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Sent: 4/17/2026 9:30 AM
To:
Subject: Changes to Exam Provider for Clinical Genetics and Diagnostic Cytology



Announcement: Changes to Exam Provider for Clinical Genetics and Diagnostic Cytology

This email is to inform you of an important decision recently made by the College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Alberta (CMLTA) Council regarding our examination provider for the Clinical Genetics and Diagnostic Cytology registers.

Recently, the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) informed the CMLTA that they will no longer be providing certification examinations and Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) services for two of our three MLT registers: Clinical Genetics (CG) and Diagnostic Cytology (DC).

Effective immediately, the Canadian Alliance of Medical Laboratory Professionals Regulators (CAMPLPR) is now the PLA and exam provider for the CG and DC MLT registers.

Please note that this change applies **only** to the CG and DC registers. The CSMLS will continue to provide exams for the General MLT register, as per the CMLTA's existing contract with CSMLS.

The CMLTA Council carefully weighed its available options to ensure continued public safety, rigorous professional standards, and financial responsibility. The CMLTA was offered the option to purchase exam content from CSMLS and provide both exams and PLAs in-house. However, Council determined that this option would have led to significant financial and administrative burdens, particularly given the very low number of MLTs in Alberta who would be impacted by this change.

This decision will affect very few individuals per year. There are currently no approved DC or CG MLT programs in Alberta, and CMLTA typically sees fewer than three individuals seeking substantial equivalence evaluation in these areas each year.

Partnering with CAMPLPR for these registers also facilitates smoother transitions for out-of-province learners coming to Alberta.

The CMLTA remains dedicated to upholding its mission to protect the public and ensure that individuals using the MLT designation in Alberta are fully qualified professionals.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to maintaining high standards in medical laboratory services.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at cmlta@cmlta.org.

Specific Examination Requirements for Diagnostic Cytology

The following CAMPLPR exams will be required for those on the Diagnostic Cytology register:

- Histology
- Cytology

Individuals who have completed an approved Diagnostic Cytology program or who have been deemed substantially equivalent will need to provide evidence of registration for both the Histology and Cytology exams to qualify for the provisional register. They will also need to pass both the Histology and Cytology exams to qualify for the Diagnostic Cytology register.

Specific Examination Requirements for Clinical Genetics

The following CAMPLPR exams will be required for those on the Clinical Genetics register:

- Cytogenetics
- Molecular Diagnostics

Individuals who have completed an approved Clinical Genetics program or who have been deemed substantially equivalent will need to provide evidence of registration for both the Cytogenetics and Molecular Diagnostics exams to qualify for the provisional register. They will also need to pass both the Cytogenetics and Molecular Diagnostics exams to qualify for the Clinical Genetics register.

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We acknowledge that the land on which the CMLTA office is located is Treaty 6 territory and a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous people. This is home to the Cree, Blackfoot, and Metis, as it is for the Nakoda, Tsuu T'ina, Chipewyan, and other Indigenous people. Their spiritual and practical relationships to the land create a rich heritage for our life as a community.

