



Royal College of
Dental Surgeons of Ontario

Ensuring Continued Trust

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

6 Crescent Road, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON Canada M4W 1T1
T: 416.961.6555 F: 416.961.5814
Toll Free: 800.565.4591 www.rcdso.org

TO: ALL RCDSO MEMBERS

Council Meeting of November 8 & 9, 2001

This publication is mailed within four working days of each Council meeting to all College members and key stakeholders. It is simultaneously 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 info@rcdso.org.

- Dr. Cameron Witmer was elected by Council as the new vice-president of the College. As vice-president, Dr. Witmer automatically sits on the College's Executive Committee. Dr. Richard Filion was elected by Council to replace Dr. Witmer as the Council member sitting on the Executive Committee. The members of the Executive Committee are now: Dr. Eric Luks, chair; Dr. Cameron Witmer; Dr. Richard Filion; and public members Lynne Arnill and Elesh Ruparel.
- Council welcomed Dr. George Grayson of Windsor who was elected by District 6 to fill the vacancy on Council due to the passing of Dr. Robert Brandon.
- The appointment of Dr. Bohdan Kryshchalskyj as the new chair of the Finance, Property and Administration Committee was confirmed by Council.
- Council accepted the resignation of public member Roberta Corey, and confirmed the appointment of Ms. Lynne Arnill to fill the resulting vacancy on the Discipline Committee.
- Council confirmed the appointment of Dr. Virginia Luks to the Registration Committee.
- RCDSO's position that dental therapists are not legally entitled to perform controlled acts (i.e. practise dentistry) in Ontario was confirmed by Council. The Registrar was authorized to take any action that may be required to enforce the Regulated Health Professions Act, including legal action.
- The College's response to the government's proposed revisions to the Regulated Health Professions Act was reviewed and discussed by Council. In forwarding comments to the Health Minister, Council is formally requesting another opportunity to comment once the actual Bill is available in its draft form and before First Reading to ensure that the rights of members are protected and the principles of public interest protection are not compromised.
- Following a comprehensive review by the Finance, Property and Administration Committee, Council approved the 2002 operating and capital budgets prepared by College staff under the direction of Paul Harrison, Director of Finance and Administration.

(continued on back)

- Dr. Don McFarlane, Director of the College's Professional Liability Program, reviewed the significant staffing, administrative and procedural improvements that have occurred in the PLP area since he assumed the role of Director of the program in mid-April. The continuing improvements are designed to ensure that PLP continues to be a helpful and responsive resource to members, and the claims administration process is efficient and effective.
- Dr. Mary McNally of Dalhousie University, a member of the newly struck Ethics Committee, made a special presentation to Council on the role of ethics in dentistry and the challenges involved in teaching ethics. At the next meeting of Council in April 2002, there will be further discussion on a proposal for a College-sponsored ethics program. As pointed out during Council discussion, there is currently no by-law in place regarding funding for such a program. Passage of any such by-law would require a full consultation with all members of the profession.
- The College's increased emphasis on open and collaborative communication with its colleagues in the dental community are now supported by regular and ongoing meetings between RCDSO and the Ontario Dental Association at a senior staff level, and at the President/Registrar/Executive Director level.
- Council approved the speciality examinations for each of the dental specialities for applicants applying for registration in 2002.
- A number of housekeeping amendments to the College's by-laws were approved. They cover such areas as qualifications and appointment of non-Council members to College committees, and changes to the terms of reference for the Communications Committee and the Election Committee.
- A new conflict of interest by-law was passed by Council. The by-law is based on principles similar to those that formed the basis for the code of conduct for Council members passed at the previous Council meeting. The new by-law ensures that members of Council and committee members do not act when they have a conflict of interest or a bias.
- Council approved significant proposed regulation changes. These changes include new definitions for dental internship and dental residency; three new classes of certificate: post-speciality training, academic visitor, and short duration; new names for orthodontics (orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics) and oral radiology (oral and maxillofacial radiology) and the addition of oral medicine as a new speciality. Other changes were made to ensure consistency with the national agreement on interprovincial trade. The proposed amendments will be circulated to members and other stakeholders for review and comments.
- Proposed regulations for procedures to be performed by respiratory therapists were passed by Council. This proposed amendment will be circulated to members and other stakeholders for review and comments.
- Council approved a 2002 grant to the Canadian Collaboration on Clinical Practice Guidelines in Dentistry of \$5.00 per member. This grant is contingent on all dental regulatory bodies in Canada contributing a like-amount in the same year.
- The College, with Council's agreement, will proceed to offer a mediation services to assist in reaching resolution of dentist-to-dentist disputes. The College will use the services of retired judges. Fee payment has yet to be determined. The College will be formally asking the Ontario Dental Association to participate.

Publication date: Wednesday, November 14, 2001