



Honourable Renée Cable
Minister of Advanced Education and Training
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

By email only to: minAET@manitoba.ca

October 23, 2025

Dear Minister Cable,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists – Manitoba (CAMRT-MB), I am writing to express my concerns regarding recent changes to the Medical Radiologic Technology (MRT) program at Red River College Polytechnic, particularly the removal of university prerequisite courses. While I understand and support the broader goal of eliminating barriers to access post-secondary programs, in this case, the change appears to be based on a misunderstanding of the actual obstacles preventing student entry into the program.

The Medical Radiological Technology program consistently receives hundreds of applications each year from highly qualified candidates for only 44 available seats. This clearly indicates that access is not limited by academic prerequisites, but rather by systemic constraints within the clinical education component of the program.

The primary barrier to expansion is the lack of available clinical education seats and funded rural clinical instructor positions. Without sufficient capacity to train students in real-world healthcare settings, the program cannot responsibly increase enrollment regardless of how many academically prepared applicants there are.

To meaningfully reduce barriers and expand access to the profession, I urge your office to collaborate with the office of the Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-term care to prioritize investment in developing additional clinical education partnerships, especially in underserved rural and northern communities. This would include supporting the recruitment and retention of qualified clinical instructors and improving infrastructure for remote and distributed clinical learning.

An additional challenge is that Manitoba currently has only one Medical Radiological Technology education program, in which no flexibility exists to allow prospective students to study closer to



home. For many potential students from rural and northern regions, this creates further barriers related to relocation costs and access to affordable housing in Winnipeg. Addressing program capacity while exploring regional access solutions could better support both students and the broader healthcare system in the province.

We respectfully encourage careful consideration of these factors as changes to the Medical Radiological Technology education pathway are finalized. Ensuring program quality, accessibility, and professional readiness is essential for maintaining high standards in Manitoba's healthcare system.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your commitment to advancing education and training opportunities in Manitoba and would welcome further dialogue on how we can strengthen the MRT program to meet the needs of both students and the healthcare system.

Sincerely,

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cc: Deputy Minister of Advanced Education and Training dmaet@manitoba.ca; Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-term Care minhsltc@manitoba.ca