

***College of Occupational Therapists of Manitoba***

Roster of Public representatives

Mickely Bolivar, Winnipeg (bil.)<sup>^</sup>  
Karen Debrecen, East St. Paul <sup>^</sup>  
Lorraine Polet, Winnipeg <sup>^</sup>  
Thomas Paxton, Winnipeg <sup>^</sup>  
Doreen Stapleton, Sandy Lake <sup>^</sup>

<sup>^</sup> Government Appointment

**Mandate:**

The College of Occupational Therapists of Manitoba is the governing organization for occupational therapists in the province of Manitoba. The legislated mandate of the College is to carry out its activities and govern its members in a manner that serves and protects the public interest. It is carried out by the following objectives: to regulate the practice of the profession and govern its members, to regulate entry to practice requirements, to assure quality of professional practice, to promote continuing competence, to set ethical standards.

**Authority:**

*The Occupational Therapists Act of Manitoba*

**Responsibilities:**

Council

The council is established as a governing body of the College. The Council shall manage and conduct the business and affairs of the College. Council members contribute to policy development and governance of the College.

Investigation Committee

The Investigation Committee receives and reviews complaints brought against a COTM member and attempts to informally resolve the matter.

Inquiry Committee

The Inquiry Committee will establish a panel to hear a matter referred to it by the COTM Investigation Committee regarding the conduct of a member to hear the matter.

**Membership:**

Roster of Public Representatives

The minister shall appoint a roster of persons who are not registered under this Act, and who are not and have never been occupational therapists, who may be appointed as public representatives of the Council, the Investigation and the Inquiry committees.

Council

The Council is comprised of twelve members who are either members of the college or public representatives. 1/3 of the members of the council must be public representatives.

### Investigation Committee

The Investigation Committee is made up of a roster of approximately five individuals which includes the Chair of the Investigation Committee and two public representatives. Each matter before the Investigation Committee is reviewed by three members of the Investigation Committee, one of which is a public representative.

### Inquiry Committee

The Inquiry Committee is made up of a roster of approximately 10 individuals. A hearing panel of three persons is established from the roster including the Inquiry Committee Chair, another occupational therapist or former occupational therapist, and a public representative.

### **Length of Terms:**

3 year terms; maximum 2 terms or six years.

### **Desirable Expertise:**

- Public interest members are critical to COTM's ability to meet its responsibility of public protection in professional regulation;
- Previous board experience would be an asset, but not essential;
- Must have the ability and time to attend meetings and contribute to thoughtful discussion of the issues.

### **Time Commitment:**

Council members are also appointed to at least one committee. Meetings of the Investigation and Inquiry Committees for the purpose of reviewing a complaint are called as needed. The Investigation Committee meets as often as monthly. The inquiry committee meets only when a hearing is needed. Since COTM's inception in 1971, the Inquiry Committee has convened a hearing panel twice.

### **Meetings:**

#### Council

Frequency: Monthly  
Location: 120 Maryland Street, Winnipeg MB (Teleconference Available)  
Duration: Evenings (5pm-8pm)

#### Investigation Committee

Frequency: Monthly  
Location: 120 Maryland Street, Winnipeg MB (Teleconference Available)  
Duration: Evenings (5pm-8pm)

#### Inquiry Committee

Frequency: As Needed  
Location: Winnipeg  
Duration: Daytime (Full Day)

### **Remuneration:**

No remuneration. Reimbursement for expenses is provided in accordance with COTM policy and includes reimbursement for childcare and / or elder care.