



BRIEFING NOTE

Date Report Authored: March 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Registrar's Update

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CDTO Operations

COVID-19

- The College's top priority continues to be the health and safety of patients, the public and RDTs. The College strives to keep all RDTs informed with the latest information.
- Communications to RDTs are frequent through e-mail and website postings. **See agenda item 9.5.**
- Staff meet weekly with the Ministry Emergency Operations Centre (MEOC) to get updates regarding COVID-19 including the vaccination roll-out, and Ministry of Health (MOH) to discuss IPAC and COVID-19 protocols.
- MOH provided guidance regarding the prioritization of health care workers for vaccination which complements the three-phased vaccination plan developed by the Government of Ontario.
- Roll-out of the vaccination plan for the very high and high-priority group of health care workers balances provincial consistency (e.g., risk and patient exposure) with regional/local flexibility (e.g., Public Health Units (PHUs) have unique implementation plans).
- Each PHU has a single point of contact at each College to provide COVID-19 vaccination plan, including any revisions.

Entry-to-Practice and Registration

- Effective February 1, 2021, all new applicants are directed to the Canadian Alliance of Dental Technology Regulators (CADTR) website and online portal to register for Credential and Assessment Services.
- Registration Statistics: Since January 1, 2020, the total number of registrants has declined from 548 to 536, with a significant decrease in RDTs eligible to practice, 523 to 513. Drivers are retirement, COVID-19 and no registration examinations offered in July 2020.

Cybersecurity

- With the onset of COVID-19, remote working and the highly elevated risk of cyber-attack (e.g., College of Nurses of Ontario), CDTO has purchased Cybersecurity Insurance Coverage to cover the direct expenses and damages that may incur as a result of a cyber incident. Our provider of cyber insurance and security combines comprehensive insurance and proactive cybersecurity tools to help us manage and mitigate cyber risk.
- An IT Security Risk Assessment was conducted in February 2021 that allowed us to identify the current security posture of CDTO. The assessment provided recommendations for improvement, which helped us to reach a security goal that mitigates risk.

College Performance Measurement Framework (CPMF)

- Work continued at the College and collaboratively with HPRO colleges to complete the draft submission for Council review and approval. **See agenda item 10.**

Council Member Update and Orientation Training

- Completed orientation and onboarding training for:
 - Rehan Siddiqui, public member, and Michael Sanders, elected member, on January 21, 2021
 - Nicholas Goodfellow, public member, on February 24, 2021
- Poonam Singh, public member, was reappointed to Council, effective April 9, 2021, for three years.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

- Globally, International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated globally on March 8, 2021, and calls for women's right to decision-making in all areas of life, equal pay, equal sharing of unpaid care and domestic work, health-care services that respond to their needs, and an end to all forms of violence against women and girls.
- CDTO marked the importance of gender equality in the profession and at the College through a [short video](#).
- Statistically speaking: 57% of HPRO CEOs are women; 100% of CDTO staff are women; 17% of CDTO Council are women and 25% of RDTs are women.

CDTO Strategic Projects

Access to Dental Technology

- CADTR Website and Online Applicant portal launched February 1, 2021 and marked the transition from the CDTO strategic project to CADTR operations.
- CDTO submitted the final ADT project report to Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and 100% of government funding was received in February 2021.
- Staff continue to support the development and implementation of Applicant Competency Assessment Guides and the online Orientation and Self-Assessment

tools (e.g., dental technology profession credential self-evaluation and practice knowledge-based assessment).

2021 Strategic Projects

- Workplan development for four projects is in progress: Modernizing Governance Framework; Regulatory Disruption; Standards of Practice; Diversity Equity and Inclusion.

System Partnership

Office of the Fairness Commissioner (OFC) – Irwin Glasberg, Fairness Commissioner

- Annual Fair Registration Practices Report (FRP) is digitalized for the April 30, 2021 submission to help them become more efficient in how information is collected, shared and stored.
- Participated in a survey that collected information from 98% of health colleges under OFC's authority on how the Covid-19 pandemic had disrupted the work of many regulators and the career paths of applicants. The OFC is committed to work with regulators and other stakeholders to proactively share examples of technological innovations and regulatory flexibility that helped applicants advance through the registration process despite the pandemic. CDTO will leverage this information and OFC's support as we consider legislative changes to the Registration Regulation of the *Dental Technology Act, 1991*.
- February 17, 2021, attended OFC virtual meeting on its proposed "Risk-Informed Compliance Framework" which embodies modern regulator principles and forward-looking risk factors such as DEI, a third party designated credential agencies and emergencies. It was designed to obtain input from the regulated professions and health colleges on:
 - the broad parameters of the framework;
 - any gaps in the approach and advice on how to further strengthen the model; and
 - the effectiveness of the implementation and transition plan.

CADTR Credential and Assessment Services (CAS)

- Working with a psychometrician and RDTs to redesign the Performance-Based Assessment (PBA) due to COVID-19 and to allow for administration in three provinces (Aug/Sept 2021).
- Postponed virtual administration of the Knowledge-Based Assessment (KBA) to May/June 2021 to accommodate staggered 2021 graduating classes.
- Educator meeting planned for April 2021 to discuss Assessment administration and opportunities for candidate's gap-filling resources.
- Managing the "Call for Interest" to professional members and stakeholders to serve on four CAS Committees.
- As of March 8, 2021, CADTR received 35 applications for credentialing which included:

- 27 applicants who completed an Approved Program (18 graduated from George Brown College) and
- 8 applicants who completed a Dental Technology program outside of Canada (India, Nigeria and South Korea).
- Applicants Intended province(s) of practice: 5 Alberta, 8 British Columbia, 2 New Brunswick, 3 Nova Scotia, 25 Ontario, 2 Quebec and 2 Saskatchewan.

HPRO (See agenda item 9.1, 9.2, 9.3)

- Treasurer and Management Committee member. Two meetings were held in Jan/Feb 2021.
- Board meeting will be held on March 18, 2021.
- Chair of the HPRO Anti-BIPOC Racism Working Group. HPRO has committed \$40,000 in funding to advance our work. **See agenda item 9.1.**

Ontario Oral Health Colleges

- We welcomed the new Registrar of the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario (CDHO) Deborah Adams MA, MHSc on February 15, 2021.
- Registrars of CDTO, CDHO, CDO and RCDSO continue to meet quarterly on shared challenges, understanding and opportunities for collaboration. The next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2021, to discuss:
 1. Joint standards for IPAC
 2. Identifying and measuring the quality of oral health care (#QualityofCareforthePatientInTheChair) inclusive of scope of practice (distinct elements and overlapping scope)
 3. Joint regulatory functions (e.g., investigations/QA assessments)
- Registrars of CDTO and RCDSO met on February 2021 to discuss regulatory disruption in the dental technology profession and opportunities for collaboration. Agreed to start with practice and professional standards and processes that should be consistent to enforce compliance.

Association of Dental Technologists of Ontario (ADTO)

- CDTO and ADTO continue to work collaboratively to protect the public interest.
- ADTO has launched an education portal that 350 members are using to earn up to forty Continuing Education credits. The portal will be offered to GBC students at a discounted student membership fee.
- ADTO will provide a link to CDTO's COVID-19 resources through its website to limit the number of e-mails sent to professional members.

George Brown College (GBC)

- Program Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting was held on March 9, 2021. Hosted by the GBC Chair, School of Dental Health and attended by the CDTO Registrar, President and Vice President, professional members, educators and industry partners.
- Updates on staggered intake for the dental technology program will result in no graduating class in April 2023 and will have a budget impact on CDTO.

- The industry and profession have rebounded since COVID-19 lockdown measures have been lifted.
- GBC is surveying practicing professional members to ensure the curriculum is aligned with industry practice. Of the 100 responses received to date, historical and conventional practices still apply. A curriculum expert will consider this feedback and the new National Essential Entry-to-Practice Competencies to ensure the dental technology program curriculum is current.
- A CAD/CAM lab is in operation with seven scanners and a capacity for twenty-two students. Printers are also being set-up.

Citizens Advisory Group (CAG)

- Daniel Choi, Patient Relations Committee Chair, attended a CAG meeting on February 20, 2021.

Professional Development

- January 5, 2021 – CLEAR Winter Symposium - Recognizing Bias and Diversity in the Regulatory Arena. Topics: Education on unconscious bias and committing to the work of anti-racism; Ensuring the fair treatment of licensees in the disciplinary process and addressing over-representation from minority groups.
- February 2, 2021 – HPRO Education Session - Patient Engagement. Focused on how to collaborate, co-design, and partner with patients and the public to help get buy-in for Colleges' projects and communications.
- February 17, 2021 – Canadian Club Toronto virtual event where an expert panel reflected on their experiences building their careers as Black executives, and what we can be doing now to uplift future generations of Black professionals. A recording of the event is available for playback [here](#).
- March 1, 2021 – College of Kinesiologists of Ontario (CKO) Council meeting – Governance modernization motions to commence work on Council competencies. Presentations by Rebecca Durcan, Partner SML, and Dan Faulkner, Registrar RCDSO, and facilitated by Shenda Tanchak as a consultant.