



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

February 23, 2007

College Finances

The Treasurer, Dr. Bill McNiece, reported that as the College nears the end of its fiscal year on February 28, 2007, it is meeting its budget objectives with the prospect of a substantial surplus. This surplus is due in part to an increase in the number of registrants and a reduction in the amount of legal bills and committee expenses. Legal bills can be difficult to estimate year to year in that they are largely based on the number of legal actions in which the College is involved.

Dr. McNiece read a letter from Dr. Wayne Halstrom, President of the Canadian Dental Association, congratulating the College on the sound management of its financial affairs including the reduction in annual licence fees.

Contingency Reserve Fund

Council placed an additional \$500,000 in the contingency reserve fund.

Quality Assurance: Definitions and Standards of Practice

Dr. David Tobias, Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee, presented definitions for Standards of Practice and Clinical Practice Guidelines in support of the Committee's recommendation that the College adopt a group of five practice standards as a component of its Quality Assurance program.

Definitions

- Standards of Practice – Standards of Practice statements provide dentists, certified dental assistants and the public with a framework of expectations and responsibilities for dentists and certified dental assistants to carry out the safe and ethical practice of dentistry.
- Clinical Practice Guidelines – Clinical Practice Guidelines provide direction for dentists and CDAs in how to meet the professional standards in specific situations. They are developed by and for practitioners and are designed to enhance, not replace, clinical judgement and expertise. Guidelines are meant to describe best practices but are not meant to be rigid or definitive in all situations.

Standards of Practice

The Standards of Practice describe the responsibilities of dentists and certified dental assistants in providing dental care to the public in British Columbia and covers the following broad principles:

Regulating dentists and certified dental assistants in the public interest

1. Patient-centred dental care
2. Unique body of knowledge
3. Competent application of knowledge
4. Professional ethics
5. Professional responsibility and accountability

Both the definitions and the Standards of Practice were approved by Council.

Changes to Maximum CE Credits

On the recommendation of the Quality Assurance Committee, Council approved changes to the maximum allowable credits in the following areas commencing January 1, 2008:

- A. Dental Practice Management – to 30 credits from 54 for dentists, and to 18 credits from 22 for CDAs
- B. Non-Clinical Dental –to 15 credits from 20 for dentists, and unchanged for CDAs to a maximum of 12 credits

CDA Advisory Committee Report

Ms. Kathy Boyd, Chair, reported that the CDA planning workshop originally scheduled for Saturday, March 31, 2007, has been postponed. The decision to wait until after the College is designated under the *Health Professions Act* was made by the Committee based on feedback it obtained from participants in last year's workshop.

The CDA Council Member Selection Working Group will meet in early March 2007 to shortlist the applications received for a second CDA Council member.

Health Professions Act

Ms. Heather MacKay, Deputy Registrar, updated Council on the proposed College Bylaws. These Bylaws are currently posted on the Ministry and College websites for comment by the profession and others until March 20, 2007.

Internationally Trained Dental Specialists

Dr. Peter Stevenson-Moore updated Council on the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation meeting held in Toronto from February 16 to 18, 2007. This meeting was held to develop a process and protocols for the registration of internationally trained dental specialists, including agreements on competency assessment and gap training.

All national regulatory authorities accepted the proposal presented by B.C. and signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Council is grateful to Dean Yen and the Faculty of Dentistry at UBC for their commitment to develop and manage a national process to register internationally trained dental specialists.

Council unanimously voted to commit \$280,000, based on \$100 per licensed dentist, to develop the national process. Funds for this initiative will be drawn from the budget surplus. The other dental regulatory authorities are being asked to make similar contributions to fund development of the national process.

Registration Committee

Mr. Victor Bowman was appointed as a public member of the Registration Committee.

Pacific Dental Conference

Ms. Margot White, Director of Communications, briefed Council on College activities during the upcoming Pacific Dental Conference, which will include the Awards Ceremony and course presentation titled *Tough Patient Situations – What Would You Do?* All Council members were encouraged to attend.

Registrar

Council met in-camera and accepted Ms. Heather Laing's resignation to pursue career opportunities elsewhere. She will use her accumulated vacation prior to the effective date of her resignation on March 31, 2007.

Council appointed Ms. Heather MacKay, Deputy Registrar, as Acting Registrar effective February 26, 2007, until the College completes an executive search for a new Registrar and CEO.

Resignations

Dr. David Prokopetz has retired from active dental practice and has therefore resigned from Council and all College committees. Council appointed Dr. Bill McNiece to serve as liaison for the Southern Interior electoral district for the remainder of the Council year.

Council presented a certificate of appreciation to Dr. Prokopetz for his service as a member of Council and for his committee contributions, including Quality Assurance.

Ms. Christine Elliott, public member, resigned from Council and was not present at the meeting.



Dr. David Prokopetz (left) with Dr. Peter Lobb