Board Highlights
13 September 2014

Board highlights are an unofficial summary of the open portion of CDSBC Board meetings. Official records can be found in the minutes, which are posted after they are approved at the following meeting of the Board.

Oath of Office for New Board Members

New board members Dr. Pamela Barias and Dr. Mark Spitz took their oath of office. The Health Professions Act requires that members of health colleges take and sign an oath of office.

Board Workshop on Patient-Centred Care

The Board attended a workshop on Friday, September 12 on the topic of “Patient-Centred Care and the Business of Dentistry.” The workshop was facilitated by the advisor to the Ethics Committee, Mr. Oleh Ilnyckyj of Miller Thomson LLP, with presentations from David Martin, a lawyer with experience in health regulation, the British Columbia Dental Association, and UBC Faculty of Dentistry Dean Dr. Charles Shuler. It also included a written submission from the Dental Corporation of Canada.

The Board felt it was an excellent session, addressing both how the College can strengthen its bylaws to promote patient-centred care, as well as the role that individual dentists can play. Feedback from the workshop will be used by the Ethics Committee to draft a policy submission to the Board.

Update from UBC Dentistry

UBC Dentistry Dean Dr. Charles Shuler gave a presentation on the vision and priorities of UBC’s new president, Dr. Arvind Gupta, as well as the activities within the Faculty:

- 50th Anniversary Celebrations – the dental school has a number of signature events to celebrate the five decades since it first started treating patients (in a trailer).
- Curriculum renewal – the faculty will run its curriculum separately from UBC Medicine beginning in September 2015
- Growing network of volunteer community dental clinics (there will be 29) that allow dental students to provide care to a wide patient demographic around the province and internationally.
- Revitalization of the John B Macdonald (JBM) Building on the Point Grey Campus.
- Dental mentorship program to connect new graduates with senior dentists in the community.
• Ongoing commitment to an outstanding oral cancer centre and the advanced tissue and material imaging facility.

The Dean also highlighted some of the challenges faced by UBC Dentistry, including that hiring of new faculty is being delayed because of changes to the temporary foreign workers program.

Committee Membership Approval 2014/15

The College has 11 committees that support the work of the Board. The CDSBC Bylaws and Governance Manual set out the requirements for how the committees are populated, such as the number and type professional and public members on each. It is also important for committees to have a mix of new and longer-standing members. The Board appointed committee memberships for the 2014/15 board year. The list is available here.

Governance Committee

The role of this committee is to develop and recommend policies and practices that enhance good governance and Board effectiveness. As part of this work, the Committee will review and make recommendations for improvements to the executive limitations reporting policies, which are used by the Board to fulfill its due diligence and oversight roles. Another task for the Governance Committee is to assemble a stable of potential volunteers to fill committee vacancies as they arise. College Vice-President Dr. Erik Hutton chairs the Governance Committee.

2014/15 Operational Plan

The Registrar/CEO presented an overview of the College’s operational priorities for the year Sept. 2014 – Sept. 2015, which are in support of the approved CDSBC Strategic Plan. As with last year, the two top priorities – referred to as 1a and 1b – are the rollout of the information/knowledge management systems, and analysis and review of the CDSBC Bylaws. These are followed by a list of second-level priorities. Two key initiatives are ongoing: reducing both the number of complaints and the average time it takes to resolve a complaint; and making improvements to College registration forms and processes.

Read the presentation “The Year Ahead: Sept. 2014 – Sept. 2015”.

Management Report to the Board

The senior management team prepares a report of recent issues and activities in advance of each board meeting. The report for September 2014 addressed the following topics:

• Status of two illegal practice investigations
- Health Professions Regulators of BC initiatives
- Process mapping / process improvement sessions for staff
- Interactions with College committee chairs and vice-chairs, First Nations Health Authority, dental component societies, UBC Dentistry and the BC Dental Association
- Accreditation site visits for three certified dental assisting programs
- Status of discipline notices and hearings
- Communications update

View the full report [here](#).

**Dental Anaesthesia Task Force**

The Board is creating a task force to consider whether dental anaesthesia should become a recognized specialty in B.C. The Dental Anaesthesia Task Force will be co-chaired by President Dr. David Tobias and Treasurer Dr. Kerim Ozcan, with additional members Dr. Eli Whitney and public member Mr. Rick Lemon. The task force is being formed in advance of receiving a formal request to recognize this as a new specialty in BC. Its role is to establish terms of reference, gather information, and eventually make a policy submission to the Board.

**Upcoming Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the CDSBC Board is Saturday, November 29 at the Sutton Place Hotel in Vancouver. The full 2014/15 board meeting schedule is available [here](#). BC committees can be found [here](#).