

La corporation des thérapeutes du sport du Québec du Québec

## Informative Card 3 2021 SGM Proposals

**3**CTSQ's board of administrators is duly mandated by its membership, athletic therapists in Quebec, to bring forward necessary changes to the corporation's official documentation to reflect its role as the sole representative and spokesperson for our profession in Quebec.

Historically, the CTSQ and CATA have worked with mutuality and in a parallel fashion, with several of our by-laws referring directly to CATA. Unfortunately, we were forced to face the flaws of such a structure when the board of administrators of the CATA voted for the proposed changes last October. In order to ensure the full independency of the CTSQ, our by-laws and internal procedures will have to be reviewed. For example, a policy concerning maternity and study leaves will have to be designed.

However, know that even if the membership votes for the Proposal 3, as cited above, any changes made to the by-laws specifically will be brought forward to and will require ratification at the annual general meeting, in order to respect governing regulations.

In the event of an integration to a professional order, new or existing, by athletic therapists in Quebec, complying with the *Code des professions* (R.L.R.Q. ch. C-26) and considering the work and intervention of the CTSQ, we, athletic therapists in Quebec, explicitly mandate the CTSQ to bring forward any necessary steps allowing us to practise our profession in Quebec.

This proposal refers to different topics, previously discussed. First off, we would like to remind everyone that in 2017, the *Office des professions du Québec* (OPQ) mandated the CTSQ to create a board of administrators that would oversee the transition toward the professional system integration. Without going over the whole series of events following this, we would like to point out with this situation, the trusting relationship between the OPQ and the CTSQ with regard to professional regulation and integration. Since the dawn of the project, the CTSQ has been THE organization contacted by government officials; although a difficult process, the quality of our work has allowed us to go forward year after year. The OPQ launched a consultation process regarding the integration of athletic therapists to the professional system. It will end in June 2022. This consultation will lead to an official proposal to the government, by the OPQ, about how to properly regulate our profession. It is safe to say that the OPQ will keep counting on the CTSQ to bring this dossier to its conclusion; we can hope for this to happen within the next 18 to 24 months.



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**5**As part of the integration to the professional system, we, athletic therapists in Quebec, are in favour with the principle that only CTSQ's members may be recognized and receive proper licensing to allow the practice of our profession as long as the criteria of graduation from a valid program is met.

This proposal takes into account Quebec legal specifications. As mentioned in a previous informative card, in Quebec, a work licence delivery is always linked to proper academic graduation. Now, some professional bodies (accountants, nurses) also have an examination process in order to obtain a licence, but this decision belongs to the respective orders.

We cannot pretend to make official decisions for the future athletic therapy order administrators, but it is obvious to us that once integrated to the professional system, CTSQ's members that are in good standing shall have a direct and facilitated access to the professional licence within the future order.

Athletic therapists in Quebec are asking CATA's board of administrators to withhold the repeal of its by-laws that mandates members of the national organization to be a member of a provincial association in order to maintain their good standing with them.

7 Athletic therapists in Quebec are asking CATA's board of administrators to discuss with representatives from the CTSQ prior to changing their by-laws if the change might affect the relationship between the two associations.

Athletic therapists in Quebec are asking CTSQ's board of administrators to send a letter to CATA summarizing the necessary adopted proposal regarding the claims and intentions put forward by its membership at the SGM, held December 16, 2021.

Contrary to what CATA's administrators are saying, the situation is not as urgent as they make it sound. CATA's motivations for such erratic actions are still unclear and they cannot offer us a proper analysis for their proposal. What are the issues that they are trying to solve with the change? A lot remains unsaid. Keep in mind that all the decision-making was kept secret; there were no consultations, discussions or time allowed to process the proposal. Worst yet, their decision is going against their own federation projects that they put forward a few months ago. It is important to point out that the regional presidents unanimously are against this unilateral and aggressive decision. During their working sessions for the federation's project, the very same presidents were voicing the necessity to review the structure and mandates of the national and provincial associations, and to stray away from the centralization of powers toward a singular body.



If CTSQ's members accept, and as stated in the proposals here above, we are asking for a status quo for the benefits of our profession, in order to analyze the situation, adequately plan for the future and really answer the needs of our professionals. CATA's proposal for change is far from being a step forward for athletic therapy, in Quebec and in other provinces. The structure brought forward by their board is atypical and unseen in terms of healthcare profession regulation.

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