Action Plan: College of Occupational Therapists of Manitoba

In response to the Fairness Commissioner's recommendation in the 2016-17 Registration Review, COTM proposed the following action:

Progress Opportunities	Action Plan	Anticipated Completion Date	Status as of February 2018	Update
 Monitoring the impact of ACOTRO's new SEAS process and working to mitigate any detrimental impact it may have for IEOTs in Manitoba will ensure progress is maintained. 	As a member of the ACOTRO SEAS Oversight Committee the COTM Executive Director is in the position to contribute to the oversight and monitoring of the implementation of SEAS. The Oversight Committee is developing a robust evaluation plan to monitor and report to the ACOTRO Board on SEAS.	This will be ongoing for the next few years.	Ongoing	 ACOTRO SEAS Oversight Committee continues to monitor and oversee the implementation and execution of the SEAS assessment process. This includes: Establishing an evaluation, psychometric review schedule for assessments and exams Holding a teleconference meeting with provincial regulators to discuss SEAS issues and policies In 2018, planning a survey of provincial regulators and applicants regarding their experience with SEAS Providing provincial regulators with an annual SEAS report covering issues, statistics and trends. Although small in number, to date, COTM reports applicants successfully in process and completing the SEAS process.
2. Updated registration information is needed to better reflect COTM's progressive practice regarding language proficiency policies and remedial opportunities for IEOTs in Manitoba.	 This will involve an update to our Guide to Supervised Practice and our Fact Sheet on Language. We will incorporate additional information from the OMFC Position Statement on Language Test Expirations. We will also include information which will link the SEAS Language Readiness processes 	June 2017	Some items complete; others expected shortly	COTM is launching a new website in March 2018. The new website will include a dedicated section for internationally educated applicants, including information that describes and links to the SEAS assessment process. The website will support online application. COTM's Guide to Supervised Practice and Fact Sheet on Language have been updated to reflect the introduction of the SEAS process. COTM now applies a 3-year expiration dating policy for language

	Progress Opportunities	Action Plan	Anticipated Completion Date	Status as of February 2018	Update
		to the COTM processes to provide clear information as to the impact of the SEAS practices on COTM's requirements.			test results; this policy may need further review.
3.	There is a need to ensure COTM's employment requirement for registration does not negatively impact otherwise qualified IEOTs, including those who seek registration out of province and those who may fall out of currency waiting for employment.	COTM will explore this with the other OT regulators in Canada to determine if they will accept the transfer of COTM candidates. This will only impact those IEOT's in process of becoming registered with COTM who have not completed the SEAS process. All other subsequent IEOT's will have taken part in the SEAS process and thus will have the foundational educational equivalency which should facilitate their registration in other jurisdictions.	June 2017	Complete	In the circumstance of an IEOT applicant otherwise qualified, but unable to meet COTM's employment requirement for registration, COTM will provide a statement of eligibility to support application to other provinces. Individuals who have completed the SEAS process and COTM's other professional and employment eligibility requirements will have established qualifications that should allow licensure in other provinces. Currently demand for OTs is strong and COTM has not had an experience with IEOTs in this circumstance.
		ACOTRO is also confirming it approach to the impact of completing the SEAS process will have on Currency. COTM will update its information on the COTM website and the FAQ on Currency to reflect the new information.	June 2017	Ongoing	With regard to COTM's currency requirement, ACOTRO is currently exploring a 'stop the clock' policy that would recognize the level of currency applicants possess as they enter the SEAS process as the same as when they complete the process. Under this policy, the currency clock 'stops' as people enter and proceed thru the SEAS process. This ensures applicants that are current upon entry to the process do not fall out of currency as a result of engaging the process and recognizes the relevance of study and assessment preparation as an aspect of currency. Those not current upon application to SEAS will need to take remedial action with provincial regulators to address the deficit, but fall no further out of currency as a result of engaging the SEAS process.

Progress Opportunities	Action Plan	Anticipated Completion Date	Status as of February 2018	Update
 Work with ACOTRO to collect data for Manitoba IEOTs applying for SEAS certification to better understand their experience. 	To provide context to this item it is useful to know that COTM has yet to receive an application for registration from someone who has gone through SEAS; COTM anticipates no more than 5 applicants per year. The SEAS Oversight Committee is developing an evaluation plan for the program. The COTM Executive Director as an ACOTRO Board Director will be in receipt of these reports from the Oversight Committee and will share these with the COTM Board of Assessors. COTM will consider the manner in which we can glean information from MB candidates as to the registration experience as a whole. This will be especially important for those who, through SEAS, were identified as needing bridging or remediation prior to being eligible for provincial registration. COTM will consider what data it can share/report to the OMFC due to the low number of applicants.	June 2018	Ongoing	ACOTRO will be providing COTM and other provincial regulators with annual SEAS reports that will include statistics on applicants. Timeline and outcome data will be provided, although other types of data may be more challenging. COTM approved a memorandum of understanding with CAOT outlining their respective roles and obligations with regard to CAOT's NOTCE exam used by COTM.