



Royal College of
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

Ensuring Continued Trust

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

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TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

Council Meeting of May 15 & 16, 2003

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. 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.

- President Cam Witmer announced in his President's Report that the provincial Cabinet has approved the amalgam waste disposal regulation. Full details are to follow in the next issue of Dispatch.
- Federal privacy legislation comes into effect on January 1, 2004. We had hoped that the province would address this matter, but it has not. Therefore, Ontario dentists will have to abide by the federal legislation which was designed to address the industry, trade and commerce sector, not health care. While the College had no control or input into the nature of the legislation or its timing, we will do our utmost over the next six months to help members deal with the dramatic impact that it will have on how they run their offices. The College will develop a comprehensive information package to assist members with their compliance to this very detailed and complicated legislation. It will be distributed with Dispatch. College staff, including the Registrar, is available on request to speak at dental society meetings and other gatherings across the province on this issue.
- Council approved the creation of an ad hoc committee, chaired by Dr. Bohdan Kryshchalskyj, to receive submissions from all interested stakeholders on the expansion of the scope of practice for oral and maxillofacial surgeons. The committee is to create a draft amendment to the *Dentistry Act* for consideration of the Executive Committee and Legal and Legislation Committee, and then Council. Any proposed amendment would then follow a lengthy and arduous approval process through government and Cabinet.
- Council received the recommendation of the Finance, Property & Administration Committee that no changes are required in the dues structure for 2004. The budget, however, will be presented to Council for approval in November.

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- Members will soon have access to a new membership service with Council's approval of the purchase for a one-year trial period of The Medical Letter's on-line drug interaction program. It will be accessible to all RCDSO members, by password, from our Web site. Full details will be in the July/August issue of Dispatch.
- Council approved a policy statement on water fluoridation. General details of the statement are in the April/May 2003 issue of Dispatch.
- After an impassioned presentation by Dr. Bohdan Kryshtalskyji, Council voted unanimously to write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to urge immediate restoration of public funding for the interpretation of oral pathology biopsy specimens submitted by dentists and dental specialists.
- Council agreed to a request from the Dental Council of Prince Edward Island that all PEI dentists receive the next four issues of Dispatch.
- Funding of \$500 each for 2003 was approved to the Northern Ontario Dental Association's component societies – Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Timmins, North Bay and Temiskaming. The question of continuing the “grants” to the northern societies, and the subsidies to the two dental schools was referred back to Executive Committee.
- Following through on its previous commitment, the Executive Committee reported to Council that it would be reviewing By-law No. 6 – Election and Selection of Councillors, specifically the “three year rule.” The current version of this by-law is available on our Web site at www.rcdso.org.
- The College will continue to offer, as a service to its members, an option to take courses from the College where College committees require members to do so as part of his/her remediation. A fee of \$500 will be charged per course.
- Council approved the audited financial statements for 2002, and Deloitte & Touche LLB were appointed auditors for 2003.
- Council passed a motion that agreed to pay an annual fee of no more than \$5.00 per member as its dental regulatory authority contribution to the Canadian Dental Association for the next payment year.
- The three new public members were appointed to the following committees:
Ryan Clarke – Complaints Committee; Mary Ann Labaj – Discipline Committee; Stanley Spencer – Discipline Committee.