



## *From the* VRA Canada President

### Welcome Message from Lesley

As the new President of VRA Canada I felt it important to take this opportunity to introduce myself and provide a brief overview of initiatives VRA will undertake in the next several months. I believe it is important that the doors for communication be open and that members know that the Board and I work together on your behalf. I plan to provide regular updates and will be available to answer any questions you may have.

After our highly successful conference in Canmore, The Hon. Elinor Caplan facilitated a meeting of the VRA Canada and CVRP Boards with the view to fully understand the roles and responsibilities of each party and the foundations required in a strategic plan that would further this relationship and the professionalism of vocational rehabilitation.

After this successful meeting, the Board set out to evaluate our mission, vision and values and the strategic goals required to achieve them. I am attaching a copy of these documents for you and I hope they provide you with a sounder understanding of our goals over the forthcoming years.

VRA Canada will continue to advocate for the profession and for you its members. Education will be a key component in many of the initiatives we undertake. We are currently investigating the development of four, one-hour ethics courses that will be made available to all members at no cost. This is just the start of many new and exciting things to come.

Naturally, none of our achievements could happen without the effort and hard work of our wonderful Board. These individuals who have agreed to serve represent our membership well and will work tirelessly to continuously improve our Association.

There are many reasons why I decided to venture forth as President of VRA Canada. For me, this represents new challenges, new opportunities for personal growth, and a chance to work hard for an Association whose Mission I believe in. I hope you will all join me in anticipation of what will be a great year. I encourage each of you to participate. The success of our events and the advancement of our profession depends on the participation of all our members.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lesley McIntyre', written in a cursive style.

Lesley McIntyre, B.A. Hons, RRP, CVP



## Our Mission, Vision and Core Values



## Our Mission

# MISSION

**VRA Canada** and the multi-disciplinary vocational rehabilitation professionals it represents are committed to supporting, assisting and advocating for individuals experiencing or at risk of experiencing disabling or disadvantaging conditions\* along the continuum of achieving or restoring optimum vocational and life goals.

These outcomes are achieved through purposeful and intentional development of strategies and interventions that are informed and directed by education, research, experience and skills as well as ongoing professional development, unique to the discipline and profession of Vocational Rehabilitation.

*\*World Health Organization Definition: Disabilities is an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations, & participation restrictions. An impairment is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action; while a participation restriction is a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations. Thus disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person's body & features of the society in which he/she lives.*



## Our Vision

# VISION

**VRA Canada** is the leading national organization committed to professional excellence of and for its multi-disciplinary members, who are recognized by stakeholders as experts in the provision of vocational – prevocational rehabilitation services.

VRA Canada is the acknowledged Centre of Excellence providing, education, research and evidence-based best practices.



## Core Values

# VALUES

**VRA Canada** values are the foundation of who we are and how we practice:

- Trust
- Honesty
- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Excellence
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Advocacy for The Profession, the Professional and our Values



## Strategic Goals 2012



## Our Goals

# GOALS

**VRA Canada** Board of Directors has developed a series of strategic goals aimed to provide the guidance required to achieve our vision and fulfill our mission.

These goals will be achieved through defined initiatives undertaken and evolved through the operational Implementation plan.



## Our Goals

# GOALS

## Strategic Goals:

### Build and Sustain Membership:

- *(ensure they see value in the association)*
- Benefits
- Education

### Communication:

- Board
- College
- Members
- Stakeholders
- Public

### Path to Regulation:

- Discussions with college
- Scope of Practice - Joint with College
- Develop Ministry relationships and choose most appropriate one
- Model for regulatory entity
- Proposal

### Centre of Excellence:

- Define
- Education
- Evidence based Research and Best Practices
- Walk the walk, Talk the talk