For the CDSS, the 2022 year proved to be a very challenging, and yet an exciting one, in many ways. While my

tenure as Executive Director only began in November of 2022, I have had the honour and the privilege of being apart

of this great organization since 2021. Together, working alongside our Chairman, Gord Gillespie as he stepped in as

Interim CEO in June of 2022, we toughed out changes in staff, implemented new HR policies, and reviewed our

expenditures. As a result, I am pleased to report that the CDSS is moving forward with a fresh, modern approach for

our members, while maintaining the traditional and reverential aspects of a regulatory body, keeping public

protection at the core.

Some key highlights to report:

* Staffing:
  + While we said goodbye to six CDSS staff in 2022, we were pleased with the addition of three new employees who have assumed those six roles, by end of the same year: Jessica Gunn, Licensing & Renewal Coordinator, Meagan Fraser, Communications & Marketing Specialist, and Lisa Cassidy, Coordinator of Professional Standards and Complaint Process. The four of us have become a tightknit team, reshaping the CDSS, and supporting the office, council and members, along the way.
  + In June 2023 we saw the appointment of Dr. Dean Zimmer, as Acting Registrar. Dean is a long serving member of the CDSS, serving on many committees and council, wherein I had the privilege of working with him in 2021/22 while he was President. Dean brings a detailed, level-headed, modern approach to the regulatory aspect of the CDSS. We are grateful for his insight and direction.
* Saskdentists website:
  + Online Renewals--November 1, 2022, the new online renewal system was launched to members. Ease of submission and member access to licensing information, along with database accuracy, were the key goals of this system. The feedback was extremely positive from members. We are now able to receive accurate, up-to-date information direct from members, in real time.
  + CE Self-Submission--March 2023, the new online CE self-submission was launched to members. Once again, ease of submission, accuracy and turnover of CE credits were the goals, with great success. Again, feedback has been very positive since implementation.
  + Registrants--March 2023, a revision and update to the Registrants page on the website to allow for ease of application for new registrants to the CDSS.
  + Standards Page--May 15, 2023, the Professional Standards are now linked on the public side of the Saskdentists website, under the Public Protection tab.
  + COMING SOON: we are currently in test mode of the new member portal side of the Saskdentists website. This project was a long time coming, which we are very excited about. Stay tuned for more details on this launch!
* Member Benefits:
  + Communications—reaching our members with pertinent and timely information is of our utmost importance. We have implemented a banner of “In the Public Interest”, capturing regulatory news and updates to standards, as well as “On Your Behalf”, detailing member benefit news, committee nomination requests, and other general updates.
  + Upcoming Continuing Education opportunities were frequently shared to members, along with organization of the upcoming Sask Oral Health Conference in September 2023! Check out the CE tab on the website for upcoming opportunities.
  + As a reminder, we are in partnership with PAR Consultants in Saskatoon and Regina, as well as the MAP (Member Assistance Program), under CDSPI. Please reach out for more details if you are not familiar with these programs.
  + Newsletter—we are pleased to provide our members with a high quality, free quarterly newsletter containing timely articles and updates from the CDSS.
  + We are also currently working on some other exciting partnerships which will allow our members to save money in this trying, inflationary market. Stay tuned!
* Finance:
  + We are currently in the process of streamlining our bookkeeping and finances at the CDSS. Part of this is sharpening our pencils when it comes to expenses, maintaining fiscal responsibility for our members.
  + December 2022 saw the renegotiation of another ten-year office lease at Midtown Tower for the CDSS office, which allowed us to negotiate lower rates and a generous subsidization from Midtown of some much needed and substantial tenant leasehold improvements. Renovations were completed in August 2023. Please stop by the CDSS office at anytime to say hello!
  + By the request of council, a full financial audit by MNP is currently underway for the 2022 fiscal year.
* College of Dentistry/Sask Oral Health Professionals:
  + We have further strengthened our relationship with the College of Dentistry, by meeting frequently with the College Dean, Dr. Walter Siqueira, to discuss pertinent issues and initiatives between our organizations.
  + White Coat Ceremony--we are pleased to be a part of the White Coat Ceremony by sponsoring the coats for the second-year students, with attendance by some of our staff and council. Plus, a rousing and encouraging speech by our President, Dr. Aaron Bazylak. We look forward to this annual event.
  + Conference volunteers/first-year dental students—a call for volunteers was sent out to the College of Dentistry for the 2023 Sask Oral Health Conference, with the CoD graciously supporting the idea for first year dental students to participate! We truly hope this becomes a long-standing tradition going forward between our two great organizations.
  + A quarterly update will also be provided by Dean Siqueira to the members by way of a regular feature in our newsletter, coming soon!
  + Dr. Zimmer and I also remain in regular contact with our Sask Oral Health Professional counterparts (Hygienists, Assistants, Therapists, Denturists), with bi-annual formal meetings, and informal touch points throughout the year.
* Canadian Dental Care Plan/Government Relations
  + 2022 was a busy year for the Provincial-Territorial-Dental-Associations (PTDA) with the announcement by the Federal Government of a Federal Oral Healthcare Plan. The interim launch of the Canada Dental Benefit in December 2022 has since allowed for ~315,000 children under the age of 12 to be subsidized for access to care. This plan will continue until the launch of the Canada Dental Care Plan.
  + For the past year, each provincial ED/CEO has met monthly together under the direction of the Canada Dental Association (CDA), to strategize and cohesively work together on what is best outcome for patients and dentists under the new Canada Dental Care Plan (CDCP). A unified GR/PR campaign was agreed upon and launched in summer 2023, sharing unique messaging on our respective social media channels. This is to educate government officials and the public on the importance of oral health care.
  + CDA has worked tirelessly behind the scenes, meeting with Federal government officials, including, Federal Health Minister, Hon. Jean Yves Duclos, to discuss with them the impending CDCP.
  + Plans for the CDCP are fluid and constantly changing, so we will strive to update our members as things develop. Please take advantage of the toolkits shared with our members for educating staff and the public on the Canada Dental Benefit.
  + President Bazylak and I met with local MP, Corey Tochor, for discussion on the CDCP. As well, meetings were held with former Health Min. Paul Merriman virtually, as well as in person, at the June council meeting held at the Dakota Dunes Resort. We are pleased to have a great relationship with our Provincial Government officials and look forward to working closely with the recently appointed Health Minister, Hon. Everett Hindley, in the years to come.

These are just a few key highlights of some initiatives and projects we have undertaken in the past 10 months. As I write this down, I am strengthened by how much we have accomplished and look forward to where we go from here. In closing, I wish to thank Dr. Aaron Bazylak for leading the way this past year as President. This was a challenging year of transition at the CDSS, which he graciously took the lead in the decisions we made. I truly enjoyed our trips to Toronto and Winnipeg this past year for CDA meetings, and our frank discussions on the important and maybe not-so-important matters (like pets, hunting and music).

Thank you, too, to the CDSS Staff, Dr. Dean Zimmer, and Council for their support and guidance, with a big

congratulations to our incoming President, Dr. Derek Thiessen—it’s going to be a great year!

And lastly, a heartfelt thank you to our members for their patience and positive feedback. I love hearing good things

about our staff, that you appreciate the open communication, enjoyed a CE course you attended, or have general

questions. This helps us continuously improve our systems for you, the members. And if I can leave you with one

request—please submit your nomination for council at the next election, vote, or volunteer for a committee. Your

voice can shape the future of the CDSS!

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Korczak