



Music Therapist Accredited (MTA)

April 30, 2009

Dear Sir/Madame:

The Canadian Association for Music Therapy (CAMT) would like to take this opportunity to contact employers in order to provide information about the profession of music therapy, and to collaborate towards provision of the highest standards of practice and quality of service.

The CAMT is the national professional music therapy association that supports, defends and accredits music therapists in Canada. It provides its members with a Code of Ethics, Regulations, and Standards of Music Therapy Practice. Each province has its own provincial association and some are also Chapters of CAMT.

In the majority of Canadian provinces, music therapy is not government regulated. Therefore, the CAMT is the only organization in Canada that supervises the profession and grants the designation of "Music Therapist Accredited" (MTA) to those who have:

- 1) Obtained a university degree in Music Therapy from an accredited educational facility;
- 2) Completed a post-university internship of 1,000 hours and met the requirements of the CAMT Accreditation Review Board; and
- 3) Continue to be a CAMT member in good standing, maintaining their credential every 5 years through the CAMT continuing education process.

As a result, CAMT requires that all candidates for a Music Therapy position who are entrusted with carrying out a mandate to practice Music Therapy, MUST be either accredited MTA or in the process of accreditation.

Thus, the Music Therapist is recognized as MTA by his or her peers and held responsible to adhere to the CAMT Code of Ethics, regardless of the position for which he or she is hired (e.g. professional, teacher, specialist, nurse, etc.).

This year, CAMT aims to further enhance public awareness of professional music therapy standards by circulating the enclosed information. When considering and/or evaluating services provided at your facility, please consider the following in order to increase public confidence for service expectations when seeking professional Music Therapy:

- If your workplace is considering offering Music Therapy services at your facility, please strongly consider the benefits of hiring an accredited Music Therapist as a professional who has met and will maintain national standards of practice, and who has agreed to abide by the CAMT Code of Ethics.
- If your workplace offers Music Therapy services but the person hired for this position is not accredited, it is requested that this person take the necessary steps to become accredited. Please understand that offering Music Therapy services without using qualified personnel can lessen not only the quality of service received by the clients but also the development of the profession.
- If, however, your workplace offers other forms of musical services for which a designated MTA is not deemed essential, we strongly recommend labelling those services with a term that accurately reflects the qualifications of the person who is providing them (e.g. adapted music education, musical activity, music recreation, sound intervention, music stimulation, etc.).

For further information regarding professional Music Therapy, including the CAMT Code of Ethics and MTA credential, please refer to the CAMT website: <http://www.musictherapy.ca/information.htm>

To learn more about available resources to support an employee to begin the accreditation process, or if you require any other information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation, and above all, for your interest in offering professional Music Therapy services in your workplace.

Louise Cadrin, MTA
CAMT President

Sandy Pelley, MTA
CAMT Accreditation Chair

Canadian Association for Music Therapy
Wilfrid Laurier University
Waterloo, Ontario
CANADA
N2L 3C5

Email: accreditation@musictherapy.ca

Phone: 1.800.996.CAMT
Email: camt@musictherapy.ca
Website: <http://www.musictherapy.ca/>