

**PROVINCIAL DENTAL BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA**

**MEETING 2007 - 1**

**January 26, 2007**

The first meeting of the 2007 Provincial Dental Board was held on January 26, 2007 at the Provincial Dental Board boardroom, 1559 Brunswick Street, Halifax.

In attendance: Dr. Andrew Nette, Chair  
Dr. Eric Hatfield, Vice-Chair  
Ms. Rosemary Bourque  
Dr. Stephan Brayton  
Mrs. Kore-Lee Cormier  
Ms. Odette d'Eon  
Dr. Ian Doyle  
Dr. Lee Erickson  
Dr. John Miller  
Mr. Dwight Rudderham  
Dr. Andrew Stewart  
Ms. Angela Worsley  
Ms. Judy Oakley  
Dr. Barry MacLeod  
Dr. Bill MacInnis, Registrar  
Ms. Jane Donovan, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Dr. David Precious

**AGENDA 1.           CALL TO ORDER – 9:00 A.M.**

The Chair called the meeting to order and advised that arrangements had been made to have Dr. Archie Morrison and Dr. Daniel Haas speak to the Board via telephone at 1:00 p.m. concerning Agenda item 5 – “Application for Recognition of Dental Anesthesia as a Specialty in Dentistry”. The Chair sought the Board’s agreement to defer consideration of Agenda item 5 until after Dr.’s Morrison and Haas presentation.

**Motion 2007 - 1**

It was moved and seconded –Dr. E. Hatfield / Dr. J. Miller

“To adopt the revised agenda.”

**Motion Carried.**

**AGENDA 2.**

**MINUTES OF 2006-3 MEETING, September 29, 2006**

**a). Errors and / or Omissions** – A correction of the spelling of Mrs. Kore-Lee Cormier’s name was identified. In addition an error was found in Agenda 7 third paragraph as well in Motion 2006 – 36 – “**desensitizing agents**” to replace “disclosing agents”

**Motion 2007 – 2**

It was moved and seconded – Dr. I. Doyle / Dr. B. MacLeod

“To approve the amended minutes of the September 29, 2006 meeting.”

**Motion Carried.**

**b). Business Arising from the Minutes.**

The Registrar identified that the question concerning the Board’s policy on suture removal as an approved intra-oral duty for dental assistants would be presented to the Board at its May 11, 2007 meeting.

**AGENDA 3.**

**Registrar’s Report**

One item in the Registrar’s report required Board action

Cape Breton Business College Dental Assisting Program

The Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) will conduct an accreditation survey of the Dental Assisting program at the Cape Breton Business College in Sydney, NS on June 25-26, 2007. The CDAC has requested that the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia consider nominating a representative to participate on the survey team.

**Motion 2007 – 3**

It was moved and seconded – Dr. E. Hatfield / Mr. D. Rudderham

“To nominate Dr. Bill MacInnis as the Board’s representative to the CDAC to participate as a member of the survey team on the site visit of the Dental Assisting Program at Cape Breton College.”

**Motion Carried.**

The Registrar reviewed the correspondence portion of his report and asked the Board members to carefully review the Board’s records with respect to appointment / reappointment dates.

The remainder of the items in the Registrar’s report were for the information of the Board members.

**AGENDA 4.**

**Board Nominations**

Nominations to the Discipline Committee and the Complaints Committee were presented to the Board.

It was moved and seconded –Dr. A. Stewart / Dr. J. Miller

**Motion 2007 – 4**

“To approve the reappointment of Ms. Suzanne MacIntosh to the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia’s Discipline Committee

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion 2007 – 5**

It was moved and seconded – Dr. A. Stewart / Ms. J. Oakley

“ To approve the appointment of Ms. Marina Crawford to the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia’s Complaints Committee.”

**Motion Carried.**

**AGENDA 6.**

**Proposed Regulation Amendment Update (s)**

a). **Regulation No. 6 – Discipline Settlement Agreement Procedures**

The Registrar reported that correspondence had been forwarded to both the Nova Scotia Dental Hygienists’ Association and the Nova Scotia Dental Assistants’ Association requesting letters of support for the proposed amendments to Regulation No. 6. When the letters of support are received the complete documentation package will be sent to the Department of Health for review prior to seeking Governor in Council approval.

b). **Regulation No. 11 – Dental Practice Review**

The documentation package concerning the proposed new Regulation has been forwarded to the Department of Health for review prior to seeking Governor in

Council approval.

**c). Regulation No. 8 – Dental Assistants**

The Registrar circulated correspondence from the President of the Nova Scotia Dental Hygienists' Association that was hand delivered to the Dental Board office on 26 January 2007.

Following a review of the correspondence from Mr. Peter Green (20 December 2006) and Ms. H. Swales (26 January 2007), the Chair obtained a consensus agreement from the Board members on the expanded scope of practice for dental assistants and a further agreement that the proposed amendment of Regulation No. 8 – Dental Assistants be forwarded to the Department of Health for review prior to seeking Governor in Council approval.

**AGENDA 7. Foreign Trained Dental Specialists**

In advance of the Summit meeting on Foreign Trained Dental Specialists scheduled for Toronto on February 16 – 18, 2007, the Board reviewed documentation developed by the CDRAF Executive Council that will be presented at the Summit.

The following key elements were identified by the Board members as advice for the Dental Board representatives at the Summit meeting:

- The Expert Panel needs to have national representation as the smaller provinces cannot be expected to duplicate this process. The Panel's criterion mirrors the CDAC requirements – so the CDAC should be

directly involved in this process.

- With national agreements on processes the issues of portability are manageable. Without national agreements portability will be problematic.
- There is a need for a “Screening Examination” of all candidates.
- Many concerns about the Mentoring Program were identified. How would smaller provinces manage this initiative? What would a province do if no specialists were willing to commit to the process? Would there be a time limit for mentoring? Would the candidate get paid while participating in the mentoring process assuming they would be treating patients? Would the mentor directly benefit financially from their participation?
- It is important to attempt to involve the University programs in the process.
- Why would the outcome of a process for a candidate with NDEB and non accredited Specialty” be limited to Specialty?
- Would it be possible to include a post licensure probationary period and/or post treatment review as part of the process?
- It was agreed that we must have absolute confidence in a valid and reliable Royal College of Dentists of Canada examination process.

Dr. E. Hatfield and the Registrar will be the Board’s representatives at the Summit and a report of the Summit outcomes will be presented at the May 11, 2007 Board meeting.

**AGENDA 8.**

**Webpage**

The Registrar reviewed the Website usage statistics included in the meeting package. Further to a suggestion from the Registrar – the Board agreed to have the names of all Provincial Dental Board licensees added to the Board’s webpage. It was further agreed that the dentist list would be alphabetical (and by area if possible) with office phone numbers. In addition a list of licensed specialists by discipline would also be provided.

**Motion 2007 – 6**

It was moved and seconded – Dr. L. Erickson / Dr. I. Doyle

“ To post the current lists of licensed dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants on the Provincial Dental Board website under Information for the Public”

**Motion Carried.**

**AGENDA 9.**

**Policies and Procedures Ad hoc Committee**

The Chair opened discussion on this topic by suggesting that the intent of the discussion should be to collect feedback from Board members and that no motions were planned at this meeting. Ms. Rosemary Bourque reviewed the submissions to the draft PDBNS Policy Manual that had been received since the September 29, 2006 Board meeting. As well, correspondence from Mr. Dwight Rudderham concerning the Barristers Society Conflict of Interest document was circulated to the Board members.

Mr. Rudderham explained that the Barrister’s document was a template that has

been used across Canada in the legal profession.

Concerns were raised about sections 2.6(a) and (b) of the draft Governance Policy Manual and a consensus agreement was achieved that Mr. Rudderham's proposed Conflict of Interest document should replace sections 2.6(a) and (b).

It was agreed that section 2.7 should be amended to guide the required actions in the event that a conflict of interest arose. Further to questions about what to do in a situation where a conflict of interest was perceived but not disclosed, it was the consensus opinion that a more specific process to manage this issue would be beneficial.

With respect to section 2.2 Executive Committee – Roles and Responsibilities there was strong objections to the proposed last paragraph. Feedback from Board members included the understanding that, the Executive Committee should act only within the Board's policies and procedures; the Executive Committee should carry out and complete the business of the Board but should not initiate business that represents the full Board. It was further suggested that where clear policies and procedures are available – the Executive Committee should work within these frameworks. Where clear policies and procedures do not exist, the Executive Committee should still act within the spirit and understanding that it would be acting as a delegate of the Board – not the Board. Executive Committee actions must require good judgment, understanding, trust and accountability.

Additional questions were raised relative to section 2.3 – Registrar Roles. It was agreed that bullet #5 ... the words “especially when the Board’s behavior may be detrimental to the relationship between the Board and the Registrar” be deleted. Additional editorial recommendations in this section were suggested.

Dr. Lee Erickson and Dr. Eric Hatfield were asked to develop Terms of Reference for the Investment Committee prior to the next Board meeting May 11, 2007.

The Chair encouraged all members to provide their feedback to Ms. Rosemary Bourque prior to our next meeting.

**AGENDA 10. Complaints / Discipline Committee Update**

The Registrar reviewed the Complaints Committee meeting report of 26 January 2007 that was included in the Board package.

**AGENDA 11. Items from the Chair**

The Chair informed the Board members that due to a family obligation had had been unable to attend the CDRAF meeting in Montreal (October 22 – 24, 2006) where the topic of Foreign Trained Dental Specialists had been discussed.

Dr. Eric Hatfield, the Board’s Vice-Chair had attended the Montreal meeting as Dr. Nette’s replacement.

As Dr. Hatfield has been actively participating in the Foreign Trained Specialists discussions the Chair indicated that Dr. Hatfield would once again be attending the Summit as his representative to maintain continuity in the process.

**AGENDA 5. Application for Recognition of Dental Anesthesia as a Specialty in Dentistry.**

Consideration of this item was rescheduled for 1:00 p.m. to accommodate the availability of Dr. Archie Morrison (Representing the Canadian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons) and Dr. Daniel Haas ( Representing the Canadian Academy of Dental Anesthesia) to speak to the Board by speaker phone. After Dr.'s Morrison and Haas presentations and the opportunity to ask questions of the presenters, the Chair encouraged a broad discussion of the documentation that had been made available for review. A letter from Dr. Stephan Roth, President of the Society of Dental Specialists of Nova Scotia, received on January 22, 2007, was circulated to the Board members. The Board members then focused on the five Criteria for Recognition of Dental Anesthesia as a Specialty in Dentistry as required by the Council on Dental Education.

**Criterion 1**

*A specialty must be a distinct and well-defined field that requires unique knowledge and skill beyond those commonly possessed by general practitioners.*

Does this application meet this criterion?

**No** - The Board found that while the modality of delivery of care was potentially distinct – the provision of dental services was not different from that offered by

general practitioners or existing specialists.

**Criterion 2**

*The scope of specialty shall not be coincident with or readily subsumed within the scope of other recognized specialties.*

Does the application meet this criterion?

**No** – The Board agreed with the position of the Canadian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons that anesthesia techniques are also performed by periodontists, paediatric dentists, endodontists and oral and maxillofacial surgeons. Furthermore the anesthesia scope of practice is included within other dental specialists as well as within the medical specialty of anesthesia.

**Criterion 3 Yes**

**Criterion 4 Yes**

**Criterion 5 Yes**

**AGENDA 12. New Business**

Three items of new business were considered.

1. **Correspondence from Dr. Jamie Allen, Chair of the Mandatory Continuing Dental Education Committee dated 17 January 2007.** The Board discussed Dr. Allen's request that members of the MCDE Committee be eligible for the same expense policy as the other Provincial Dental Board Committees. The Registrar advised the Board members that the MCDE Committee has decided to become involved in the review and

adjudication of the Annual MCDE audit process.

Following discussion it was moved and seconded – Dr. J. Miller / Dr. E. Hatfield

**Motion 2007 – 7**

“To grant the Mandatory Continuing Dental Education Committee’s request of allocating the same expense policy already in place for the other Provincial Dental Board Committees effective immediately.”

**Motion Carried**

2. **Amendments to Provincial Dental Board’s Application Form for Dental Assistants.** The Registrar circulated a proposed amendment to the Dental Assistant application form. The revisions were considered in relation to the Application Forms currently in use in other provinces. In addition, an attempt was made to update the dental assistant form to make it consistent with the PDBNS forms utilized with dentists and dental hygienists. Following discussion and suggested modifications approval was granted to modify the application form.

**Motion 2007 – 8**

It was moved and seconded – Dr. J. Miller / Ms. Judy Oakley

“To adopt in principle the draft application form for dental assistants.”

**Motion Carried.**

3. **Dental Hygiene Learning Outcomes Project.** Ms. Rosemary Bourque outlined the Dental Hygiene Learning Outcomes Project that is being developed to articulate a national standard for dental hygiene related to entry-to-practice abilities. Stakeholders will be asked for financial contributions to support this initiative and it is expected that a funding request will be presented at the May 11, 2007 meeting agenda.

**AGENDA 13.** In camera session

**AGENDA 18.** Dr. A. Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Andrew Nette, Chair