

the Sentinel

A publication of the College of Dental Surgeons of
British Columbia for dentists and certified dental assistants

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The Next 100 Years



Dentistry and the College of Dental Surgeons have come a long way since the first *Dentists Act* was established 100 years ago. Back then, entries to the Register of Dentists were written by hand and foot-powered treadle drills were still very much in use.

While its mandate is essentially unchanged, today's College is focused on the future.

"We are committed to playing a leadership role with respect to the issues defining the practice of dentistry in addressing emerging issues," says incoming President Dr. Ash Varma. "Our approach will be collaborative and balanced – striving for more involvement from the profession, while reinforcing the value of responsible self-regulation in the public interest."

While its mandate is essentially unchanged, today's College is focused on the future.

This fall, we welcome three individuals to their new roles as President, Vice-President and Treasurer on the College Council. Their expertise, combined with

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Important Criminal Record Re-Check news on page 12.

The Next 100 Years

continued from front cover

that of new and continuing members, will have a positive influence on the College's ability to build on the successes it has achieved to date and to implement key initiatives such as the transition to the *Health Professions Act*, labour mobility agreements and the registration of internationally trained professionals.

Dr. Bob Coles, Vice-President Elect, looks forward to his new role as part of today's College, where dentists and certified dental assistants continue to be treated with the greatest respect.

Ash and Bob will be joined by incoming Treasurer Dr. Peter Stevenson-Moore.

"The College is fortunate indeed to be in the strongest financial position since its inception. While we must continue to be fiscally responsible, this solid foundation enables us to concentrate on issues of significant importance to regulation," says Peter.

Watch for the fall issue of *The Sentinel* for more information about the incoming Council and College priorities.

Centenary Look for *The Sentinel*

The College's celebratory 100-years logo and look will be featured on *The Sentinel* cover throughout our centenary year.

Meet Our Incoming Elected Officers

Dr. Ash Varma, President Elect



With his approachable demeanour and "can do" attitude, it is no wonder Dr. Ash Varma is a sought-after volunteer. A firm believer in contribution to community, Ash has been extensively involved as a volunteer, including having served as Past-President of the Rotary Club of Powell River and member of other non-profit organizations. He is also a well-known figure in organized dentistry.

Ash has been actively involved in the College for nearly 20 years, most recently serving as Vice-President on Council since 2005. Previously, he was Chair of the Ethics Committee and has been involved in numerous task forces and committees over the years, including the Review Committee and HPA Bylaws Working Group.

Ash's other involvement in organized dentistry includes being a founder and mentor of the Grief Point Study Club, a Council member for B.C. for the Canadian Academy of Restorative Dentistry and Prosthodontics, and

Co-Chair of the Academy's 2008 scientific meeting. He is proud to have been recognized by his peers with honorary fellowships in the Pierre Fauchard Academy, American College of Dentists and the Academy of Dentistry International.

Ash began his dental career 25 years ago following his graduation from UBC in 1983. He joined his father in private practice in Powell River and continues to operate the busy practice since his father's retirement six years ago.

Ash has been actively involved in the College for nearly 20 years.

Ash and his wife Deleigh, a CDA, are actively involved with their two teenage children and enjoy travelling and participating in outdoor activities together. An active sportsman, Ash is a certified Level 2 coach in track and field, and has been involved in coaching basketball. In his spare time, Ash enjoys fishing, hunting and golfing as well as spending time with family and friends.

Dr. Bob Coles, Vice-President Elect



Dr. Bob Coles first became involved with organized dentistry in B.C. 14 years ago because of an interest in the complaints process.

From that early involvement, Bob made a concerted effort to be part of improving the College. First, he was a founding member of the group that spearheaded the separation of the College's regulatory and member services functions. Later, he participated on the College's two task forces that were responsible for planning and implementing the formation of the ADSBC, which is now the BC Dental Association.

Later still, Bob sub-chaired the Regulatory Review Task Force, which was charged with a two-year project to re-examine our regulatory system, and proposed sweeping changes to improve and contemporize the way the College deals with complaints. Bob is pleased to see that almost all of the Task Force's recommendations have been implemented. The balance can only be brought about once the College becomes governed under the new Bylaws associated with the *Health Professions Act* – which, as you might imagine, he was involved in drafting.

Further still, for six years Bob has served as a College Council member. During this time, he has also been Vice-Chair

of the Practice Standards Committee, which attempts to resolve complaints issues through negotiated agreements with registrants. Bob has truly had a hand in every step of the College's 12-year evolution.

In what spare time he has left, Bob enjoys snowboarding and travelling with his wife and four teenage children. He coaches a YMCA youth basketball team and has recently started to dabble in acrylic painting. A snowmobiler in the winter and dirt biker in the summer, he has a hard time sitting still.

As you can expect, Bob is always eager to hear from colleagues with ideas on how the College can continue to improve.

Dr. Peter Stevenson-Moore, Treasurer Elect



Dr. Peter Stevenson-Moore was born in England and began practising dentistry there in 1972. His first experience was as a general

dentist in National Health Service and later as a resident in prosthetic dentistry at Guy's Hospital in London. He came to North America in 1973, and earned his MSD and a Certificate in Prosthodontics from the University of Washington in 1977, landing in Canada the same year and opening a prosthodontic practice in Vancouver.

In addition to serving the College as Chair of the Denturist and Dental Technicians Legislation Task Force,

Peter has served Council as the Dental Specialists Representative since 2004. He was recently acclaimed Treasurer and represents the College on the Program Advisory Committees for Denturists and Dental Technologists at Vancouver Community College.

Peter's involvement in institutional dentistry began in 1977, when he became the first dental member of the BC Cancer Agency's (BCCA) active staff. He developed a provincial dental service for cancer patients with expanded dental support representing most dental disciplines and specialties for each of the five regional cancer centres. During his BCCA appointment, he served both as President of the Medical Dental Staff, and as President of the Medical/Dental Staff Association.

Peter received an Honourary Membership in the BC Dental Association in recognition of his work at BCCA, from which he retired in March 2008. He remains on the consulting staff of Vancouver General Hospital and is a Clinical Assistant Professor at UBC.

Peter is a Past-President of the Pacific Coast Society for Prosthodontics and of the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada, and is a Fellow of the Academy of Prosthodontics. He is proud to have been recognized by his peers with fellowships in the International College of Dentists and the American College of Dentists.

Peter is married with three grown children, and pursues interests in classical music, golf and travel.

Retaining Dental Records – Your Questions Answered

Good dental records can facilitate quality care and ensure the continuity and comprehensiveness of oral health services. In this column, the College answers some of the most frequently asked questions about one aspect of dental records management: the retention of dental records.

Q What constitutes a dental record?

A A dental record includes the patient record, their business or financial record and their drug record. These records include data such as the patient's name, contact information and insurance and payment details. Records also include the patient's medical and dental histories; radiographic, clinical and other examination details; treatment plans and records; consultations and referrals; and personal comments and notes. Drug records include information about the prescription, administration and dispensation of medications.

Q What is the retention period for patient records?

A Practitioners are advised to keep patient records for 30 years following the last date of treatment. This is in keeping with the *B.C. Limitations Act*, which states that a person has a maximum of 30 years to sue after the last date of treatment. In the case of minors, records must be kept for at least 30 years after the day on which the patient reaches the age of 19. Where a patient is deceased, the executor or administrator of their estate can file a claim on behalf of the deceased within 30 years after the last date of treatment.

Q How long should models be retained?

A Diagnostic or study models are considered part of the permanent patient record and must be kept for the period prescribed. If the patient record is stored electronically, models must be retained in their original form; photographs are not acceptable. Working models, however, do not have to be kept and practitioners are advised to use their judgment in deciding their value should a request or complaint arise in the future.

Q What are the main considerations with respect to the retention of electronic records?

A Electronic data and records must be accurate, reliable, accessible in a timely fashion and secure. The same retention rules apply as to paper records. The electronic system must ensure that the privacy of the patient's personal information is protected in both the recordkeeping and in the transfer of the patient's records.

Q How should patient records be disposed of at the end of the retention period?

A Records must be disposed of in a manner that protects patient confidentiality and maintains physical security of the information. Methods include:

- confidential return to the individual or dealing with the records in accordance with the patient's instructions,

- controlled physical destruction such as shredding or incineration, and
- confidential transfer to another agency that will provide appropriate services to destroy the information.

The process used to destroy electronic records must render them unreadable and eliminate the possible reconstruction of the records in whole or in part.

Q What should happen to records when dentists retire or sell their practices?

A Under common law, and in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, the owner of a dental practice owns all patient charts. A dentist leaving or selling a practice should ideally give patients advance written notice about the change. If the outgoing dentist is unable to do so, it becomes the responsibility of the incoming dentist to notify patients that he or she is in possession of their records.

Where there is a contract of sale, partnership or employment in place, the terms of that agreement should specify the ownership of the patient records.

The College document *Dental Records Management* contains more information about records retention and related topics. It can be found in the BC Dental Manual or on the College website at www.cdsbc.org under the menu "About the College" and sub-menu "Dental Records Management."

College Awards Outstanding Contributions



L – R: Dr. Ed Yen, Dr. Gordon Baynes,
Dr. Wayne Halstrom, Dr. Bruce Ward

The College recognized 20 individuals for their valuable contributions to dentistry at its annual awards ceremony held last March at the Pacific Dental Conference.

Prior to the ceremony, a special reception was held to officially celebrate the 100th anniversary of the self-regulation of dentistry under the *Dentists Act* and the establishment of the body that today is known as the College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia.

The Honoured Member Award, the College's most significant award, recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the art and science of dentistry and to the dental profession over a sustained period of time. This year's recipient was Dr. Ed Yen, former Dean of the UBC Faculty of Dentistry, where he was responsible for many achievements including leading the building of the Nobel Biocare Oral Health Centre.

Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Drs. Gordon Baynes, Wayne Halstrom and Bruce Ward.

This award acknowledges individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the College over a number of years and exceptional contributions to the dental profession provincially, nationally or internationally.

In recognition of significant contributions and service to the College and dentistry, Awards of Merit were conferred upon: Dr. Roger Bailey; Dr. Greg Card; Ms. Beverly Davis, CDA; Dr. John Gould; Ms. Debbie Horin, CDA; Dr. Leetty Huang; Ms. Karen Jones, CDA; Dr. Roger Magnall; Ms. Karen Manary, CDA; Dr. David Prokopetz; Dr. Sieg Vogt; Dr. Bill Walter and Dr. Chris Zed.

Ms. Kay Bremner, Ms. Yolanda Olivotto and Ms. Gerri Randall were awarded Certificates of Appreciation for their valuable contributions to the College and the dental profession.

If you are interested in nominating an individual for a College award, contact Rochelle Blaak at rblaak@cdsbc.org. Nominations close October 31.

The Honoured Member Award, the College's most significant award, was presented to Dr. Ed Yen, former Dean of the UBC Faculty of Dentistry.



Back Row, L - R: Dr. Roger Magnall, Dr. Bill Walter, Dr. Christopher Zed, Ms. Yolanda Olivotto, Dr. Sieg Vogt, Dr. Greg Card, Dr. David Prokopetz

Middle Row, L - R: Ms. Kay Bremner, Dr. Leetty Huang, Ms. Karen Jones, Ms. Karen Manary, Ms. Beverly Davis, Ms. Debbie Horin, Ms. Gerri Randall

Front Row, L - R: Dr. Roger Bailey, Dr. Gordon Baynes, Dr. Ed Yen, Dr. Peter Lobb, Ms. Heather MacKay, Dr. Wayne Halstrom, Dr. Bruce Ward

Missing: Dr. John Gould



President's Report Dr. Peter Lobb

My Final Thoughts as President

As this will be my last *Sentinel* article as President, I wanted to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the profession for the opportunity the current elected officers, Council and College staff have had these past three years to guide the College in several very progressive undertakings. I also wanted to share with you news about some of our accomplishments this past year:

- We continue to exercise our duties and responsibilities based on principles of respect and justice, carried out in a fair and reasonable manner. A survey of registrants from December 2007 indicates 91 per cent of dentists and CDAs are satisfied with their dealings with the College.
- Complaints are being handled in a timely manner (within six months) based on alternative dispute-resolution where possible and focused on remedial resolutions. All of the outstanding College complaint files going back to the mid-'90s are now resolved.
- The College is financially sound, free from debt, has a contingency reserve for extraordinary expenses,

created internally restricted reserves to fund four significant projects over the next couple of years, maintained licence fees for CDAs and reduced licence fees for dentists once again this year, and owns 70 per cent of the College Place building in partnership with the BC College of Pharmacists.

I extend to all who have served the College and those who continue to serve the profession my best wishes and sincere thanks.

- The College is meeting government expectations to develop processes to assess and register internationally trained dentists and dental specialists in partnership with the Faculty of Dentistry at UBC, the other nine provincial dental regulatory authorities and national organizations including CDRAF, RCDC, ACFD, CDA and CDAC.

- The College concluded executive searches for a Registrar in September 2007 by appointing Ms. Heather MacKay and for a Managing Deputy Registrar in March 2008 by appointing Dr. David Cornell. There have been other staff changes during the year with efforts made to make for smooth transitions and to ensure policies are developed to protect the financial and information resources of the College.
- Significant progress is being made to develop current clinical practice guidelines that will serve as a resource for the profession as well as a process to keep them current on an ongoing basis. The first, *Clinical Practice Guideline for the Early Detection of Oral Cancer*, was introduced at the Pacific Dental Conference in March 2008.
- Regrettably, there has been little progress to report on the designation of the College under the *Health Professions Act* and approval of our draft Bylaws, or enactment of a new *Statute of Limitations Act* reducing the period of record retention to 10 years from 30. We continue to encourage government to make enactment of these two pieces of legislation a greater priority.

When the new elected officers and Council assume office in September, I am confident they will have inherited a College that is an effective, respected and fiscally sound organization. In keeping with my mandate of building trust and managing change based on principles of fairness, reasonableness and collaboration, I believe it will be clear to all that we have been successful in demonstrating a serious commitment to regulating the professional lives of dentists and certified dental assistants with honour and to having created a College in which they can take pride and British Columbians will have confidence.

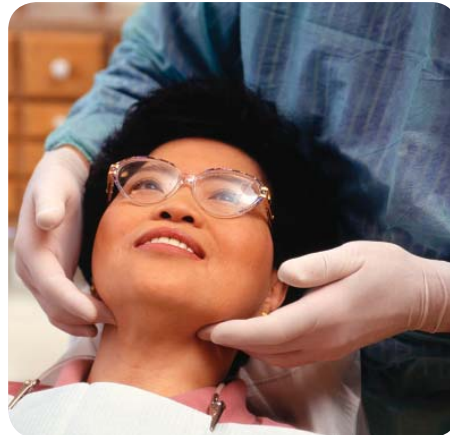
I extend to all who have served the College and those who continue to serve the profession my best wishes and sincere thanks. And I believe my final wish for each of you is best expressed in R. Kullberg's "Irish Blessing"...

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
The sun shine warm upon your face,
The rain fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the hollow
of his hand.*

IN BRIEF

Screening for Oral Cancer

The *Clinical Practice Guideline for the Early Detection of Oral Cancer* was released by the College and BC Cancer Agency at the PDC in March. This eight-page document was distributed to dentists across B.C. and is intended to provide guidance about the appropriate use of oral cancer screening techniques and to help dentists make informed decisions about screening for oral cancer in practice.



"The Guideline reflects existing best practices and facilitates clinical decision-making," says College Registrar Heather MacKay. "We expect that dentists would follow the recommended screening approach for adult patients, including a head, neck and oral soft tissue exam as appropriate."

The Guideline is available online at www.cdsbc.org or at www.cda-adc.ca/jcda in the April 2008 issue. A printed copy can be requested from the College by phoning 604 736-3621 or, toll-free outside the Lower Mainland, 800 663-9169.

Watch for New Website

Watch for the College's new and upgraded website this fall. The user-friendly site will feature current news, information, photos and more. Registrants will still be able to check and report CE online as well as change contact information at www.cdsbc.org.

"Dental Practice Guidelines" Document No Longer in Use

Please be advised that the College document, *Dental Practice Guidelines**, is no longer in use as it contained out-of-date information. The document was included in the BC Dental Manual and on the College website.

The College's Clinical Practice Guidelines Working Group is in the process of creating a framework on which to base the identification, evaluation and publication of clinical practice guidelines and other supports for the practice of dentistry.

Practitioners are encouraged to make informed decisions based on their professional judgment and current information with regard to best practices.

Questions? Contact the College at 604 736-3621 or toll-free outside the Lower Mainland at 800 663-9169.

*Note that the obsolete document does not include the *Clinical Practice Guideline for the Early Detection of Oral Cancer*, released earlier this year.



Registrar's Report Heather MacKay

College Involved: Bill 25, Competition Bureau, CDRAF and Internationally Educated Professionals

The regulation of dentistry is never static. The College has been actively involved in provincial and national issues that impact self-governing health care professions and dentistry specifically. As always, our goal is to ensure that we regulate fairly in a manner that effectively protects patients and the public.

In response to increased demands for public accountability from regulatory bodies and shortages of health professionals in B.C., the government recently introduced Bill 25, the *Health Professions Amendment Act*.

The College responded to the Minister of Health with feedback about the draft legislation. We also worked with the network of B.C. health regulatory organizations to meet with senior government officials about our concerns. We were pleased that a number of our recommendations were reflected in the version of the legislation that received royal assent in May.

We continue to work with the B.C. government to finalize College Bylaws that will enable

us to transition from regulation under the *Dentists Act* to the *Health Professions Act* (HPA).

We have met regularly over the past few months with representatives from the Certified Dental Assistants of BC (CDABC) to discuss the member services organization's questions and concerns about the College's draft Bylaws.

We were pleased that a number of our recommendations were reflected in the version of Bill 25 that received royal assent in May.

The views of the CDABC are being considered in the process of finalizing the changes to the Bylaws based on feedback from the public consultation process last year. In addition, our two organizations have agreed to meet regularly to discuss topics of mutual interest.

We are delighted that Sandra Harvey, CDA, joined the College in June as our new Manager of CDA Relations.

Sandra brings valuable insight to the College from an extensive background in dentistry, including her most recent position as the CDA Program Head of the West Coast College Dental Assisting Program. As a result of her new role, Sandra will be stepping down from her position as one of two CDA Council members.

Labour mobility and the integration of internationally trained professionals continue to be priorities for dentistry and our provincial and federal governments. The College has been actively working with academic institutions, other provincial dental regulators, governments and the National Dental Examining Board to develop processes to deal with assessing, gap training and licensing internationally trained dentists and dental specialists from non-accredited universities.

The President, Vice-President and I attended the semi-annual meeting of the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) held in Ottawa in April. These meetings provide a forum at which dental regulators from across Canada can discuss issues of common concern, including national and inter-jurisdictional matters.

The Competition Bureau has embarked on a national study of the self-regulated profession of dentistry. The Bureau is primarily focused on promoting competition and informed consumer choice. Their review of dentistry follows their 2007 review of the influence of self-regulation on competition for accountants, pharmacists, real estate agents, lawyers and optometrists.

Introducing Dr. David Cornell - the College's New Senior Deputy Registrar



Dr. David Cornell

Whether he is tackling a black-diamond ski run, volunteering for organized dentistry or running a busy dental practice, Dr. David Cornell is known for his commitment and enthusiasm.

Prior to assuming his new position with the College this June, David combined his passion for volunteering with running a busy solo practice in his native Brampton, Ontario – a tradition he established early on in his 28-year career.

Although he is still relatively new to the job, David is pleased to be working in an environment that draws on his leadership skills and his background in consensus-building and coaching.

“Being able to leverage my knowledge as a professional with my experience as a senior volunteer in organized dentistry has enabled me to remain current about new developments, trends and issues,” says David.

In his role as Senior Deputy Registrar at the College, David is responsible for complaints investigation and resolution as well as managing the overall direction and work of the complaints team. He serves as a member of the College's senior management group and provides advice and recommendations about policy related to the regulation of dentistry.

Although he is still relatively new to the job, David is pleased to be working in an environment that draws on his leadership skills and his background in consensus-building and coaching.

When he is not involved in his profession, David can be found most winter weekends on the ski hill. It is a passion that has shaped his life as well as his career.

“I discovered a talent and love for teaching on the ski hill,” says David, who has been a certified instructor of adults and amateur athletes since 1991.

“My experience on the hill influenced my desire to expand my teaching so, for the past five years, I worked as a clinical demonstrator in the restorative and preventive departments at the University of Toronto.”

David obtained his Doctor of Dental Surgery in 1980 from the University of Toronto and opened his general practice immediately afterward.

David has served on the executive and as President of his local component society – an involvement that has spanned 25 years. In addition, he has been a Governor of the Ontario Dental Association and, since 2003, a Councillor on their board until moving to Vancouver. David has also been involved in various task forces and special committees.

The recipient of numerous awards, David is proudest of the fellowships he was awarded this past spring in the Academy of Dentistry International and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.



Senior Deputy Registrar Dr. David Cornell can be found most winter weekends on the ski hill.

David and his wife, Deborah McPherson, are excited about exploring all that B.C. has to offer and look forward to visits from their three adult children and 18-month-old twin grandchildren.

Council Highlights > May 9, 2008

Welcoming Remarks

The President, Dr. Peter Lobb, welcomed incoming Council members, Dr. Chiku Verma and Ms. Leslie Riva, and incoming Senior Deputy Registrar, Dr. David Cornell. The previous evening, long-serving Council members who will be departing this summer were acknowledged and thanked for their contributions to the College – Ms. Kathy Boyd, Ms. Maureen Leech, Dr. Bill McNiece, Mr. Bill Phillips and Mr. Clayton Shultz.

Bill 25 - The Health Professions Amendment Act

Council approved a letter to the Minister of Health outlining the College's concerns regarding Bill 25 – *The Health Professions Amendment Act*, which was introduced in the B.C. legislature in early May.

College Committee Updates

Ms. Heather MacKay, Registrar, updated Council on current activities of several College Committees:

- The Clinical Practice Guidelines Working Group is creating a framework on which to base the identification, evaluation and publication of clinical practice guidelines for dentistry.
- The Ethics Committee is developing principles to review and revise the Code of Ethics, including promotional activities.
- The Quality Assurance Committee is creating a framework for a continuing competency program based on the principles of lifelong learning and self-accountability.

- Council approved terms of reference to create a working group of the Accreditation Committee to be responsible for developing guidelines for minimal and moderate sedation.

Finances

The Treasurer, Dr. Bill McNiece, reported on the College's positive financial status, including information on the budget surplus for 2007/8, on internally restricted funds for major projects and on development of financial protocols to protect the College's financial affairs. Council recognized Dr. McNiece for his outstanding stewardship of the College's financial affairs during his three years as Treasurer.

Audit Committee Report

Mr. Clayton Shultz, Chair, reported that the College's financial affairs were well managed in 2007/8. The Committee will be making recommendations that Council re-evaluate a few areas such as internal financial controls, the College budget process and the Joint Venture for College Place. The Committee will oversee choosing an auditing firm for 2008/9.

CDA Advisory Committee

Ms. Kathy Boyd, Chair, discussed recent Committee activities and meetings attended. She advised that work would soon begin on developing recommendations for updating the Prosthodontic Module.

Continuous Practice for Registrants

The need for increased accountability for practising registrants' ongoing involvement in the practice of dentistry was discussed. Council intends to consult with registrants on a proposal to report a minimum number of hours of practice every three years as a requirement for relicensure. The CDA Advisory Committee was asked to consider similar requirements for CDAs.

CDSBC Fellowship

Stakeholders will be consulted about ending the current practice of granting Fellowships in the College of Dental Surgeons of BC to certified specialists because the College no longer conducts specialty exams.

Competition Bureau

The Competition Bureau has embarked on a national study of the self-regulated profession of dentistry. The College will be providing information in this process as appropriate.

Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF)

The President reported on highlights from the CDRAF's semi-annual meeting held on April 17, 2008, and identified national regulatory issues requiring further consideration by the College.

Canadian Dental Association (CDA)

The President provided highlights from the CDA's meetings on April 18 and 19, 2008, including the election of British Columbians Dr. Ron Smith as Vice-President and the re-election of Dr. Ron Markey as Chair of the General Assembly.

Dental Clinic at College Place

Dr. Susan Chow, Council Liaison to the Study Club Alliance, indicated the Alliance has received significant funding and equipment donations from the dental community, including suppliers as well as individual dentists.

IT Update

Ms. Margot White, Director of Communications and Information Technology, highlighted recent initiatives including an upgrade of the College server, the migration of all workstations from Office 2003 to 2007, implementation of a training plan for staff and the initiation of a process to improve and streamline the organization's business processes as a precursor to developing a modernized database.

Conclusion

Dr. Varma recognized and thanked outgoing President, Dr. Lobb, for his leadership over the last three years.

DENTAL CLINIC UPDATE

Construction Underway, Donations Still Welcomed

"We are delighted to announce that construction is underway to renovate and upgrade the dental clinic teaching and lecture facility at College Place in Vancouver," says Dr. Don MacFarlane of the Study Club Alliance.

The new facility is scheduled to open in the fall and features 11 state-of-the-art operatories and a modern lecture classroom for 32 individuals. A teaching/demonstration operatory will be digitally linked to the lecture area and will benefit dentists throughout B.C., who will be able to participate in dental courses via webcasting.

"We are delighted by the enthusiasm and willingness of the dental community to support this project," says Dr. Susan Chow, College Council member and Alliance representative.

The new facility, which will be available for rental by educational groups and study clubs, is unique in Canada in that it is not associated with an educational institution and is a not-for-profit facility.

"We are delighted by the enthusiasm and willingness of the dental community to support this project," says Dr. Susan Chow, College Council member and Alliance representative.

"As of the end of May, more than 150 B.C. dentists had collectively pledged \$170,000 toward the facility."

The corporate dental community has made significant contributions as well. Sirona – The Dental Company is donating clinic units and chairs, X-ray machines, digital sensors and other items valued at more than \$1 million. In recognition, the new facility will be named the Sirona Learning Centre, dedicated to Dr. Gerald Stibbs, founder of the study club movement in B.C.

Other corporate sponsors include Protec Dental Laboratories Ltd. and Aurum Ceramic Dental Laboratories Ltd. at \$25,000 each and DTI (Dental Technologies Inc.) at \$5,000. Bisco Inc. is donating a headmounted digital camera and Henry Schein Ash Arcona has contributed design and layout services as well as a compressor and suction. Patterson Dental Canada Inc. has contributed a microscope and Sinclair Dental Co. has pledged \$5,000.

These contributions are in addition to the pledges made last year by the College of Dental Surgeons of \$250,000 and by the BC Dental Association of \$100,000.

To learn more about this exciting facility, including rentals and study club use, or to make a tax-deductible donation, email or call Dr. Craig Naylor at dr.naylor@shawcable.com or 604 734-4646, Dr. Don MacFarlane at smile101@telus.net or 604 736-7375 or Dr. Susan Chow at drschow@shaw.ca or 604 228-0014.

Regulating dentists and certified dental assistants in the public interest.

NEW: All Dentists and CDAs to Undergo Criminal Record Re-Check

Requirement applies to all registrants

Starting this year, the B.C. government requires all registrants to undergo a criminal record re-check every five years. The re-check is being phased in alphabetically over the next five years, starting this year with registrants whose last names begin with the letters A through E.

The new requirement applies to all current and new registrants of professional regulatory bodies as well as to current and new employees working in organizations operated, funded or licensed by the provincial government.

The College will distribute a criminal record re-check information package and application form this fall to all registrants whose last names start with the letters A through E.

Dentists and certified dental assistants in this alphabetical range who registered with the College before

The College will distribute a criminal record re-check information package and application form this fall to all registrants whose last names start with the letters A through E.

January 1, 2003, or have been charged or convicted of a relevant offence since then, must submit a new record check.

The government will charge \$20 for the check and the re-check process must be completed by December 31, 2008.

UBC Student Earns Gold Medal

Dr. Christopher Olynik was recently presented with the College of Dental Surgeons' Gold Medal by Registrar Heather MacKay. The medal is awarded to the graduating student with the most outstanding record in the course of studies in the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of British Columbia. Chris is moving to Houston, Texas, where he will be working in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery program at the Texas Medical Center.



Heather MacKay presents the College's Gold Medal to Dr. Christopher Olynik

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The Sentinel and other communications circulated by the College are the primary sources of information about regulation for dentists and certified dental assistants in B.C. Registrants are responsible for reading these publications to ensure they are aware of current standards, policies and guidelines.