ALGONQUIN COLLEGE | OTTAWA PERTH PEMBROKE

PRESENTATION TO BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Program Title:	Medical Device Reprocessing
Credential:	Ontario College Certificate
Program Length:	One Year
School:	Health and Community Studies
Dean:	Barbara Foulds
Proposed Start Date:	Spring 2013

PURPOSE

The one-year Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) Ontario College Certificate program prepares students to apply principles of infection prevention and proper handling in the decontamination, inspection, assembly, sterilization and storage of reusable patient care equipment and instrumentation in healthcare settings. This unique program offers a combination of theory, lab practice, simulation and clinical experience.

Graduates may seek employment opportunities as medical device reprocessing workers in healthcare facilities such as hospital medical device reprocessing departments, public and private endoscopic clinics, dental clinics and surgi-centres.

BACKGROUND

Industry standards in the healthcare specialty of medical device reprocessing are changing rapidly. With the advent of the new Canadian Certification for Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians (Canadian Standards Association), the educational requirements for technicians have expanded. New regulations require MDR technicians to re-certify every five years. Public health issues brought to media attention for endoscope reprocessing are driving the need for more education. The proposed program is timely, reflective of the advances in MDR, and is designed to graduate confident healthcare professionals. The program will be delivered using existing facilities and equipment housed in the Simulation Centre for Health Studies and complemented with a 2-week clinical placement in a hospital setting.

CONSIDERATIONS

(i) **Evidence of Need**

Nationally, the occupational category of “Assisting Occupations in Support of Health Services,” including medical device reprocessing technicians, has the highest level of projected employment among the categories examined in the Hanover Market Analysis. The projected growth is 14% through 2020 with a sustained surplus of job openings through 2020. Based on anecdotal information from part-time program offerings, Ontario MDR programs, enrollment is dependent on the regional job opportunities and the ability to acquire student clinical placements. In the Ottawa region approximately 40 to 50 jobs are filled in this occupation annually. As the program matures, the College will offer recertification options for Medical Device Reprocessing employees.

(ii) **Student Interest**

The MDR program is replacing the part-time Sterile Supply Processing (SSP) College Certificate program that is delivered through the Centre for Continuing and Online Learning. Annually, the SSP program has approximately 40 applicants, most of whom are mature, second career or internationally educated students. Approximately 25 to 30 students are accepted and graduate to obtain employment in the Ottawa area. The MDR program is expected to attract the same demographic plus a new demographic: high school graduates who are looking for an entry-level healthcare program.

(iii) **Staffing**

The program will be staffed by 0.5 FTE existing professor and part-time professors who are subject matter experts.

(iv) **Admissions Requirements**

Program Eligibility:

- English, Grade 12 (ENG4C or equivalent).
- Accepted applicants must be in good health and submit a Health Assessment Form and an Immunization Form prior to the 6th week of term.

(v) **Advisory Committee Support:**

At a meeting on April 26, 2012, the Advisory Committee unanimously endorsed the creation and offering of an Ontario College Certificate program for Medical Device Reprocessing. As quorum was not attained, additional endorsements were subsequently confirmed by email.

(vi) **Strategic Alignment:**

The implementation of this program reflects the strategic directions of the College including the commitment to digital learning with 30.7% online delivery, experiential learning with placements in local hospitals and other healthcare facilities that leverage relationships with business and industry, and meet the needs of students and the community.

Appendix 1: Program of Study
Appendix 2: Cash Flow Analysis

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Governors approve the Medical Device Reprocessing Ontario College Certificate program effective Spring 2013 and seek validation of the program title and outcomes from the Credentials Validation Service and approval for funding from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities.

Appendix 1: Program of Study

LEVEL 1 – 15 Weeks

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	Hours					
		Theory		Lab		Field / Clinical	Total Hours
		In class	Online	In class	Online		
ENL1813S	Communications I		45				45
HLT0209	Medical Terminology		20				20
HLT0210	Infection Control for Healthcare	30	15				45
HLT0211	Introduction to Medical Device Reprocessing	35	10				45
HLT0212	Medical Device Reprocessing Lab Skills I			45			45
HLT0226	Anatomy and Physiology for Healthcare	45					45
HLT0213	Medical Device Reprocessing Clinical I					40	40
	TOTAL LEVEL HOURS	**110**	**90**	**45**		**40**	**285**

LEVEL 2 – 17 Weeks

COURSE NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	Hours					
		Theory		Lab		Field / Clinical	Total Hours
		In class	Online	In class	Online		
HLT0214	Surgical Instruments and Decontamination	25	20				45
HLT0215	Packaging and Sterilization	25	20				45
HLT0216	Inventory management, Storage and Distribution	25	20				45
HLT0217	Scope Reprocessing	15		30			45
ENV0002	Environmental Citizenship		45				45
HLT0218	Medical Device Reprocessing Lab Skills II			45			45
HLT0219	Medical Device Reprocessing Clinical II					80	80
	TOTAL LEVEL HOURS	**90**	**105**	**75**		**80**	**350**

HYBRID 30.7%

Certificate Program Total Hours **635**