



Royal College of  
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

*Ensuring Continued Trust*

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

## COUNCIL MEETING - NOVEMBER 13, 2014

**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 [ifefegrad@rcdso.org](mailto:ifefegrad@rcdso.org).**

### **TRANSPARENCY REPORT TO MINISTER OF HEALTH AND LONG-TERM CARE**

Council unanimously endorsed the final report to the Minister in response to his directive of October 4 to each health care regulatory college to explain present and future plans on how to share more information with the public and to increase transparency of the regulatory processes. Both this final report, our interim response of October 6, and the Minister's letter are posted on the College website at [www.rcdso.org](http://www.rcdso.org) under Public Protection.

### **AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS DEALING WITH INFORMATION ON PUBLIC REGISTER**

Council unanimously passed in principle the amendments that will expand the information on the public register to increase the transparency of the information about members that the College shares with the public. This is part of a larger transparency initiative that RCDSO and other health care regulators are involved in. There is more information about this initiative and the College's participation on our website at [www.rcdso.org](http://www.rcdso.org) under Public Protection.

### **PRESCRIBING PRACTICES SURVEY**

As part of an initiative to understand prescribing practices for acute and chronic pain management, the College has commissioned Pollara Strategic Insights, a leading Canadian public opinion research firm, to conduct a survey of our membership. An invitation to participate in the survey will be sent to you within the next week.

By contracting an objective third party to do the survey, the privacy and anonymity of members will be strictly protected. The survey responses remain 100% confidential and are only be reported in aggregate with all the other survey responses received.

## **REPORT OF SEROLOGY STATUS WORKING GROUP**

Council unanimously approved the recommendations of the working group. The key recommendations are that the College should maintain its position that members who perform exposure-prone procedures have an obligation to know their serology status. Also, if a member becomes aware that his or her status is a risk, then it is incumbent on the member to advise the College and seek guidance. Over the coming year, more educational information will appear in Dispatch magazine.

## **PROPOSED GUIDELINES ON ROLE OF OPIOIDS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE AND CHRONIC PAIN IN DENTAL PRACTICE**

Council approved in principle the proposed guidelines that address best practices for the safe and effective use of analgesics, including opioids; helpful tools to assist dentists in making appropriate prescribing decisions; and address interprofessional collaboration with physicians, pharmacists and other health care providers. The proposed Guidelines will go for the 60-day consultation to members, the public and other stakeholders by the end of the year.

## **2015 BUDGET APPROVED**

Council unanimously approved the operating budget for 2015 as presented by the Finance, Property and Administration Committee.

## **COLLEGE RENOVATIONS**

Preliminary work is underway for the renovation of the College offices at 6 Crescent Road and to make necessary repairs to the building envelope to ensure the integrity of the building. The costs of the renovations are included in the approved budget of the College.

## **COMPLETION OF BY-LAW REVIEW**

Council unanimously passed the new revised version of the College by-laws as presented by the Legal and Legislation Committee. This is the completion of a project that began in 2013 to reorganize and reformat the by-laws into a more accessible, consistent and coherent format. The new version of the by-laws is effective on January 1, 2015.

## **NEW COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

With the resignation of the former chair of the Finance, Property and Administration Committee from Council, Council confirmed the appointment of Vice President Dr. John Kalbfleisch as chair. Kelly Bolduc-O'Hare was confirmed to fill the public member vacancy on the same committee. As the term of one of the public members on the Elections Committee has expired, Ms. Bolduc-O'Hare was also confirmed as the replacement on that committee. Also, the appointment of public member Marianne Park to the Quality Assurance Committee was confirmed.

## **PLP COMMITTEE OPENING**

There is an upcoming vacancy for a dentist member of the College's Professional Liability Program Committee for a three year term commencing January 2015. The Committee's mandate is to make recommendations to Council regarding the program's practices and procedures, as appropriate, to audit its financial performance, including staff use of delegated authority, to authorize defence of actions through trial and settlements above PLP's internal limit, and to consider requests for waivers or reductions of deductibles from members.

The criteria for eligibility to sit on the PLP Committee are:

- A general or speciality certificate of registration to engage in active practice.
- The member must be in good standing with the RCDSO, i.e. not in default in payment of any fees or fines or in returning or completing any prescribed forms.
- The member must not currently be the subject of a disciplinary or incapacity proceeding.
- A minimum three years must have elapsed since the member complied with an order of the Inquiries, Complaints, Reports Committee or the Fitness to Practice Committee.
- A minimum of three years must have elapsed since the member was found guilty of an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada or complied with any penalty.
- The member must not have any terms, condition or limitations on his/her certificate of registration, other than those applicable to all members holding that class of certificate.
- Three years must have elapsed since the member was disqualified from sitting on Council because of a breach of the College's Code of Conduct for a Council members or the conflict of interest by-law.
- The member must not have been a director or other member of the board of directors, governing council, or other governing body or an officer or appointed official of the Canadian Dental Association, Ontario Dental Association, a national or provincial dental speciality association, or similar organization.
- The member must not have been engaged as a dental consultant to a third party dental benefits provider during the previous three years.

All applications must be submitted to the Registrar by December 15, 2014 and must include a curriculum vitae, reasons for the applicant's interest in sitting on the PLP Committee and a brief description of what the applicant thinks he or she can contribute to the Committee, bearing in mind the mandate described above. Once all applications have been received, the Registrar will prepare a list of eligible candidates for presentation to the Executive Committee which, in turn, will make a recommendation to Council.