

6 November 2015

The CDSBC is pleased to submit a revised “Boundaries in the Practitioner-Patient Relationship” document for consultation with the profession. This document has been re-drafted taking into consideration the tremendous response through the consultation process, and the leadership shown by the BCDA in helping to focus the profession’s concerns and feedback.

This revised document is based on guidelines rather than standards. It continues to respect the professional judgment required for dental treatment based on objective care; full, free and informed patient consent; and patient autonomy. It preserves the privilege that practitioners enjoy to be able to treat most members of the public.

The CDSBC is currently involved in discussions with all of the other health professions in BC based on a Ministry of Health directive to develop a boundaries policy common to all health professionals. At this time and because of these discussions, the CDSBC is not able to address the BCDA’s request for a Bylaw amendment for an exemption to treat spouses.

The revised Boundaries document is a reflection of the collaborative efforts of the CDSBC and BCDA, where we believe the best interests of the public and profession have been addressed. We are pleased to report that the CDSBC and BCDA both support the patient relationship guidelines as redrafted.



David L. Tobias, President  
College of Dental Surgeons of BC



Peter Lobb, President  
British Columbia Dental Association