

The Royal College of Dentists of Canada Report to the Canadian Dental Association

March 2017

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Introduction

The Royal College of Dentists of Canada was established in 1965 by a Federal Act of Parliament and that legislation serves as our Constitution. Two (2) of the four (4) objects of the College, set out in the Act, are: to promote high standards of specialization in the profession; and to set up qualifications and provide for the recognition and designation of properly trained dental specialists. Our governance is also defined in the legislation, namely as a Council made up of Fellows representing all of the dental specialties recognized by the Canadian Dental Association, plus one (1) Fellow representing Dental Sciences. Our major work consists of conducting examinations for all of the specialties. Over the last decade the results of these examinations have become one (1) of the standards used by Canada's dental regulatory authorities to grant registration to dentists who wish to practice as specialists.

Definitions

ACFD	Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry
CDAC	Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada
CDSA	Canadian Dental Specialties Association
DPH	Dental Public Health
DRA	Dental Regulatory Authority
DS	Dental Sciences
DSATP	Dental Specialty Assessment and Training Program
NDEB	National Dental Examining Board of Canada
NDSE	National Dental Specialty Examination
OMOP	Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology
OMR	Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
OMS	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
ORTHO	Orthodontics
PEDO	Pediatric Dentistry
PERIO	Periodontics
PROS	Prosthodontics
RCDC	The Royal College of Dentists of Canada
USA	United States of America

Governance

Council

Council is comprised of the elected and appointed Executive Officers, elected Council members (Councillors), and an appointed Public Member. For further clarification, elected Council members or Councillors are those members elected by the electing members of the College, representing each of the dental specialties recognized by the Canadian Dental Association and one (1) member elected by the dental sciences group.

The following list represents the membership of Council for 2016-2017, as of September 24, 2016.

COUNCIL 2016-2017	
Position	Name
President / Chair	Dr. Christopher Robinson
Vice-President	Dr. Adel Kauzman
Immediate Past President	Dr. Hugh Lamont
Registrar	vacant
Treasurer	Dr. James Posluns
Secretary	Mr. Peter McCutcheon
Examiner-in-Chief	Dr. Benjamin Davis
Dental Public Health	Dr. Dick Ito
Dental Science	vacant
Endodontics	Dr. Herb Borsuk
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	Dr. Frank Hohn
Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology	Dr. Karen Burgess
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	Dr. Susanne Perschbacher
Orthodontics	Dr. Tarek El-Bialy
Pediatric Dentistry	Dr. Felicity Hardwick
Periodontics	Dr. Carolyn Mason
Prosthodontics	Dr. Ischak Barzilay
Public Member	vacant

Council has also extended invitations to two (2) official observers each of the stakeholders listed below:

- Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry
- Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation
- Canadian Dental Specialties Association
- Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada
- National Dental Examining Board of Canada

The mandate of Council is to exercise general supervision over the business and affairs of the College on behalf of the entire membership of the organization. Council has the power to make such bylaws, rules and regulations, consistent with the Act of Parliament and within the bounds of applicable legislation, as it deems necessary or advisable for the government and management of the business and affairs of the College.

Council is responsible for:

- The general conduct of the affairs of the College.
- The enactment, amendment, suspension, or repeal of College bylaws.
- The management of funds of the College and the establishment and collection of fees and dues.
- The election of the Executive Officers and the appointment of an Executive Committee.
- The approval of applicants for Fellowship, and the classification, admission and expulsion of Fellows.
- The appointment of an Education Committee
- The appointment of a Bylaw Committee
- The appointment of a Budget and Audit Committee
- The appointment of a Fellowship Affairs Committee
- The appointment of other committees as Council determines to be necessary or desirable.
- The appointment of an Auditor.
- Any other duties not provided for in the College’s Constitution or bylaws.

Committees

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is composed of the Executive Officers, together with one (1) member of Council elected as Council Representative, and three (3) appointed members, i.e.: Registrar, Treasurer and Secretary.

The Council Representative is the liaison between Council and the Executive Committee. On behalf of Council, the Council Representative shall review the monthly financial statements and alert the Treasurer to questions or concerns. The Council Representative shall report to the Executive Officers on matters raised by members of Council, and to members of Council with the resolution of those matters.

The following list represents membership of the Executive Committee for 2016-2017, as of September 24, 2016.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016-2017	
Position	Name
President / Chair	Dr. Christopher Robinson
Vice-President	Dr. Adel Kauzman
Immediate Past President	Dr. Hugh Lamont
Registrar	vacant ¹
Examiner-in-Chief	Dr. Benjamin Davis
Council Representative	Dr. Felicity Hardwick
Treasurer	Dr. James Posluns
Secretary	Mr. Peter McCutcheon

¹ Dr. Keith Morley completed his term as Registrar on September 24, 2016. A replacement has yet to be hired.

The mandate of the Executive Committee is to oversee the general supervision of the business and affairs of the College, consistent with the Act of Parliament, and to propose to Council recommendations on the implementation of new policies and procedures, or changes to existing bylaws, policies and procedures to ensure the business of the College can be carried out effectively.

The Executive Committee is responsible to:

- Carry out the duties assigned by Council and is responsible to Council.
- Act on behalf of Council between meetings.
- On behalf of Council, appoint and manage the performance of the Executive Director, Registrar and Examiner-in-Chief.
- Issue (on an annual basis) a financial statement of the immediately preceding fiscal year end and auditor’s report to the members.

The Executive Committee may appoint special committees, as it deems necessary. The membership, powers, duties, functions, scope and specific charge of such special committees shall be prescribed by the Executive Committee in the enabling resolutions, and such special committees shall terminate at the Annual General Meeting unless otherwise specified by Council. For greater clarity, the Executive Committee cannot delegate to any such committee any of its decision making responsibilities. The Executive Committee shall have the power to disband any committee which it creates.

Education Committee

The Education Committee is composed of the President, NDSE Committee Chair, Credentials Committee Chair, Appeals Committee Chair, one (1) Chief Examiner from each specialty and from dental sciences, one (1) representative from each provincial dental regulatory authority, Psychometrician, one (1) member from ACFD, CDAC and CDSA, and the Director, Examinations.

The following list represents the membership of the Education Committee as of September 24, 2016.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
President / Chair	Dr. Christopher Robinson
NDSE Committee Chair	Dr. Benjamin Davis
Credentials Committee Chair	Dr. Adel Kauzman
Appeals Committee Chair	Mr. Peter McCutcheon
Chief Examiner - DPH	Dr. Garry Aslanyan
Chief Examiner - DS	vacant
Chief Examiner - ENDO	Dr. David Thom
Chief Examiner - OMS	Dr. Brian Rittenberg
Chief Examiner - OMOP	Dr. Iona Leong
Chief Examiner - OMR	Dr. Noura Alsufyani
Chief Examiner - ORTHO	Dr. C. Lesley Williams

Chief Examiner - PEDO	Dr. Gordon Payne
Chief Examiner - PERIO	Dr. Jean-Pierre Picard
Chief Examiner - PROS	Dr. Izchak Barzilay
ADAC Member	Dr. Gordon W. Thompson
CDSA Member	Dr. Christina McCord
CDSS Member	Dr. Gerald Uswak
CDAC Member	Dr. Amarjit Rihal
MDA Member	Dr. Marcel Van Woensel
ODOQ Member	Dr. Louis-Rene Charette
PDBNS Member	Dr. Martin R. Gillis
RCDSO Member	Dr. David Segal
ACFD Member	Dr. David Kennedy
NLDB Member	vacant
DCPEI Member	vacant
NBDS Member	vacant
CDSBC Member	Mr. Jerome Marburg
Psychometrician	Dr. Brian Hess
Director, Examinations	Ms. Anne-Amandine Perdebat

The objective of the Education Committee is to ensure that Council fulfills its legal, ethical and functional responsibilities through oversight of the NDSE in order to maintain or enhance the organization’s high standards through examination standard setting, policy development, and evaluation of the NDSE, Appeals and Credentials Committees and their members’ performance.

The Education Committee is responsible for:

Standard Setting

- Ensure the NDSE meets recognized psychometric principals and is a valid evaluation instrument.
- Ensure the NDSE is reflective of current Canadian entry-level dental specialty competencies.
- Ensure the NDSE meets the needs of the dental regulatory authorities.

Policy

- Develop policies, processes and best practices to maintain or enhance the quality and effectiveness of the NDSE, and recommend those to Council.
- Review, on an annual basis, existing NDSE policies and processes and recommend changes to Council for approval.

Evaluation

- Oversee the work of its sub-committees, i.e.: NDSE, Credentials, and Appeals Committees, through review of committee reports.
- Review, on an annual basis, and revise, as required, the Terms of Reference for the NDSE, Appeals and Credentials Committees.

- Complete a summative evaluation of the sub-committees' effectiveness, i.e.: NDSE, Credentials and Appeals Committees.
- Complete a summative evaluation of individual committee members' effectiveness.

NDSE Committee

The NDSE Committee is a sub-committee of the Education Committee. It consists of the President, Examiner-in-Chief, Associate Examiner-in-Chief, one (1) Chief Examiner from each specialty and from dental sciences, Executive Director, Psychometrician, Director, Examinations, and the Systems and Support Manager.

The following list represents the membership of the NDSE Committee as of September 24, 2016.

NDSE COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
Examiner-in-Chief / Chair	Dr. Benjamin Davis
Associate Examiner-in-Chief	Vacant
Chief Examiner - DPH	Dr. Garry Aslanyan
Chief Examiner - DS	vacant
Chief Examiner - ENDO	Dr. David Thom
Chief Examiner - OMS	Dr. Brian Rittenberg
Chief Examiner - OMOP	Dr. Iona Leong
Chief Examiner - OMR	Dr. Noura Alsufyani
Chief Examiner - ORTHO	Dr. C. Lesley Williams
Chief Examiner - PEDO	Dr. Gordon Payne
Chief Examiner - PERIO	Dr. Jean-Pierre Picard
Chief Examiner - PROS	Dr. Izchak Barzilay
President (Ex-Officio)	Dr. Christopher Robinson
Executive Director	Mr. Peter McCutcheon
Psychometrician	Dr. Brian Hess
Director, Examinations	Ms. Anne-Amandine Perdebat
Systems and Support Manager	Mr. Kyle Todt

The objective of the NDSE Committee is to maintain or enhance the organization's high standards through program development and volunteer engagement for the National Dental Specialty Examinations.

The NDSE Committee is responsible for:

Program Development

- Develop and maintain NDSE best practice criteria for consideration by the Education Committee.
- Advise on trends, information and statistics in relation to the NDSE for the purpose of policy and process development and evaluation.

- Develop and recommend examination policies and procedures to the Education Committee for approval.
- Ensure that specialty Examination Teams comply with policy and procedures to minimize risk.

Volunteer Engagement

- Review, on an annual basis, the position descriptions for all volunteers involved in the administration of the NDSE.
- Advise on the need for task-related training for volunteers involved in all aspects of the NDSE.
- Develop training materials as requested.
- Recommend formal and informal recognition methods for volunteers involved in the NDSE.

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee is a sub-committee of the Education Committee. It consists of the Vice-President, Council Representative, two (2) Councillors and Registrar.

The following list represents the membership of the Credentials Committee as of September 24, 2016.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
Vice-President / Chair	Dr. Adel Kauzman
Council Representative	Dr. Felicity Hardwick
Registrar	Vacant ²
Councillor	Dr. Karen Burgess
Councillor	Dr. Carolyn Mason
President (Ex-Officio)	Dr. Christopher Robinson

The objective of the Credentials Committee is ensure that all candidates for examination meet the eligibility requirements established in the bylaws to ensure the organization operates effectively and achieves its vision mission and goals.

The Credentials Committee is responsible for:

- Assessing candidate applications when requested by the Registrar.
- Determining the ruling of an applicant’s eligibility and/or the conditions to be met by the applicant to attain eligibility to sit the NDSE.

The Credentials Committee was convened once in 2016 to discuss the credentials associated with one (1) application for examination. The Credentials Committee determined that based on the available information the potential applicant was not eligible to sit the NDSE under the current pathways.

Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee is a sub-committee of the Education Committee. It consists of the Executive Director, Director, Examinations, and Registration Manager and President.

² Dr. Keith Morley completed his term as Registrar on September 24, 2016. A replacement has yet to be hired.

The following list represents the membership of the Appeals Committee as of September 24, 2016.

APPEALS COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
Executive Director / Chair	Mr. Peter McCutcheon
Director, Examinations	Ms. Anne-Amandine Perdebat
Registration Manager	Ms. Catalina Ponce de Leon
President (Ex-Officio)	Dr. Christopher Robinson

The Appeals Committee is responsible for:

- Overseeing the appeals process and ensuring compliance with the formal review policy.
- Overseeing the appeal review and decision process carried out by the Examiner-in-Chief, Formal Review Panel and Oral Hearing Panel.

Unsuccessful candidates may initiate an appeal of their examination results in the event that significant procedural irregularities negatively impacted their performance. These requests must be received within thirty (30) days from the communication of examination results, and include: (i) a written statement that clearly outlines the alleged procedural errors, and (ii) payment of the \$500 administrative fee.

As part of the appeal process, RCDC will consider the candidate's statement outlining the alleged procedural irregularities, available documentary evidence, e.g.: observer records and examiner notes, and examination marks.

In 2016, RCDC received nine (9) completed requests for formal review within thirty (30) days of the communication of results. Of the nine (9), five (5) candidates appealed the results of their Component I Examination and four (4) appealed their Component II results. Two (2) of these Component I appeals proceeded to document review by a Formal Review Panel. As per policy, the President convened a Formal Review Panel and the panel was provided with the Candidates' written requests, the Examiner-in-Chief's original letters of opinion, all available relevant documents and information pertaining to the examinations in question, as well as any additional documentation the candidates wished to submit to the Formal Review Panel. In both instances the Panel determined that no process irregularity had occurred.

Bylaw Committee

The Bylaw Committee is composed of the Council Representative, Councillor, two (2) Members-at-large, President and Executive Director.

The following list represents the membership of the Bylaw Committee as of September 24, 2016.

BYLAW COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
Council Representative / Chair	Dr. Felicity Hardwick
Councillor	Dr. Dick Ito
Member-at-large	Dr. Garnet Packota
Member-at-large	Dr. Leland McFadden

President (Ex-Officio)	Dr. Christopher Robinson
Executive Director	Mr. Peter McCutcheon

The Bylaw Committee is responsible for the oversight of the organizations bylaws and will ensure that Council fulfills its legal, ethical and functional responsibilities.

The Bylaw Committee is responsible to:

- Ensure the bylaws are in accord with national and provincial legislation and expectations.
- Ensure the bylaws are aligned with organizational priorities.
- Ensure the bylaws are effective in achieving the organization’s mandate.
- Ensure the bylaws are free of grammatical or typographical errors.
- Ensure the bylaws are at all times current and published on the College website.
- Ensure the bylaws are consistent with other existing requirements within the bylaws or other policies.
- Review and present any proposed changes to the bylaws at the annual Council meeting.
- Propose new bylaws to Council.
- Present approved bylaw changes to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

Budget and Audit Committee

The Budget and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of Council. It consists of the Treasurer, Council Representative, Member-at-Large, Legal Representative, Audit Representative, Investment Representative, President and Executive Director.

The following list represents the membership of the Budget and Audit Committee as of September 24, 2016.

BEDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
Treasurer	Dr. James Posluns
Councillor Representative	Dr. Felicity Hardwick
Member-at-Large	Dr. William Wilson
Legal Representative	Vacant
Audit Representative	Dr. Richard Mendelsohn
Investment Representative	Mr. Chris Delorme
President (Ex-Officio)	Dr. Christopher Robinson
Executive Director	Mr. Peter McCutcheon

The Budget and Audit Committee is responsible for the oversight of the organizations financial stability and will ensure that Council fulfills its legal, ethical and functional responsibilities.

The Budget and Audit Committee is responsible to:

Budget

- Ensure the financial stability of the organization.
- Ensure appropriate financial controls are in place, and that the organization meets statutory and regulatory compliance.

- Work with the Executive Director to develop the budget.
- Review, on a monthly basis, the financial reports.
- Review, on an annual basis, the Financial Management policies, and recommend changes to Council.
- Present the budget for the upcoming fiscal year at the annual Council meeting.

Audit

- Oversee the external audit.
- Recommend to Council the appointment of an external auditor.
- Present the Audited Financial Statements at the annual Council meeting and Annual General Meeting.
- Review, and recommend to Council for approval, the Audited Financial Statements.

Signing Authority

- Approve authorized signing authorities.

Investments

- Responsible to ensure professional management of the organization’s investment portfolio and any real property.

Fund Development

- Recommend to Council strategies to increase the funding available to the organization. Undertake a cost benefit analysis for fund development initiatives.

Fellowship Affairs Committee³

The Fellowship Affairs Committee is a standing committee of Council. It consists of the Registrar, Vice President, Councillor, three (3) Member-at-Large, President and Registration Manager.

The following list represents the membership of the Fellowship Affairs Committee as of September 24, 2016.

FELLOWSHIP AFFAIRS COMMITTEE 2017	
Position	Name
Registrar / Chair	Vacant
Vice-President	Dr. Adel Kauzman
Councillor	Vacant
Member-at-Large	Vacant
Member-at-Large	Vacant
Member-at-Large	Vacant
President (Ex-Officio)	Dr. Christopher Robinson
Registration Manager	Ms. Catalina Ponce de Leon

³ The Fellowship Affairs Committee was established in 2016 as part of governance restructuring resulting from the 2015 strategic plan initiatives. However, due to the absence of a Registrar since September 2016 the committee has yet to fill the vacant positions and convene. It is anticipated that the committee membership and work will begin once a new Registrar is appointed.

The Fellowship Affairs Committee is responsible for the membership program, including professional development, communication and awards, ensuring that the needs of the membership are met.

The Fellowship Affairs Committee is responsible to:

Membership Program

- Develop and maintain a formalized membership program.
- Define, and review on an annual basis, benefits available to members.

Professional Development

- Develop a professional development strategy and process.

Communication

- Develop and maintain a member communication plan.
- Develop and maintain a feedback mechanism to ensure the membership has a voice.

Awards

- Develop and maintain an awards program, including award policies and criteria.
- Recommend award recipients to the Executive Committee.

National Dental Specialty Examination

The NDSE is a high-stakes examination which consists of two (2) components: Component I (Written) and Component II (Oral). Component I is designed to test a candidate's knowledge of the specialty; whereas Component II is designed to test candidates' ability to diagnose and treat oral conditions and to evaluate the outcomes of care. Successful completion of Component I is a prerequisite to challenge Component II.

Examination Eligibility

The following describes the eligibility requirements for candidates to challenge the NDSE:

RCDC Bylaw Article 5.1: Application for Examination - Each applicant for examination shall:

(a) Submit evidence of:

- i. having completed or being, at the time of taking the examination, in the final year of a dental specialty training program which, during the course of the candidate's enrolment in the program, was accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada or an accreditation body with which the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada has a reciprocal accreditation agreement; or
- ii. having completed or being, at the time of taking the examination, enrolled in a Dental Specialty Assessment and Training Program (DSATP) for internationally trained dental specialists which, during the course of the candidate's enrolment in the DSATP, was a part of a specialty training program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada or an accreditation body with which the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada has a reciprocal accreditation agreement, and having approval from the program director or the Dean, in the form of a letter, stating that the applicant is prepared academically to sit the examination; or



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- iii. for the Dental Sciences Fellowship Examination, copies of degrees completed and a curriculum vitae containing information on past and current contributions to the dental sciences;
- (b) Submit the prescribed application form together with the requisite documentation to the Registrar by the prescribed date; and
- (c) Pay the examination and application fees by the prescribed date.

Application Process

In order for a Candidate’s application to be considered complete, interested parties must submit: a completed online application; the required supporting documentation; and payment of the prescribed examination fees.

Online Application

Applications for the NDSE are submitted through the “Examination” section of the College’s website. For every application completed online, confirmation emails are generated automatically confirming submission and an online account created on *myRCDC*, the College’s online membership portal.

Applications for the 2017 NDSE were accepted between July 1 and September 16, 2016. Applicants were informed of the decision on their application electronically through the *myRCDC* portal.

Applications for the 2018 NDSE will be accepted during the application window June 5 to September 8, 2017.

Documentary Evidence

Proof of completion is required for applicants who have already completed an accredited dental specialty program or the DSATP for internationally-trained dental specialists.

If enrolled in the final year of studies at an accredited program, applicants must submit a letter from the Dean or Program Director confirming their enrollment in the program and expected completion date. If the applicant is currently enrolled in a DSATP, the Dean or Program Director letter must also clearly state that the candidate is academically prepared to sit the examination.

Only original documents or copies certified by the issuing institution will be accepted; photocopies, electronic copies, or those certified by a notary public will not be accepted.

Fees

Full payment of all applicable fees (listed below) is required to complete an application to challenge the NDSE.

Application Fee ⁴	\$500
Component I	\$3,000
Component II	\$3,000

Applications completed after the application deadline, if considered and approved by the Credentials Committee, will be subject to penalties. Late application fees are calculated from a base amount of \$1,500 to which \$100 will be added for every week subsequent to the closing of the application window.

⁴ Required for new and returning applicants.

Credential Verification

The purpose of verifying applicants' credentials is to ensure that only those eligible, i.e.: those who meet the eligibility requirements prescribed in the College bylaws (see Examination Eligibility section, pages 12-13), are accepted as Candidates to sit the NDSE. Each application for examination is first reviewed by RCDC staff to determine whether the application meets the eligibility requirements. A second review is conducted by the Registrar, who then approves each completed, eligible application. In cases where an application does not appear to meet the eligibility requirements, or is in any way questionable for whatever reason, the Registrar will request that the Chair of the Credentials Committee convene a meeting of the Credentials Committee for further deliberations and a final decision.

A candidate's eligibility, following the approval of his/her application, is considered valid for one (1) examination cycle and only for the year in which it is granted.

2017 Application Statistics

The following chart highlights the total number of NDSE applications received for the 2017 NDSE in total and by component.

Specialty	Component I and II	Component II	Applications
Dental Public Health	0	0	0
Endodontics	35	2	37
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	5	1	6
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	17	5	22
Oral Medicine and/or Oral Pathology	3	0	3
Orthodontics	56	10	66
Pediatric Dentistry	36	1	37
Periodontics	30	8	38
Prosthodontics	44	3	47
Total Applications	226	30	256

The following chart highlights the total number of completed and credentialed applications for the 2017 NDSE in total and by component.

Specialty	Component I and II	Component II	Applications
Dental Public Health	0	0	0
Endodontics	34	2	36
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	4	1	5
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	17	5	22
Oral Medicine and/or Oral Pathology	3	0	3
Orthodontics	55	10	65
Pediatric Dentistry	36	1	37
Periodontics	29	8	37
Prosthodontics	41	3	44
Total Applications	219	30	249

Although we had a total of 249 completed applications to sit the NDSE, 19 withdrawals have been processed to date. In addition, due to the implementation of the USA (Presidential) Executive Order restricting travel for

nationals of seven (7) countries, seven (7) candidates chose to defer their examinations to 2018 due to the challenges they may face when trying to re-enter the USA after challenging the NDSE.

Component I (Written) Examination

For the second year in a row, Component I was administered in two (2) locations, Toronto, ON and Calgary, AB on March 2, 2017. As in 2016, Candidates were given the choice of examination location. A total of 51 candidates wrote the Component I Examinations in Calgary, whereas a total of 144 candidates wrote in Toronto.

As of the date of this report, Component I grading and key validation are ongoing activities. Candidates will receive the outcomes of their Component I Examination in an electronic format, via their *myRCDC* profile, within the 45 days prescribed in the information provided to candidates on the College's website.

Given the challenges the College experienced in deploying electronic Component I Examinations in 2014 and 2015, Council made the difficult decision to return to cursive examinations for the foreseeable future. At the College's strategic planning session, held in September 2015, it was determined that electronic delivery of Component I remains a priority.

In accordance with the strategic plan, the College interviewed key internal stakeholders about their requirements for a system capable of providing an electronic examination. The requirements were compiled into a master requirements document and used as baseline for exploring potential vendors. The College performed an internal review of options previously explored and is in the process of reconciling requirements that cannot be met by any vendor or require an extensive amount of work to meet.

It is anticipated that RCDC may return to an electronic format for Component I in 2019.

Component II (Oral) Examination

2017 Component II Examinations will take place between Wednesday, June 14 and Tuesday, June 27 in Toronto, ON.

The 2017 Component II Examinations will be once again administered using the rolling examination format initiated in 2014. The move to embrace a rolling examination format was the result of increasing candidate numbers. The previously utilized large-scale examination sessions, used up to 2013, where every specialty was examined over the same two (2) day period at the same venue, had become unwieldy and significantly increased the risk of process irregularities.

In practical terms, a rolling examination schedule means that instead of being confined to two (2) days, the Component II Examinations are now distributed over a two (2) week period. This change has allowed RCDC to maintain the significant improvements made to the examination processes which have been enacted over the prior four (4) years since our move to a standardized examination setting.

The free-standing 10' x 10' examination booth structure adopted in 2011 continues to provide a very standard, professional examination setting and has been tremendously successful. In 2013 the College made an improvement to the booth structure by inserting a window into one (1) side of the booth. This change allowed our official observers an unobstructed view of the examination proceedings and the ability to audibly monitor

the examinations through headphones, while ensuring that we are able to observe examinations in progress with no disruption to the candidate or examiners. In 2014 we added a second identical viewing platform to provide unencumbered access to our DRA observers, as well as new Examiners in training.

2012-2016 Rolling Pass Rates

The 2012-2016 Component I and II rolling pass rates for the NDSE can be found in the following charts. The first chart represents the pass rate of candidates who are first-time examination takers from accredited Canadian programs; the second chart represents the overall pass rates of USA candidates; the third chart represents first-time takers from a DSATP or academic pathway (offered until 2015); and the fourth chart includes the tallies of charts 1-3 and additionally incorporates all returning candidates.

Canadian First-Time Takers from Accredited Programs				
	Total Number of Candidates	Passed	Failed	Passing Rate
Component I	347	327	20	94.2%
Component II	327	303	24	92.7%

USA First-Time Takers from Accredited Programs				
	Total Number of Candidates	Passed	Failed	Passing Rate
Component I	460	383	75	83.3%
Component II	378	302	96	79.9%

First-Time Takers from Non-Accredited Programs				
	Total Number of Candidates	Passed	Failed	Passing Rate
Component I	28	15	6	53.6%
Component II	28	21	7	75.0%

Overall				
	Total Number of Candidates	Passed	Failed	Passing Rate
Component I	927	789	138	85.11%
Component II	931	742	189	79.7%

Membership

The following chart represents RCDC's membership (including Life Fellows and Life Members, but excluding seventeen (17) Honorary Fellows) by specialty as of the date of this report.

Membership 2017			
Specialty	Fellows	Members	Total
Dental Public Health	38	4	42
Dental Sciences	11	0	11
Endodontics	306	14	320
Oral Medicine	13	0	13
Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology	42	0	42
Oral Pathology	13	0	13
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	26	3	29

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	412	46	458
Orthodontics	624	34	658
Pediatric Dentistry	312	24	336
Periodontics	291	43	334
Prosthodontics	195	17	212
Total	2283	185	2468

The following chart represents suspensions for the non-payment of dues by specialty as of the date of this report.

Suspensions 2017			
Specialty	Fellows	Members	Total
Dental Public Health	0	0	0
Dental Sciences	0	0	0
Endodontics	5	0	5
Oral Medicine	0	0	0
Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology	0	0	0
Oral Pathology	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology	0	0	0
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	1	1	2
Orthodontics	5	0	5
Pediatric Dentistry	2	1	3
Periodontics	0	7	7
Prosthodontics	0	0	0
Total	13	9	22

A total of forty (40) Fellows and/or Members have been suspended for the non-payment of dues from 2012 to 2016. Our Membership renewal rate for 2017 is 99%, and this is consistent with the six year period subsequent to 2012.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Robinson
President