting

Speaker: Jason Weshler

End to end solutions for diagnostic testing help ensure that the same accurate results can be obtained for the patient regardless of where testing takes place. It includes the accurate correlation of results as well as scalability to accommodate different testing volume needs. This session focuses on the benefit to patient care, the importance of correlating diagnostic testing done across sites and satisfying the compliance requirements to establish comparability of results for patient samples throughout the clinically appropriate intervals. This session will also highlight some of the technological advancements and their impact on the evolving Canadian health care environment.

Saturday, June 18: General session

P03: 0915-1030

Future of the Profession: Who has the Crystal Ball?

Speaker: Christine Nielsen, BHA, MLT, CAE

In this session you will learn about the various changes facing the medical laboratory profession. We will explore the unfinished journey to regulation and examine what this means for both MLAs and MLTs. A look at rapid technological change and its impact on duties and scopes of practice will be discussed. Finally, we will look into the future of where the industry and profession are headed with the health human resource crisis and our aging population in mind.

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

C01: 1130-1245

Bloodspots and Beyond: The Maritime Newborn Screening Program

*Speakers: Jill Miko, MSc, CCGC
Barb Fulton, MLT*

Presenters will provide information about the Maritime Newborn Screening Program, including appropriate specimen collection, the diseases that are screened for, the technology used, and the clinical follow-up implemented. The goal is for attendees to appreciate the importance of proper specimen collection and the implications of a positive newborn screen for families.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Recall the history of newborn screening practices
2. Understand the importance of proper specimen collection
3. Understand the diseases that the Maritime Newborn Screening Program screens for
4. Appreciate the extensive clinical follow-up that happens for positive screens
5. Empathize with parents who have received a positive newborn screen result

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

C02: 1130-1245

Quality Assurance in the Immunohistochemistry Lab

Speaker: Kelly Dakin Hache, MD, PhD, FRCP(C)

This presentation will cover various aspects of quality assurance in the immunohistochemistry laboratory. Topics covered include pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical variables affecting test results, including protocol development, calibration, validation, interpretation, control selection and external quality control.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. List variables that influence the results of IHC tests
2. Understand selection of appropriate normal control tissues
3. Identify specific recommendations for use of positive, negative controls
4. Understand principles of test calibration and validation
5. Recognize importance of external quality control

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

C03: 1130-1245

What should I do? The Legal and Ethical Challenges of an MLT

*Speaker: Janice Jones, MLT, BSc
Rosemary Drisdelle, MLT, ART, BA*

Good ethical and legal judgment is required for all medical laboratory technologists (MLTs), whether you work for someone else or are self-employed in a regulated province. MLTs are often challenged by the diversity and number of rules and expectations that apply to a practicing licensed MLT. Jurisprudence guides you in your professional obligations and legal requirements of the profession by examining common issues and scenarios, and providing direction to resources. It addresses not only requirements for credentials and education, but also such important issues as confidentiality, consent, and professional misconduct.

Note: the content of this presentation is not legal advice.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the College role as a professional regulatory licensing body
2. Aid the MLT in making informed decisions using regulatory professional practice policies and relevant federal and provincial legislations that impact on the practice of medical laboratory technology. (Focus will be NS legislation but principles can be applied to other provinces)
3. Aid the MLT in clarification of professional practice, and accountability

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

C04: 1130-1245

The Role of Pathology Informatics in Transfusion Service Optimization

*Speakers: Calvin Cheng, MD, FRCPC
Stephanie Watson, MLT*

This session will highlight informatics initiatives (i.e. red cell and platelet dashboard suite; red cell inventory ordering algorithm) which have arisen from business requirements at Blood Transfusion Services and examine their impact on the institution. We will discuss how initiatives arose, the interplay between Blood Transfusion Services and the Informatics Group, and how these initiatives were implemented. The speakers will highlight their experience on these collaborations and will identify barriers and enablers of the project in a round table discussion with the goal to see these initiatives replicated at other institutions.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Outline the informatics initiatives which have been implemented at Blood Transfusion Services at Nova Scotia Health Authority, Central Zone in Halifax, Nova Scotia
2. Identify barriers and enablers for project success
3. Examine how this can be applied to other institutions

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

C05: 1130-1245

Roche Diagnostics: Laboratory Test Utilization: Opportunities, Strategies, Leading Change

Speaker: Dr. Amy K. Saenger, PhD, DABCC

This session highlights various approaches the laboratory can take to examine and improve laboratory test utilization.

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

D01: 1400-1515

MALDI-TOF for Mycobacteria and Fungi?

Speaker: David J. M. Haldane, MBChB FRCPC

MALDI-TOF has revolutionized identification of bacteria in the clinical laboratory. The identification of mycobacteria and fungi has been an expensive and difficult process with the potential for even greater change with the application of this new technology. We will review the general principles of MALDI-TOF based identification and review the use of this method to identify mycobacteria and fungi and related organisms.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the principle of MALDI-TOF
2. Understand the role of MALDI-TOF in identification of fungi and mycobacteria
3. Recognize the significance of rapid identification of mycobacteria and fungi

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

D02: 1400-1515

From Bench to Business

Facilitator: Christine Nielsen

Panelists: TBA

Join us for an open discussion with panelists who have gone from working as medical laboratory technologists to various other roles in the health care field.

Follow their stories of hardships and successes and learn about their periods of adjustments as they transitioned out of a traditional laboratory role.

Find out what other career opportunities exist for bench technologists if they decide to leave the laboratory environment.

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

D03: 1400-1515

Staying Professional in a Social Media World

Speaker: Michael Grant, BComm.

The world of social media is expanding with every Facebook post, Twitter post, LinkedIn update, and Foursquare location. Are you feeling a little confused with what all these tools are? Are you wondering where the boundaries should exist with your personal and professional world? This informative session will provide an overview of these tools and guidance how to keep your personal and private worlds from colliding.

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

D04: 1400-1515

Molecular Profiling for Lung Cancer Patients

Speaker: Wenda Greer, PhD, FCCMG

Lung cancer can be caused by different genetic defects. Therapies are now available that target cells with specific mutations. It is therefore essential to obtain a genetic profile for each patient tumor in order to decide on individual therapies. This session will cover the approach for genetic profiling of lung tumors at Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) and a summary of our experience to date.

At the end of this session, you will:

1. Be familiar with the common genetic changes associated with lung cancer
2. Understand the role of these changes in leading to neoplasia
3. Understand how testing for these genetic changes impacts therapy

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

D05: 1400-1515

Nova Biomedical: Blood glucose testing in critically ill patients — importance of glucose meter accuracy

Speaker: Evan Ntrivalas, MD, PhD, HCLD/CC(ABB), D(ABMLI)

Point-of-care (POC) glucose testing in the hospital is a valuable tool for the management of dysglycemia. The FDA now requires new glucose meters to be tested on critically ill patients in order to be cleared for use in this patient population. The presentation will discuss the chronology of events that led to the change in regulatory requirements for glucose meter use in the hospital, and how these impact hospital glucose testing. Additionally, clinical cases and studies showing the significance of confounding factors that affect glucose meter performance on hospitalized patients will be presented. The importance of accurate POC glucose results for improved clinical outcomes and patient's safety will be discussed.

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

E01: 1545-1700

How can we use laboratory tests to explore gluten issues; more than just celiac disease

Speaker: Barbara Ross, MD, FRCPC

This session will explore how we can use laboratory tests to assess for possible celiac disease and also how to look for the non-celiac gluten sensitivity. The role of HLA haplotypes in celiac disease will be used to show the role of deamidation in celiac disease and how this is not a process that happens with the non-celiac gluten sensitivity form. The session will explore the sensitivity and specificity of the various tests, which can help to determine whether a small bowel biopsy is actually necessary or not.

At the end of this session, you will:

1. Understand the screening tests for celiac disease
2. Understand the role of HLA testing for celiac disease
3. Understand the differences and similarities between celiac disease and gluten sensitivity
4. Understand the tests that we have for screening for gluten sensitivity issues
5. Understand the issue of systemic health problems related to gluten, including its role in the pathogenesis of psychiatric illnesses

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

E02: 1545-1700

Colorectal Cancer Screening on PEI – a Collaborative “FIT” for All Participants

*Speakers: Louise Farrar, BSc., MLT
Marla Delaney
Brian Timmons, BSc., MLT
Marvin Tesch, MD, FRCP*

The PEI collaborative implementation of a province-wide colorectal cancer screening program has been quite a journey with many lessons learned. The panel includes both sides of the team with laboratory and community health representatives who will describe the project from inception to present day. Stakeholders, their roles, challenges, successes, and surprises are included. The importance of collaboration and strong partnerships in ensuring the project success will be discussed. The group will present how the CCSP is contributing to future programs such as the cervical cancer screening program.

A case study will be included with a patient's side of the story.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Identify and understand the multi-departmental roles & responsibilities in the implementation of a province-wide colorectal cancer screening program.
2. Understand the importance of collaboration to the success of a province-wide colorectal cancer screening program and identify the potential benefits for future programs.
3. See how one province is managing the impact of change.
4. Understand what PEI has learned from the CCSP and how we are applying it to the cervical cancer screening program.
5. Understand the basics of fecal occult blood immunoassay testing and the role of the laboratory in the implementation of a province-wide colorectal cancer screening program.

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

E03: 1545-1700

“Men Anpil Chay Pa Lou”: Perspectives of a Volunteer Lab Tech in Haiti

Speaker: Deanna Ruth Danskin, BSc, MLT

“Men anpil chay pa lou” is a Haitian Creole proverb meaning “many hands lightens the load”. Have you ever wondered what it would be like to volunteer your skills in a developing country, or felt compelled to use your technical knowledge to help those less fortunate? During this session I will share my perspectives on volunteering in a laboratory in Haiti, and discuss the unique challenges associated with delivering diagnostic services in a developing country. This presentation will provide insight into another culture and inspire others to use their professional skills to lighten the burden of others.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the unique challenges facing laboratory diagnostics in Haiti
2. See the potential CSMLS-certified lab techs have to create change in developing countries
3. See how transfusion medicine is delivered in Haiti, ‘vein-to-vein’, in contrast to Canada
4. Gain insights and ask questions about the medical volunteer experience
5. Feel inspired to use your professional skills to help others!

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

E04: 1545-1700

Regulation of Medical Laboratory Assistants and Technicians in Ontario

*Speakers: Kathy Wilkie, BHA, MLT
John Tzountzouris, MA, BSc, BHA, MLT
Pat Mercuri, MBA, BA, ART, MLT*

Regulating medical laboratory assistants and technicians in Ontario under the same legislative framework as medical laboratory technologists will provide the public with greater protection by contributing to the provision of high-quality clinical laboratory services.

The experiences of the CMLTO in developing and launching a voluntary roster as a step toward regulation in 2015 for medical laboratory assistants and technicians in Ontario will be shared. This will help inform laboratory practitioners of the self-regulation process, and support other jurisdictions thinking of pursuing the regulation of this cadre of health practitioner.

At the end of this session, you will:

1. Understand contemporary thinking about health professional regulation in Ontario
2. Understand the journey taken by the CMLTO in pursuing the regulation of medical laboratory assistants and technicians in Ontario
3. Understand the CMLTO experience in developing and launching a voluntary roster for medical laboratory assistants and technicians in Ontario

Saturday, June 18: Concurrent session

E05: 1545-1700

Beckman Coulter Industry Session

Speaker: Sergio Sangez

Session description coming soon

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

F01: 1030-1145

Evidence Based Medicine in Transfusion

Speaker: Jennifer Fesser, MD, FRCPC

Over the last two decades, various clinical studies have informed our understanding of when blood transfusion is likely to be beneficial, and when adjuncts / alternatives should be considered. This presentation will look back at some of the seminal research that transformed the practice of transfusion medicine, and look forward to new developments (massive transfusion ratios, tranexamic acid, age of blood, etc.)

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. List one benefit and one limitation of a restrictive transfusion strategy
2. List one benefit and one limitation of a 1:1:1 massive transfusion ratio
3. Explain whether the following is true: "old blood is bad blood"
4. List one benefit and one limitation of the use of tranexamic acid

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

F02: 1030-1145

***Babesia* spp.: Coming to a woodland near you**

Speaker: Rosemary Drisdelle, MLT, ART, BA

Babesia spp. are blood protozoa that morphologically resemble malaria parasites, particularly *Plasmodium falciparum*. The organisms cause babesiosis, a febrile flu-like illness that ranges in severity from asymptomatic to fatal, and frequently results in severe hemolytic anemia. Babesiosis, once rare in humans, has been expanding its range in the United States since 1969, following in the wake of Lyme disease and the deer tick, *Ixodes scapularis*. The first case acquired in Canada was reported in 2014. If you see cases of Lyme in your laboratory, get ready for *Babesia* - it is almost certainly coming to a woodland near you.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Recount the history of babesiosis in Canada and understand why Canadian MLTs should be aware of, and watchful for, this disease
2. Identify the risk factors for babesiosis
3. Describe the clinical symptoms of babesiosis
4. Describe the identifying features of *Babesia* spp. in a human blood film
5. Name laboratory tests used in the confirmation of a diagnosis of babesiosis

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

F03: 1030-1145

One Standard – Multiple Purposes: Improving data quality and reducing data collection burden

Speakers: Pierre Leveille, A.R.T.,
Lorie Carey, CSMLS, CIM P.Mgr

Laboratory results are transmitted to the Electronic Health Record (EHR) using a terminology standard that defines over 30,000 laboratory observations. Not all of these observations can be considered a laboratory ‘test’. For example, the presence of target cells on a blood smear has a unique code; however, it is part of a larger ‘test’.

This presentation will describe a collaborative project that developed principles to define a laboratory ‘test’ using a pan-Canadian terminology standard. This approach will help define and count a test electronically, resulting in more consistent and comparable test counts across the country.

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

F04: 1030-1145

TBA

Speaker: Joël Rivero

Session description coming soon

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

F05: 1030-1145

Bioleen Solutions: Laboratory 2.0: How to sell your CEO on Quality through financial & productivity gains?

Speaker: Jacques Audet, BSc

Do we always have to wait for a crisis to occur before we can muster the courage to justify the added budget needed to get the required tools to improve the layers of quality within your laboratory? If you want to sell quality to your CEO you have to show risk reduction, financial or productivity gains in your equation. The purpose of this presentation is to explore ways to build your business case through statistical referencing starting with your Six Sigma perceived value, your risk level and assessing the relationship between the perception and the reality of what we see in most labs when it comes to measuring the cost of poor quality and determining the cost of Internal Failure Costs which is directly related to laboratory expenditure. We will show you the pool of money that is available when you target 5 area of improvements within your lab.

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

G01:1245-1400

Intraoperative PTH Testing

Speaker: Melissa King, MLT

Hyperparathyroidism, to cut or not to cut? How familiar are you with parathyroid hormone? This session will give an overview of parathyroid function and the impact of increased levels of parathyroid hormone; the basics of hyperparathyroidism, causes and treatment options. Why is it necessary to monitor PTH levels during the surgical procedure and how does that impact patient outcome? What are the different methodologies of measuring iPTH?

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Discuss abnormal values for PTH

2. Understand circumstances that require parathyroidectomy
3. Learn about the outcomes of parathyroid therapy

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

G02: 1245-1400 (Cytology Spotlight)

A. The PEI EBUS (Endobronchial Ultrasound Guided Biopsy) Experience

Speaker: Marvin Tesch, MD, FRCP

In this session, the EBUS procedure in PEI over the last 10 years will be reviewed, focusing on the procedure, cytological results and clinical implications.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Better understand EBUS procedure and node stations
2. Analysis cytological preparations from EBUS procedure
3. Understand the value of EBUS

B. The Good, The Bad, The Ugly of Cytology

Speaker: Melissa Walsh, BSc, MLT

This presentation will review (via slide show) interesting cytology cases seen in PEI from 2013-2015. There will be both cytology images as well as histology correlation. Emphasis will be on the cytology images with a quick review on criteria. It will also demonstrate some quirky ways that cells can present themselves. Aspects of this presentation will tap into the viewer's imagination.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Go cloud gazing in cytology
2. View interesting cases
3. Quick criteria refresher

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

G03: 1245-1400

Vancomycin: A comparison of methods

Speaker: Vanessa Arseneau, BSc, MLT

Several isolates of *Staphylococcus aureus* (including 9 MRSA isolates) from blood cultures were tested using various methods. Vancomycin MIC values from the Vitek2, Biomerieux Etest strips, Liofilchem paper test strips (Alere) and broth microdilution are compared.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Understand the different methods available for Vancomycin testing
2. Compare the different methods
3. Understand the importance of accurate Vancomycin MIC values in Staph aureus bacteremia

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

G04: 1245-1400

Looking to the Future – Preparing the Leaders of Tomorrow

Speaker: Tiffany Clouston, BSc, MLT

Canadian MLTs are faced with the unsettling statistic that approximately 50% of currently employed technologists are eligible for retirement within the next 10 years. This will undoubtedly cause a loss of many experienced technologists in management and leadership roles. From the speaker's experience as a "20-something" technologist, this talk will focus on how to motivate the young generation to take on some of those responsibilities now in order to maintain strength and knowledge within the profession. It will touch on generational differences and how to communicate effectively with each other, respect each other's ideas and build upon each other's experiences.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Recognize impending shortages in the lab
- Improve communication across generations
- Motivate young technologists to become leaders

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

G05: 1245-1400

Surgically Clean Air Industry Session

Speaker: TBA

Session description coming soon

Sunday, June 19: Concurrent session

P04: 1500-1615

Lessons from Abroad: The Opportunities of a Borderless World

Speaker: Dr. Richard Heinzl

With perspective and humility, Dr. Heinzl shares lessons from his experiences at the far corners of the world: major moments, like working through a humanitarian crisis during the Iraq War, or witnessing South Africa's first democratic elections. He also captures the quieter, no less wondrous, moments. Like seeing how a simple Frisbee, given to a group of kids at the frontlines, can bring joy half the world away. Or how, in most places he went, the Internet had beat him there, shrinking the globe. (Still, in other places, the Net was absent -- developing in him a visceral need for something like it to come along.)

Heinzl takes us passed the expected sphere of humanitarian aid stories to reveal a remarkable world with universal lessons and incredible human stories (beginning with the story of how his experiences changed his life.) Zooming out, he points to the exponential change in our borderless world. Why, for instance, it is more important than ever for individuals and organizations to have a non-conventional approach to problem solving. We need to embrace this change, he says, and to see what is truly valuable in our world – and how we are all connected in it.