

CANADIAN DENTAL REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FEDERATION

MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Friday, February 17, 2023
(Via Zoom videoconference)

A meeting of the CDRAF Board of Directors took place on Friday, February 17, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. EST.

PARTICIPANTS:

Dr. Maurice Coady, Registrar, Dental Council of Prince Edward Island
Dr. Randall Croutze, Chief Executive Officer, College of Dental Surgeons of Alberta
Ms. Caroline Daoust, Directrice générale et secrétaire, L'Ordre des dentistes du Québec
Mr. Daniel Faulkner, Registrar and CEO, (CDRAF Chair), Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario
Dr. Chris Hacker, Registrar, British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals
Dr. Doug Mackey, Registrar, Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia
Dr. Arun Misra, Registrar, (CDRAF Vice-Chair), Manitoba Dental Association
Dr. Paul O'Brien, Registrar, Newfoundland and Labrador Dental Board

STAFF:

Dr. Jack Gerrow, CDRAF Executive Director
Ms. Angie Sherban, CDRAF Executive Assistant

REGRETS:

Dr. Denis Bourgeois, Registrar, New Brunswick Dental Society
Dr. Gerry Uswak, Registrar, College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan

MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Dr. Paul Allison, Executive Director, Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry
Dr. Izchak Barzilay, Chair, Board of Directors, Royal College of Dentists of Canada
Dr. Minto Basahti, Past-President, College of Dental Surgeons of Alberta
Dr. Joy Carmichael, Past-President, New Brunswick Dental Society
Mr. Frédéric Duguay, Director, Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada

Dr. Russell MacSween, Chair, Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia
Dr. Debora Matthews, Chair, Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada
Ms. Amandine Perdabet, General Manager, Royal College of Dentists of Canada
Dr. Amarjit Rihal, President, The National Dental Examining Board of Canada
Dr. James Taylor, Chief Dental Officer of Canada

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PRESENTATION ON RECONCILIATION AND CULTURAL HUMILITY

The Chair, Mr. Faulkner, opened the meeting with a Land Acknowledgement that he had prepared.

He then introduced Robert (Bob) Watts, First Peoples Group, to deliver a presentation on Reconciliation and Cultural Humility.

Bob Watts is an expert in Indigenous policy, negotiations, conflict resolution and reconciliation which aligns with one of the strategic objectives of the CDRAF strategic plan for 2023-2026.

Mr. Faulkner thanked Mr. Watts for his informative and thought-provoking presentation and added that the CDRAF will continue to emphasize this important initiative.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Faulkner called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. He welcomed Board members and representatives of other organizations. Dr. Russell MacSween was introduced as the Chair of the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved, as circulated.

MOTION #1: Daoust/Croutze

THAT the agenda of the meeting of February 17, 2023, be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED
(Unanimously)

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The CDRAF Board was provided with minutes from the Board meeting and Members' meeting of October 13, 2022. Dr. Gerrow advised that the minutes were approved electronically.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC)

Mr. Faulkner congratulated Dr. Matthews and Mr. Duguay on CDAC achieving independence from the Canadian Dental Association (CDA).

Dr. Matthews reported on the CDAC Annual General Meeting held in November 2022, at which time the final report of the Governance Review Steering Committee (GRSC) was approved. She added that a Board of Directors has been appointed and CDAC was officially named an independent not-for-profit organization, effective January 23, 2023, although there is a transition period to deal with service agreements and transfer of information from CDA.

The CDAC Board met on January 26, 2023 and will meet again on February 25-26, 2023 in-person in Ottawa. At that meeting, the Board will review and approve the Charter of the Board, the Terms of Reference of committees, by-laws and the Code of Conduct. Committee members will be elected.

In response to a question, Dr. Matthews reported that funding will be discussed by the Board. Accreditation reports will be made available to regulators. The Standards Review Committee will be asked to develop a public-facing accreditation report.

Dr. Gerrow reminded the CDRAF Board that Dr. Croutze will be the CDRAF representative on the CDAC Board. Dr. Matthews confirmed that Dr. Croutze is authorized to provide CDRAF with an update on CDAC's activities. Dr. Matthews also noted that CDAC will provide a summary of important issues discussed at meetings.

4.2 National Competency Standards for General Dentists

The CDRAF Board was provided with a draft of the national competency (KSA) document for review and comment. Dr. Gerrow noted that the draft has been revised to include feedback from the stakeholder consultation.

He thanked the members of the working group for their collaboration in providing advice and guidance in developing this document. The working group is comprised of Dr. Amarjit Rihal (CDAC), Dr. Caroline Nguyen (NDEB), Dr. Sachin Seth (CDRAF) and Dr. Jim Lai (ACFD).

Dr. Gerrow reviewed the revisions to the document with the Board:

- New competency under 1.3.3: “Develop treatment options based on the evaluation of risk assessments, diagnoses, and other factors, including, but not limited to, medical, psychosocial, and dental histories.”
- New Discipline, “11: Pediatric, Geriatric and Special Needs Dentistry.” In the original document, this competency applied to all age groups and those patients with special needs and was included in the preamble to the document. A separate category has been added for clarity and is appropriate from an accreditation aspect.
- Discipline “15, Professionalism and Practice” was added at the request of RCDSO and some revisions have been made to the original list.

Some Board members had concerns regarding the terms identified for some of the competencies, for example, endodontics and prosthodontics. There were also concerns raised about the level of competence and preparedness that the public should expect from graduating dentists.

There were also questions related to the following:

- pain management
- CBCT
- peri-implant diseases
- extended curriculum by schools for clinical experience in more competencies
- periodontal surgery
- oral medicine – interpreting radiographs.

The CDRAF Board was asked to forward their concerns in writing to Dr. Gerrow. The Board also agreed this was moving in the right direction.

Dr. Allison acknowledged the concerns of the Board and explained the struggles that schools experience with shortages of professors and support staff. It was recommended that the document be forwarded to ACFD for a fulsome discussion at its Annual General Meeting on March 10, 2023.

4.3 National Assessment of Dental Specialists

Dr. Barzilay, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC), thanked the CDRAF Board for the opportunity to provide an update on the work being undertaken for the transition of the National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE) from the administration of NDEB to RCDC.

He reported that RCDC approved the engagement of Boyden to conduct a recruitment search for a Director of Examinations by the Spring of 2023. The RCDC Board approved the creation of a Search Committee to review the candidates presented by Boyden. As part of the consultation process and in the interest of transparency, Boyden was instructed to engage with key external stakeholders and Dr. Barzilay thanked CDRAF for its support and agreement to be part of the Search Committee.

Mr. Faulkner asked Board members to forward names of potential representatives for the Search Committee to him and Dr. Gerrow who would in turn notify RCDC.

Dr. Barzilay reported that the RCDC Board will meet on March 4, 2023, at which time it will present a work plan to ensure a smooth transition.

Dr. Rihal, President of NDEB, was pleased with the progress of the transition with RCDC.

4.5 National Recognition of Dental Specialties

The CDRAF Board was provided with copies of the feedback received from the stakeholder consultation related to the application from the Canadian Academy of Dental Anesthesia. Board members had submitted an assessment framework indicating the rationale for their Board/Council decisions of whether or not the process for recognition of a Dental Specialty met the four criteria required for a proposed specialty.

The majority of DRAs was in support of national recognition of dental anaesthesia as a specialty. Dr. Mackey reported that the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia (PDBNS) was not able to support the decision at this time, but required more conversation and assurance that the PDBNS would be able to enforce its Standard of Practice for Sedation and General Anesthesia, specifically with respect to the issue of the dental anesthetist being both the operator and anesthesiologist.

The CDRAF Board determined that the application met the criteria and approved the application to recognize Dental Anaesthesia as a specialty of dentistry. Mr. Faulkner noted that this approval does not compel any training programs to be developed, but it would be at the discretion of each dental faculty.

Implementation of the new specialty will vary with each dental regulatory authority over a period of time. There will be legislative amendments required in some provinces and some DRAs will ensure their standards of practice address issues related to a new specialty.

MOTION: Croutze/Hacker

THAT the CDRAF Board recognizes Dental Anesthesia as a specialty of dentistry.

CARRIED

4.6 CDRAF Multi-Stakeholder Working Group to Review Certification Processes

The notes of two meetings with this working group were provided in the resources for information. Mr. Faulkner advised that the working group will meet in Vancouver on Friday, March 10 and Saturday, March 11, 2023 to continue discussions.

Mr. Faulkner reported on the application for funding made to Employment and Social Development Canada. The application was made by the ACFD and CDRAF provided \$4,000.00 to hire a research writer to assist with the application.

The application was completed within a short timeline and Dr. Paul Allison and the ACFD Deans were the main contributors in the

application. It is anticipated that a response from government will be received by early summer 2023.

5. CDRAF STRATEGIC PLAN AND STATUS UPDATE

The CDRAF Board was provided with a copy of the strategic plan for 2023-2026, together with a table showing a status update on each initiative. Mr. Faulkner advised that a status update will be provided to the Board at each meeting.

6. CDRAF BY-LAWS

A copy of the CDRAF By-Laws was provided to the CDRAF Board for information.

7. CDRAF REPRESENTATIVES AND OBSERVERS AT EXTERNAL MEETINGS

A meeting schedule for external stakeholders for 2023 was provided for information.

8. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 In-depth review of NDEB Processes and Results

As one of the initiatives in the CDRAF strategic plan, NDEB was asked to provide a written review of the NDEB examinations, processes and results. Dr. Gerrow highlighted some of the report:

- The importance to have protocols in place, particularly in provinces with Fairness Commissioners.
- Protocols are developed by staff and reviewed by the Executive Committee and Board for approval.
- Transparency to the candidates is paramount. Rules are consistent and applied.
- The NDEB Examinations Committee ensures thorough and fair examinations.
- The technical reports are developed with reference to accepted standards and provide valuable information.
- The NDEB numbers on credential verification is important information for regulators.

Mr. Faulkner reported that the RCDSO is finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NDEB, that may be used as a template in the future for other DRAs.

The CDRAF Board thanked NDEB for the information and agreed that this is useful to have on an annual basis. Dr. Rihal thanked the DRAs for their collaboration with NDEB and he offered to provide any information required.

There was discussion on NDEB providing more spaces for examinations. Dr. Rihal advised that the new testing facility will allow for more testing available; however, more test centres could be set up with additional funding.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Emergency Class of License – Regulation Amendment, Ontario

Mr. Faulkner reported that the Ontario Ministry of Health directed all regulatory Colleges under the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* to develop a regulation amendment to create an emergency class of licensure. Members will be eligible to apply for registration under this class if either the government requests that the RCDSO open this class, or if Council decides that it is in the public interest to open the class.

The Ministry has set a very tight timeline to implement this regulation by August 31, 2023. The proposed amendments are now in a consultation period for feedback and will be submitted to government by May 1, 2023.

This emergency class of regulation could have an impact on national mobility and Mr. Faulkner advised that he would inform the CDRAF Board of further information related to this issue.

10. NEXT MEETING

The CDRAF Board Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 17, 2023 in-person/hybrid in Calgary, AB.

11. *IN-CAMERA BUSINESS*

The open meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. and moved to *in-camera* for discussion of a personal matter. All member representatives and representatives of other organizations left the meeting.