



Royal College of  
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

*Ensuring Continued Trust*

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

## Council Meeting of June 10, 2004

**This publication is mailed within four working days of each Council meeting to all College members and key stakeholders. At the same time it is posted on our Web site at [www.rcdso.org](http://www.rcdso.org). 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](mailto:ifefergrad@rcdso.org). A more detailed discussion of many of these items will be included in the July/August issue of *Dispatch*.**

### **No Dues Increase**

The annual fees remain unchanged for the 2005 fiscal year. That was the recommendation of the Finance, Property and Administration Committee, chaired by Dr. Bohdan Kryshtalskyj, unanimously supported by Council.

### **Donated Dental Services (DDS) program**

The development of a Donated Dental Service program was unanimously approved in principle and Executive Committee was directed to investigate the ways and means of making this program available to the public of Ontario.

DDS is a national humanitarian project run by dentists and endorsed by 12 major dental organizations, including the American Dental Association, which operates in every American state. DDS allows volunteer dentists to offer comprehensive dental care to needy individuals in their own office. See the July/August issue of *Dispatch* for more details.

### **Financial Statements**

Council approved the audited financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2003. The statements are contained in the abbreviated version of the 2003 annual report inserted in the July/August issue of *Dispatch*.

### **Code of Ethics**

Under the leadership of Dr. Eric Luks, a new draft Code of Ethics was approved in principle and is now being circulated to members and other stakeholders for comment.

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### **Ontario Pandemic Influenza Plan**

On May 31, 2004, the Ontario government released the Ontario Health Pandemic Influenza Plan. As one of the stakeholders involved in the discussions during the development of the plan, the College continues to have concerns about parts of the plan. Council believes that some aspects of the Plan, especially the proposal for temporary registration, raises some serious public safety issues.

Council unanimously passed a motion rejecting the concept of temporary registration as set out in the plan, and has directed the Registrar to communicate this to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and to continue to work with government representatives on improvements.

Council emphasized that the College is committed to working together with the government to ensure that the best possible plan is in place to protect the public during the next pandemic.

The government's plan is posted on the Ministry Web site at [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca).

### **Facility Permits**

After circulation to membership, Council has approved the necessary by-law changes to increase the fee for a facility permit to \$150 and change the expiry date to March 31 of each year. See the July/August issue of *Dispatch* for more details.

### **Specialty in Dental Anaesthesia**

Council approved in principle a number of changes to the registration and professional misconduct regulations to continue the process for the establishment of a new specialty of dental anaesthesia in Ontario. These amendments are now in circulation to members and other stakeholders for comment.

### **Guidelines on Sedation and Anaesthesia**

At the request of the College of Nurses of Ontario, several changes were made in these Guidelines including a definition change for sedation assistants and anaesthetic assistants. The revised Guidelines are posted on the College Web site at [www.rcdso.org](http://www.rcdso.org) and will be distributed to members at a later date.

### **FLAME Education Initiative**

Council supported the recommendation from the Quality Assurance Committee, chaired by Dr. Randy Lang, to enter into an agreement with an outside investor to provide additional capital to assist in the production of an exciting new education project. The goal is the delivery of a sophisticated CD-ROM learning kit on medical emergencies in the dental office. It will be available in the late fall to each and every dentist in the province.

### **Jury Duty Exemption**

The College has written to the current Attorney General of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Bryant, with another request to seek exemption for dentists from jury duty.

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**Web-based Drug Interaction Service**

Due to the very positive feedback from membership, Council voted to continue the service for another three years. Access to the service is from our Web site. Click on the graphic on the top right hand corner of the home page. If you are a College member and do not have your access code and password, please call the College at 416-961-6555 or toll-free at 1-800-565-4591 and ask for Dr. Robert Carroll.

**Discipline Process**

The College hosted on May 26, 2004, a meeting of the registrars, Discipline Committee chairs, key staff from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, the College of Nurses of Ontario, and the Ontario College of Pharmacists to examine ways of improving the discipline process and reducing costs.