



Memo

TO: Dentists, Dental Therapists and Certified Dental Assistants

FROM: Dr. Don Anderson, President
Dr. Patricia Hunter, Treasurer

DATE: 5 December 2017

SUBJECT: **2018/19 Renewal Fee**

The College's 2018/19 budget includes a modest fee increase of \$50 for all practising dentists, except those holding limited or temporary registration. There is also a fee increase for practising CDAs of \$15. The healthy financial reserves that the College has worked to build in previous years mean that we are able to weather financial challenges and fluctuations without requiring a larger fee increase despite a rise in costs due to a rise in discipline hearing files, and increased activity in policy development and stakeholder engagement.

The largest driver of the fee increase is related to resolution of complaint and discipline files. These are mandatory requirements under the *Health Professions Act*. Costs in this area in 2018/19 will be significantly higher than our historical norm due to the fact that:

- We anticipate as many as eight files may result in a discipline hearing, as compared to one (or none) in recent years. Discipline hearings are understood to be the largest expense a regulator will bear. The majority of costs are related to preparatory work and are incurred even if we are able to resolve the file prior to the hearing.
- We are experiencing an increase in the seriousness and complexity of cases being reported to the College, requiring additional staff resources not only for investigation but also for ongoing monitoring once the complaint file has been formally closed.

We hope that these are temporary trends.

On a more proactive note, the 2018/19 budget includes increased expenditures for several board-supported initiatives around policy development and engagement, development of a revised Quality Assurance Program, and updating our bylaws.

We wish all registrants a healthy and happy new year.