



Royal College of  
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

*Ensuring Continued Trust*

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

## COUNCIL MEETING - JUNE 12, 2014

**This publication is e-mailed 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 e-mail at [ifefergrad@rcdso.org](mailto:ifefergrad@rcdso.org).**

### MESSAGE FROM FEDERAL MINISTER OF HEALTH

The Honourable Rona Ambrose, federal minister of health, sent a videotaped message to the College with congratulations for our leadership on the issue of prescription drug abuse and substance abuse in general. She expressed her appreciation of the College's support in dealing with this critical health issue. She said she was impressed to hear about the amazing work that RCDSO is doing as a regulator in this vital issue for the benefit of the health and safety of the public, such as our development of guidelines for dentists on the safe and effective use of opioids for the management of pain. She specifically noted the key roles of Dr. David Mock and Dr. David Segal from your governing Council who are serving as resource experts to the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. As she said, "What you are doing is a model for other regulators here in Ontario and across the country. Your initiatives demonstrate a refreshing willingness to take a very proactive approach on this important public health issue." She also thanked the Registrar and President, and Dr. David Mock, for appearing before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health to assist it in its important work.

### WORDS OF PRAISE FROM THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS APPEAL AND REVIEW BOARD

Janice Vauthier, the chair of HPARB, addressed Council. This was her first speaking engagement since her appointment. She was accompanied by Sara van der Vliet, chief operating officer and registrar of the Health Boards Secretariat at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. As College Registrar Irwin Fefergrad said, her comments were a wonderful validation of the work of the College. Ms Vauthier described this College "as a shining example of a regulator that is getting it right." As she said, "the transparency of your processes is light years ahead of other colleges" and "your disclosure process through investigations is the best."

HPARB is an independent adjudicative agency that, on request, reviews decisions made by the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committees of the self-regulating health professions colleges in Ontario and conducts reviews and hearings of orders of the Registration Committees of the colleges. These reviews are done in order to ensure the colleges fulfill their duties in the public interest and as mandated by legislation. The Board provides a neutral forum for members of the public as well as for health professionals.

#### **PRACTICE ADVISORY ON USE OF COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES**

Council approved this new practice advisory that provides guidance to dentists on the use of complementary and alternative therapies, such as acupuncture and herbal remedies, and how to work with patients who seek advice or are already using these therapies. The Practice Advisory will be posted shortly on the College website.

#### **MORE INFORMATION ON THE PUBLIC REGISTER**

Council agreed to enhance the consistency of information on the public register with other health care regulatory colleges related to outcomes of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee. A group of Ontario health care regulators – dentists, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and optometrists – had commissioned a public polling company called Pollara Insights to gauge the public's views on the level of transparency they expected from regulators. Council reviewed the final report that will help inform future discussions. The next step is the preparation and circulation of the necessary by-law changes for approval in principle by Council, and if approved, circulated to members and stakeholders for input, and then back to Council.

#### **SEDATION AND ANESTHESIA BY-LAW**

Council gave final approval to By-Law No.13: Sedation and General Anesthesia after the limited feedback from members and stakeholders during the consultation period. Before finalization, the College collaborated extensively with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario to address its concerns. The by-law will be posted on our website shortly. A cross-reference to this new by-law will be made in the Standard of Practice: Use of Sedation and General Anesthesia in Dental Practice. Look in the May/June issue of Dispatch for a detailed explanation of the new by-law and its impact.

#### **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION GROUP**

The College is moving forward with the creation of a community consultation group that would enhance our outreach to the public of Ontario in a formalized way. This expansion of public input was a recommendation in the review of the College done late last year by Harry Cayton of The Professional Standards Authority. Those interested would apply to participate and the selection of the group's members would be done by the Executive Committee. The group would operate in an advisory capacity only on matters referred to it by the Executive or Council.

### **ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS**

Council approved a by-law change to give members the option of making payments to the College by using electronic funds transfer through their financial institution.

### **EXPANDING PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The current consultation process for by-laws, guidelines, standards, etc., would be opened to anyone in Ontario who wishes to sign up via our website by sharing their e-mail address with us for this purpose.

### **NEW FORMS FOR ELECTION CYCLE**

New more user friendly forms were approved for the application for non-Council committee appointments and for self-nomination for Council election. A user guide is now available to assist members in using the forms. Also, applicants will be required to declare that they have read and understand the College's by-laws and governance policies in order to perform their duties either as a Council or as a member of a Council committee.

### **REVISED PANDEMIC PLAN**

Council approved the new pandemic plan that was revised to be consistent with the Business Continuity Plan approved at the March 2014 meeting.

### **COMMISSION ON DENTAL ACCREDITATION OF CANADA**

Council approved a letter to be sent to CDAC outlining why the College could not support the proposed change to the dental specialty accreditation requirement for program directors in academic faculties as it is not in the interest of public protection. Ontario will continue to only recognize the RCDC/NDSE in nationally recognized specialities.

### **WORKING GROUP ON DELEGATION**

The following members have been appointed to this group that will consider the issue of delegation to others of acts authorized to dentists under the Dentistry Act, and the appropriate safeguards if delegation is permitted: Dr. Peter Trainor, chair; Kelly Bolduc-O'Hare, RCDSO Council public member; Catherine Kerr, RCDSO Council public member; Andrea Foti, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario; Dr. Lynn Tomkins, Ontario Dental Association; Judy Melville, Ontario Dental Assistants' Association; Robert Farinaccia, College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario; Dr. Harinder Sandhu, Western University; Dr. John Kalbfleisch, RCDSO Council member; Dr. Larry Davidge, RCDSO Council member; and Dr. David Clark, RCDSO Council member.

### **MORE CATEGORY 1 CORE COURSES APPROVED**

Sixteen more category 1 core courses have been approved by the Quality Assurance Committee. The complete list is posted on the College website.