

Laxee Nithiyanthan

Director-at-Large

City/Town: Toronto, Ontario



PERSONAL STATEMENT

I have grown both professionally and personally due to this impactful profession as an occupational therapist. I hope to promote the profession of occupational therapy to improve visibility and accessibility. I am confident that my frontline experience as an Occupational Therapy clinician for over 10 years in urban and rural areas of Ontario in acute care, inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation, and community settings, along with teaching and leadership skills will allow me to be an excellent candidate.

Within the hospital setting, I was extensively involved in committees to improve standards and quality of care provided, and ensured that OT voice and perspective is included within each level of the organization. Through the status appointment at University of Toronto, I have provided numerous educational opportunities and stayed informed regarding current and future trends affecting OTs.

I believe as OTs we have more to offer as clinicians, consultants, policy makers, and leaders. The availability of continuing education opportunities and mentorship is key to achieving career advancement in these areas. It is vital to improve visibility while advocating to include OT within insurance policies and publicly funded avenues to sustain growth of the profession. If given the opportunity to become the board of director, I will strive to advocate for the above-mentioned changes and lead by providing vision, voice, visibility and value for Ontario Occupational Therapists.

Education

- Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, McMaster University, Sept 2008 – Aug 2010
- Hon. Bachelor of Science, Integrative Biology, University of Toronto, Sept 2003 – Apr 2007
- Bobath certification: assessment and treatment of adults with neurological conditions, March 2022
- Rehab tech summit, March 2022
- Gentle persuasive approaches in Dementia care, May 2022
- CO-OP approach certification, Sept 2021
- Crucial conversations training - Tool for talking when stakes are high, Mar 2015
- NDT Introductory Course in the Treatment of Adults with Hemiplegia, Toronto Rehab, Feb 2012

Professional Experience

- Inpatient/outpatient Stroke and Neuro Rehabilitation unit, Unity Health Toronto - Providence Healthcare: OT clinician, 2014 – Present: Partake in committees such as OT advocacy committee, to celebrate OT month and bring awareness regarding the profession within the organization; Planned and implemented strategies to uplift staff morale within the Mission champion pilot

project; Partake in Joint health and safety committee to mitigate safety risks and to promote safe working environment for staff; and actively contribute to leadership development committee.

- Bridgepoint Active Healthcare - Toronto: OT clinician, 2014-2017
- Revera Home Health Care Services: OT clinician, 2014 –2015
- Acute inpatient unit - General Internal Medicine and orthopedic/thoracic surgery, St. Joseph's Health Centre: OT clinician, 2012 –2014
- Acute Inpatient unit - Stroke & general internal medicine, Health Sciences North - Sudbury: OT clinician, 2011 – 2012
- Outpatient clinic - Geriatric and Adult Rehabilitation Day Hospital, Health Sciences North – Sudbury: OT clinician, 2011

Volunteer Experience

- **OSOT conference planning committee, 2021 & 2022:** actively involved within OSOT to promote and plan the virtual conference held in November 2021 and facilitated several video conferences, and looking forward to continuing to support the planning of the 2022 conference.
- **Status-only Lecturer in the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy at University of Toronto, Jan 2021 – present:** provided clinical student Occupational therapy placements, and facilitated labs and lectures for University of Toronto OS & OT program; obtained fieldwork educator recognition award for year 2021.
- **Clinical facilitator for Interprofessional Education Program, Center for faculty development, Jan 2021 – present:** Presented within virtual interprofessional lecture series and facilitated IPE group discussions within student groups.