



Music Therapy Association of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 2023 to the Canadian Association of Music Therapists

1. Expert Series

The Music Therapy Association of Saskatchewan (MTAS) offers continuing education sessions through our “Expert Series” video conferences. This was an initiative launched in 2020/21 as a means of highlighting the expertise of our membership and has grown into a forum for interdisciplinary discussion as well. We have budgeted to compensate our presenters with an honorarium. We had two very exciting, keynote worthy presentations by special guests from other disciplines in the fall of 2022:

October 13/22-Nadia Philapenko-Physiotherapist- “Body Mechanics, Ergonomics, Self Care for Music Therapists with Physio Focus

November 16/22-Christina Dumitrescu-Psychologist- “Coping with Compassion Fatigue”

All in attendance found these presentations beneficial in many ways. Presentations were recorded and made available to those in our membership who were unable to attend. Another session, “Conversation Cafe: Music Therapy Assessment” is planned for March 09/23 and will be led by MTAS board members Amanda Schenstead and Morgan Mueller. It is our hope to continue to provide these sessions in the future as they have become a valuable continuing education resource and means of remaining connected as a community of music therapists.

2. Newsletter

Board members continue to work hard to create a quarterly newsletter which contains ideas and resources for clinical work as well as a special “member spotlight” interview. It has been wonderful to learn more about some of our members through these interviews.

3. FACT-SK

MTAS continues to be involved with FACT-SK which has been working for several years to achieve the regulation of Counselling Therapy in Saskatchewan. There have been no updates on new applications to the SK Ministry of Health since our previous annual report. The focus over the past few months has been the Tax Free Therapy campaign which has been gaining a lot of support. MTAS is in full support and our logo has been added to the tax free therapy website: <https://www.taxfreetherapy.ca/>.

4. Membership Directory/Website

Board members have been working hard to update our membership directory and do an overhaul of the website. Fillable forms were created and sent out to the membership in an effort to gather more detailed information about areas of specialty and social locators thereby creating a more user friendly website. This is an ongoing process which we hope to complete by the end of the next fiscal year.

5. Cultural Awareness

MTAS hopes to continue increasing cultural awareness as we study and discuss the Truth and Reconciliation Health Care Calls to Action and how to incorporate this knowledge into music therapy practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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MTAS President