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## STUDENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW

<b>REGULATORY AFFAIRS PROFESSIONAL PROFILE OF</b>	<b>Interviewee:</b>	
	<b>SHERRY BOODRAM</b>	
	<b>CEO AND CO-FOUNDER</b>	
	<b>CANDELTA INC.</b>	
<b>Interviewer:</b> Janet Holden		<b>Date of Interview:</b> 20/11/2020

The following questions and responses create a profile of a RA professional, including the activities performed as part of regulatory affairs work and background educational and career pathway information, as well as to obtain advice for students entering the regulatory affairs profession:

<b>Question:</b>	<b>How did you get into Regulatory Affairs? Can you describe the career path you took to get to your current position?</b>
<p>My professional background is in chemistry. After I received my Bachelor's degree, I got my first job with Health Canada as a drug forensic chemist. I then went on to complete my PhD in chemistry and returned to Health Canada in the same department, but at a more senior level. After a period of time, I moved within Health Canada to do environmental assessment policy work for mining projects as a project manager.</p> <p>I enjoyed working in the controlled substance area so then accepted a job within Health Canada as a Compliance and Enforcement inspector for the cannabis program.</p> <p>My next position was outside of government to head the Canadian office for a US based company involved in nomenclature development doing brand name assessments of pharmaceutical products for the purpose of preventing medication errors of marketed drug products. At the same time, I began consulting for some of the licensed cannabis producers I had met during my time as a compliance and enforcement inspector.</p>	



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Ultimately, I co-founded the cannabis consulting company CannDelta Inc. with a colleague and friend from grad school who also happened to work at Health Canada previously. We are now a team of 14, offering consulting services in regulatory, quality assurance and management, compliance inspections and commercial and retail licence applications for the cannabis industry. We also assist with drafting policy and regulations for cannabis and psychedelic products in Canada and other countries.

**Question:** What is your educational background? Did you take a specific RA program?  
If so, what features of your RA program have been most useful in your job (e.g. internship)?  
If no, what aspects of your formal education did you find the most useful in your RA career?

I have a PhD in chemistry and I also have a Post-Diploma Certificate with Honours in Pharmaceutical Regulatory Affairs and Quality Operations from Seneca College. I gained further knowledge about the regulatory profession in the various jobs I have taken.

I think being an innovative and an independent thinker afforded me a level of confidence to take more risks in my career choices.

**Question:** What areas or features of the RA profession are the most interesting to you?

I like compliance and being able to interpret policies and regulations to turn them into something practical that can be implemented by my clients as standard practices.

**Question:** What are some of the useful traits/useful skills for your position?



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Excellent attention to detail, communications skills, technical writing skills, project management are very important to be successful.

**Question: With which other departments or functional units within your company do you regularly interact with?**

Since CannDelta is a company of 14 employees, we do not really have any other departments or functional units.

**Question: Do you work individually or mainly in groups or teams?**

Even though I am an executive in the company, I am still very involved in the projects due to the legal nature of the work and complex compliance matters. The consulting group is split into teams however since we are all scientists, we enjoy a collaborative atmosphere to share ideas and confer on the scientific aspects of the work or logical rationales for policy interpretations.

**Question: Can you describe a regular work day in your position?**

Multiple tasks are being done every day. There are a variety of activities such as client meetings, new business development, onboarding process for new clients, project management of existing clients, emails, phone calls, report writing for applications, writing standard operating procedures, communicating with regulatory authorities, etc. Each day is diverse, dynamic and unpredictable.

It is very important to be able to pivot as needed and to be resourceful as priorities change.



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<b>Question:</b>	<b>If you could change any aspect of your job, what would it be?</b>
<p>I don't think there is anything that I would change. I really enjoy what I do.</p>	
<b>Question:</b>	<b>How do you keep your knowledge and skills current and up-to-date?</b>
<p>I am constantly reading publications regarding government regulatory policy changes. I frequently consult LinkedIn and other on-line sources to keep up to date on the evolution of this growing industry sector both in Canada and globally. The cannabis industry is really vocal on Twitter, so I find myself reading posts on that social platform quite a bit. Networking and attending conferences are also important activities to learn about changes in the industry and its regulations.</p>	
<b>Question:</b>	<b>What advice would you give to students applying for internships and full-time RA positions?</b>
<p>To gain a position in this industry, it is very important to learn the regulations around cannabis. In addition, in the areas of edibles and topicals, knowledge of both food and pharmaceuticals is very advantageous and sought after by many licensed cannabis companies.</p> <p>Students should consider specific courses or entire programs dedicated to the regulatory and quality areas of the cannabis industry.</p> <p>There are also several transferable skills that are essential, such as understanding how to read and interpret regulations, excellent attention to detail and strong communications with regulatory authorities.</p>	