



Royal College of
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

Ensuring Continued Trust

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

Council Meeting - November 15, 2012

This publication is posted online on the College's website within two working days after each Council meeting and sent by e-mail to all members who have shared their e-mail address with the College. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions about any of these items, please contact RCDSO Registrar Irwin Fefergrad by phone at 416-934-5625, toll-free at 1-800-565-4591, or by e-mail at ifefergrad@rcdso.org.

2012 BUDGET

Council unanimously approved the 2012 budget. This is the sixth consecutive membership year without a dues increase.

STUDY OF COLLEGE'S EFFECTIVENESS

Council unanimously agreed to engage the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) headquartered in London, England to conduct an evidence-informed study of the College's effectiveness in using the current self-governing model of regulation to protect the public of Ontario and to guide the profession. CHRE is an independent body accountable to the United Kingdom Parliament. Its mandate is to share good practice and knowledge and to scrutinize and oversee the work of the nine regulatory bodies that set standards for training and conduct of health professionals in the United Kingdom.

DEALING WITH ADDICTION DISEASE IN DENTISTRY

The two day national symposium on addiction and substance abuse, On the Road to Wellness: Dealing with Addiction Disease in Dentistry, held in Toronto in mid-October was an enormous success with agreement by all the provincial regulators and professional associations to move forward on a co-ordinated strategy to assist dentists who are struggling with addiction diseases. The event was co-sponsored by the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation and the Canadian Dental Association. The final report of the symposium is posted on the CDRAF website at www.cdraf.org and will be published in the 2013 February/March issue of Dispatch magazine.

CANADIAN DENTAL REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FEDERATION

Dr. Peter Trainor, the current College president, was re-elected to another one-year term as the CDRAF president at its board meeting in Toronto on October 11.

NATIONAL DENTAL EXAMINING BOARD OF CANADA

The College is issuing a call for experienced practising dentists interested in serving as examiners at the National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB). The examiners generally fall within two categories: content area experts (specialists) and general dentists. Both groups may be asked to attend a three day workshop in Ottawa to receive training. Content area experts are trained to construct examination questions in their area of expertise. General dentists may be asked to participate in question selection workshops for written type examinations and assessments and in the administration and evaluation of the Assessment of Clinical Skills. Before the end of the year, the College will send out an e-mail blast asking dentists who are interested to advise the Registrar of their interest. The Executive Committee will select from those submissions and propose names to the NDEB.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Work is well underway on the revisions of the College's Code of Conduct to make sure the Code's objectives clear and its processes and consequences are comprehensive and fair. The final document will come forward to Council at its May 2013 meeting.

REVITALIZATION OF BY-LAWS

Starting next year, there will be an overall review of the College's by-laws by the Legal and Legislation Committee with the goal of a complete modernization in light of current health policies and legislation.

NEW CORE COURSES

Nearly 25 new core courses added, bringing the total to almost 100 courses now considered by the Quality Assurance Committee to be relevant to the practice of the profession and designed to promote members' continuing competence and maintenance of professional standards.

QA PROGRAM EVALUATION

The College is working with the Wilson Centre to evaluate the self-assessment process of the Practice Enhancement Tool and to gain insights into how members learn from using the PET and to gauge the use and acceptance of this method of self-assessment by members. The Wilson Centre, located at the University Health Network, is an academic unit engaged in theoretical and applied research dedicated to advancing the understanding and practice of education in the health professions. The University Of Toronto Faculty Of Medicine, the University Health Network, and a number of other health professional programs and units in the Greater Toronto Area collaboratively sponsor the unit.

GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS & PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLANT DENTISTRY

As a result of the substantive submissions received during the stakeholder consultation period, the working group is reconvening in early December to review all the submissions and develop recommendations on revising the draft guidelines.

OPIOID PRESCRIBING IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PAIN IN DENTAL PRACTICE

The first meeting of the working group charged with development of guidelines for the management of acute and chronic pain in dental practice is scheduled for mid-December. The working group is chaired by Dr. David Mock. Other members include Dr. Dan Haas and Dr. David Segal, plus representatives from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and the Ontario College of Pharmacists.

SAFE USE OF BOTOX

The current position of this College, and every other Canadian dental regulator in the country except British Columbia, is that the use of Botox by dentists is limited to therapeutic procedures, such as the management of certain temporomandibular disorders and other orofacial conditions. In response to requests from members, the College asked the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation to review the use of Botox for procedures that might fall within the scope of practice of dentistry. The Quality Assurance Committee has received the report of the national committee of specialists set up by CDRAF to make recommendations and has now asked for additional information from the committee chair and from College legal counsel.

DENTISTS PRACTISING WITH BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

The Quality Assurance Committee has received the report of the national working group commissioned by the CDRAF to develop guidelines on this issue and has now asked for additional information from other health care regulatory authorities and dental faculties.

COLLEGE GOES PAPERLESS

The College continues to unroll its paperless meetings strategy. Since the end of September, all Executive Committee meetings have been paperless. It is anticipated that Council will come on board in 2013 and eventually all committee meetings will too. The implementation procedures ensure that the highest levels of security are maintained.

PERFORMANCE OF INTRA-ORAL PROCEDURES BY NON-DENTISTS

The Quality Assurance Committee has been asked to strike an expert panel in 2013 to develop guidelines for members on what intra-oral procedures dentists can appropriately authorize others, who are not dentists, to do in their dental offices.

REVISION OF TWO PRACTICE ADVISORIES

Council approved the revision of two Practice Advisories: one on professional advertising and the other on practice names. These Practice Advisories will be available on the new College website as of December 1. The revisions were done to give members more clarity and guidance on how to ensure that they are compliant with the requirements of the professional misconduct regulations and the College's Code of Ethics.

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

The College has been officially notified that the Canadian Armed Forces are using this College's guidelines in its dental work and has asked the College to conduct inspections for dental anesthesia facilities.

FAIRNESS COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO

The Registrar Irwin Fefergrad has been invited by the Honourable Jean Augustine, Ontario's Fairness Commissioner, to sit on a panel with her to discuss foreign-trained recognition at a conference of the Council on Licensure Enforcement and Regulation in St. Louis, Missouri next October.

PLP STEP-UP DEDUCTIBLE CHANGES

Council approved a policy to give the Professional Liability Committee the option to waive the insured's deductible or to reduce the stepped-up amount payable in the following circumstances: bankruptcy, death or if the action against a member was without merit. This change is effective January 1, 2013.

MEETING WITH COLLEAGUES FROM IRELAND AND NEW ZEALAND

At the invitation of the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC), the President and Registrar are attending a meeting in Ottawa later this month to meet with representatives of the Irish Dental Council and the Dental Council of New Zealand. CDAC has reciprocal agreements with New Zealand, Australia and France.

COUNCIL DATES FOR 2014

The following dates for regular Council meetings in 2014 were approved: March 6, June 12 and November 13. The dates for regular Council meetings next year are January 17, May 9 and November 14.