

## CDA Update

As you all realize, this has been a year unlike any before. It certainly was nothing like I expected when I was elected in February 2020. What amazed me, was the way that the CDA staff and Board were able to basically stop in their tracks, turn and very efficiently take on the challenges of the pandemic. The staff is to be commended for their resilience and resourcefulness. CDA reacted quickly to the pandemic.

The COVID response team held weekly sessions with the PDA Presidents and CEOs to discuss the impact of COVID and the latest information. CDA was instrumental in helping the PDA's develop back-to-work protocol. These meetings are still held monthly to keep everyone aware of new developments.

In terms of advocacy, the CDA lobbied the federal government for emergency relief funding for dental offices, and President Armstrong addressed the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and Health with our concerns. The annual Days on the Hill was held via zoom May 10-14, 2021 and well over 20 meetings were held.

Our practice supports services such as ITRANS continued without interruption during COVID-19, and are back to near normal numbers now.

The DAT was able to continue, although Universities could not be used as sites. CDA used a private provider – Prometric. There were over 1600 registrants for the November 2020 session, and there will be a June 2021 session.

Voluntary membership is a growing trend in which member services associations are separating from the dental regulators. Ontario has been voluntary for many years and BC, AB, and PEI will soon be separating. CDA must present itself as an essential membership for individual dentists.

Finally, CDA's financial position after a year of the pandemic is immensely better than what was predicted in the beginning. CDA was fortunate to have Dr. Jim Armstrong as the helm with his wealth of business knowledge. CDA has its strongest balances sheet in 101 years, and amazingly showed a deficit of only \$20,000 last year.

The board thanks Dr. Armstrong for his many contributions and strong leadership, and welcomes Dr. Richard Holden of Charlottetown as our new President.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Baker  
CDA Board