

BOARD BUSINESS

From the Registrar's Desk

No. 60, August 2016



STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2015 the Board initiated the development of their Strategic Plan, a first for the organization by acquiring the services of Fairwinds Training and Development Inc. The strategic plan sets a very clear direction for staff and members and serves as a decision making tool for the organization. All activity, guided by the core values, should support the strategic mission and vision of the organization. At its May 27, 2016 meeting, the Board adopted the Strategic Plan. Next steps include creating an operational plan, which will provide a road map for how the strategies will be achieved, and implementing a measurement and follow up process that will keep the plan at the forefront. The time frame for the Strategic Plan is three years. In 2019 the Board will review and revise the Strategic Plan.

The Board would like to thank Ms. Brenda Fair for facilitating the development of the strategic plan and also congratulate Brenda on her selection by the Canadian Dental Regulatory Federation (CDRAF) to facilitate the development of a national strategic plan for dental regulation.

RADIOGRAPHY INSPECTIONS – UPDATE

Radiography Inspections are now underway. Dan and Mary Hanson (Biomedical Engineering Inc.) have completed inspections in most dental offices outside of Halifax and plan on completing the remainder of the office visits in the summer of 2017. The Board has received positive feedback from dentists who have completed the inspection and the dentists whose offices have been visited are appreciative of the advice the Hansons' provided to them. A formal report from Biomedical Engineering Inc. will be issued to each clinic once the inspections are completed, and the Board will pay Biomedical Engineering Inc. the fees for the completion of the radiography inspections.

The Inspections will allow the Board to create a database of radiography equipment being used in Nova Scotia, will enable dentists to understand the functionality of their radiography equipment, and the Board will gain an understanding of the issues which need to be addressed before the next inspection in three- five years.



PROVINCIAL DENTAL BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA

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GUIDELINE REVIEW

The Board currently has ad hoc committees struck for the review and update of several guideline documents: Recordkeeping, Sedation, Mandatory Continuing Dental Education and Botox. It is anticipated that updated versions of these guideline updates will be completed in 2017. The primary issues the committees are addressing with these documents are:

Recordkeeping: Incorporating sections on privacy legislation, dentist's responsibilities with requests from third parties, record retention, and electronic records.

Sedation: A general review and update of the Guideline with the introduction of visits to offices performing parenteral sedation by inspection teams in 2017.

Mandatory Continuing Dental Education (MCDE): A review of a) the definition of continuing dental education course sponsors, b) study clubs, and c) the definition of MCDE categories.

Botox: A review of the current guideline to determine competency for the delivery of therapeutic care and cosmetic care for patients.

LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

The legislative amendments committee is developing a first draft of the new *Dental Act* which will be presented to the Board at the September 2016 meeting. There will be opportunity for stakeholder comments subsequent the Board's review of the first draft of this legislation.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEES – UPDATE

Complaints Committee

February 29, 2016

A meeting of the Complaints Committee was held on February 29, 2016. Three cases were heard.

Case 1: Dismissed, publish on a no-name basis

Case 2: Dismissed, publish on a no-name basis

Case 3: Dismissed, publish on a no-name basis

April 4, 2016

A meeting of the Complaints Committee was held on April 4, 2016. Four cases were heard.

Case 1: Part A. – Letter of Reprimand, publish on a no-name basis

Part B. – Refer to the Discipline Committee, publish on a no-name basis

Case 2: Dismissed, publish on a no-name basis

Case 3: Dismissed, publish on a no-name basis

Case 4: Dismissed, publish on a no-name basis

May 17, 2016

A meeting of the Complaints Committee was held via teleconference to address a case referred to Discipline on January 4, 2016. At this meeting a Settlement Agreement was accepted and forwarded to the Discipline Committee.

Discipline Committee

The Discipline Committee had no activity since the last meeting of the Provincial Dental Board.

Mandatory Continuing Dental Education (MCDE) Committee

The MCDE Committee meeting and audit was held on February 5, 2016. Eighteen dental assistants were audited and all but one audit was successfully completed by the license renewal deadline (May 2, 2016). That dental assistant is no longer licensed in Nova Scotia. Twenty-two dentists were audited and 13 had incomplete audits and 5 remain outstanding. These dentists will have until November 30, 2016 to complete the requirements. If not completed, the licensee will be struck from the Dental Register, and will not be eligible for reinstatement until all MCDE requirements are met.

There were several issues of concern arising out of the MCDE audit meeting: 1. The provision of courses by non-recognized CDE sponsors or by study clubs not registered or approved by the Provincial Dental Board; 2. The broad scope of educational activities being submitted by dentists and dental assistants as Category 3 for the audit; and 3. A lack of clarity in the MCDE Guidelines regarding the definition of sponsors of CDE courses.

The MCDE Guidelines will be reviewed to address these concerns.

Dental Practice Review (DPR) Committee

The DPR Committee meeting and audit was held on April 2, 2016. The Self-assessment documents were reviewed at the meeting and dentists will receive reports based on the results. Sixteen dentists have been selected for site visits this year. The site visits are underway and should be completed in October 2016. Dr. Simone Abbass will conduct office visits in the Halifax region while Dr. Gillis will conduct office visits in Cape Breton/ Northern Nova Scotia and the Valley/South Shore regions.

The Committee recommended some minor revisions to the self-assessment document for clarity. It was also recommended that the question regarding e-Access be removed from the self-assessment document and placed in the License Renewal Form for 2016-17.

The final terms for Dr. Graham Opie (Chair) and Dr. Glenn Anderson will expire on December 31, 2016. Two dentists will be appointed to the DPR Committee in 2017.

Registration Appeal Committee

The Registration Appeal Committee had no activity since the last meeting of the Provincial Dental Board.

FUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

Discipline Committee

Ms. Alma Layden was appointed to the Discipline Committee.

SUMMER STUDENT

The employment of a summer student, Ms. Morgan Knickle-Smith (3rd year Law, Dalhousie) was a significant benefit to the Provincial Dental Board. She assisted the Registrar with the collection of data for a research project being conducted on the root causes of complaints against dentists in Nova Scotia and the revision of the Recordkeeping Guidelines. Ms. Knickle-Smith also provided assistance to the Executive Assistant with database maintenance.

LICENSING REPORT

As of August 29, 2016 the number of licensed dentists, students, assistants and corporations are:

Year	DDS	Students	RDA	Corporations
2016	555	18	769	406
2015	539	17	791	416
2014	545	11	795	414
2013	561	11	790	407
2012	556	10	780	381

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Martin Gillis, DDS
Registrar