



Royal College of
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

Ensuring Continued Trust

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

COUNCIL MEETING - NOVEMBER 19, 2015

This publication is emailed out to members and posted online on the College's website within two working days after each Council meeting. It covers some of the key highlights of the Council business. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions about any of these items, please contact RCDSO Registrar Irwin Fefergrad at 416-934-5625, toll-free at 1-800-565-4591, or by email at ifefergrad@rcdso.org.

NEW GUIDELINES ON THE ROLE OF OPIOIDS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE AND CHRONIC PAIN IN DENTAL PRACTICE

Council unanimously approved these [new guidelines](#), after changes were made in the version approved in principle in March as a result of the public consultation. The new guidelines are now posted in the RCDSO Library of the College website at www.rcdso.org. These are the first guidelines of their kind for the dental profession in Canada. The working group members were: Dr. David Mock (chair), Dr. Daniel Haas, Dr. David Segal, Dr. Angela Carol (College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario), Ms. Anne Resnick (Ontario College of Pharmacists) and Dr. Michael Gardner (RCDSO staff). An article in the November/December issue of Dispatch will highlight the key points of these new guidelines.

NEW MOHLTC TRANSPARENCY WORKING GROUP

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has created this working group to facilitate the coordination and development of guidance for health regulators in the implementation of transparency and accountability initiatives and look at possible changes to our governing legislation, the Regulated Health Professions Act. College Registrar Irwin Fefergrad was invited by the Ministry to co-chair the working group, along with a Ministry senior staff person.

TWO NEW PRACTICE ADVISORIES

Council unanimously approved two new practice advisories that replace existing advisories. One new practice advisory is titled [Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Boundary Violations](#) and the other is [Guidance on the Use of Social Media](#). The revisions to these documents mean they now better reflect current societal norms and provide specific advice to dentists. The two new advisories are now posted in the RCDSO Library of the College website at www.rcdso.org.

NEW POLICY ENHANCES SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS REPORTING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/BOUNDARY VIOLATIONS

Council unanimously approved a policy that allows for the College to retain a registered social worker or other appropriate regulated professionals to provide support at the College's expense to individuals who are inquiring about the College's investigation processes, are in the complaints or Registrar's investigation process, or are testifying at a discipline hearing. This policy recognizes that the experience of reporting and discussing and being questioned about details of alleged sexual abuse or boundary violations of a sexual nature can be difficult and distressing.

POSSIBLE EXPANSION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL

The College is working with the Royal College of Dentists of Canada to look at expansion of the Practice Enhancement Tool self-assessment to include components for dental specialists with content in their area of specialities.

NEW CATEGORY 1 CORE COURSES

The Quality Assurance Committee has approved 15 new courses, now bringing the total of Category 1 courses available up to over 200.

MCGILL RESEARCH STUDY ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND RAPE CULTURE IN UNIVERSITIES

The College has agreed to be a part of a multi-disciplinary, multi-sector partnership to provide non-monetary support to a McGill national research study to examine and address rape culture in universities and provide insight into the roles of social and news media, the entertainment industry and legal justice system in protecting victims of sexual violence and/or infringing upon their human rights. The project is expected to take seven years to complete and a funding application is now into the National Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for \$2.5 million.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATION

College passed a new policy that formalizes processes already in place to support anyone involved in the complaints process, underscoring our commitment to inclusivity, accessibility and transparency and strengthening our compliance with the Ontario Human Rights Code. In the past, this accommodation has included additional time to submit materials due to medical needs or provision of assistance to address physical disability.

FEE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM FOR UNIVERSITY DENTAL CLINICS

Council has agreed to increase the annual licensure fee reimbursement for each of the Ontario dental schools from 15 to 25. This program covers dentists who offer their services to the university to work in the dental clinics, are otherwise retired from active dental practice and are in good standing. This is an important way for the College to help both U of T and Western retain valuable educators.

NEW COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

With the expiry of the term of public appointee Kelly Bolduc-O’Hare on Council, several new committee appointments were made necessary. Jose Saavedra is now the new chair of the Professional Liability Committee and Ted Callaghan is the new chair of the Elections Committee. Also, the two new public appointees, Gregory Larsen and Derek Walter, are appointed to the Discipline Committee.

2016 BUDGET APPROVED

Council unanimously approved the 2016 operating budget as presented by the Finance, Property and Administration Committee. There is no fee increase for 2016.

COLLEGE RENOVATIONS

Council approved the revised budget for renovations to the College building at 6 Crescent Road in Toronto. Staff will stay in the building during renovations to cut down on costs, but Discipline Committee meetings will move off-site. Renovations are to accommodate growth in staff numbers and to ensure the structural integrity of the building.

MOVE TO ELECTRONIC VOTING

Council approved in principle a number of by-law changes that are required to allow the College to move to electronic voting. If approved, online voting would start with the December 2016 election for Council members. Information about the public consultation process for these proposed by-law amendments will go out by email blast and also be posted on the College website.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ELECTION/SELECTION FOR COUNCIL

Council approved in principle by-law changes that disqualify a person from standing for election or being selected to sit as a university representative on Council if they have a notation of a caution or specified continuing education or remedial program (SCERP) on the public register. Members already sitting on Council who get a notation of a caution or specified continuing education or remedial program (SCERP) on the public register during their term would remain on Council. Information about the public consultation process for these proposed by-law amendments will go out by email blast and also be posted on the College website.

NON-COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELIGIBILITY

Council approved in principle by-law changes that see the current random selection process for non-Council committee members replaced by a merit-based application process. Information about the public consultation process for these proposed by-law amendments will go out by email blast and also be posted on the College website.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2017 AND 2018

Council approved the following schedule for meeting dates:

2017

- January 18 and 19
- May 11
- November 16

2018

- March 8
- June 14
- November 15

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO REMEDIAL COURSES

Council supported the payment of \$15,000 annually to U of T towards the organization and administration of remedial courses for members who are ordered to take courses by the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee and Discipline Committee.

ONTARIO PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF DENTAL REGULATORS (ISDR)

At the ISDR general assembly meeting in mid-September, RCDSO Vice President Dr. David Segal was again elected to the ISDR Executive Committee as a member-at-large. RCDSO Registrar Irwin Fefergrad continues as Executive Director. The next ISDR annual conference is scheduled for May 2016 in conjunction with the World Health Professions Regulation Conference in Geneva, Switzerland. Council was hopeful that ISDR would continue to work on international standards for accreditation and for standards of practice. The Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) now represents Canada at the ISDR table.