



**Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities
Federation (CDRAF) Strategic Plan**

2017-2020

Contents

Executive Summary	2
History of the CDRAF.....	3
Message from the president.....	4
Strategic Framework.....	5
GUIDING PRINCIPLES	6
CDRAF Mission and Vision	7
Mission	7
Vision	7
CDRAF Strategic Initiatives.....	8
Strategic Initiative # 1: Competency Standards.....	9
Strategic Initiative # 2: Governance.....	10
Strategic Initiative # 3- Relationships	11
Strategic Initiative # 4: Trends and Special Topics	12

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2016, the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) initiated the development of their Strategic Plan.

Strategic Planning involves re-examining the vision, mission and guiding principles of an organization, setting out strategies for achieving its objectives over several years. The strategic plan sets a very clear direction for staff and members and serves as a decision-making tool for the organization. All activity, guided by the principles, should support the strategic mission and vision of the organization.

Data was collected, information gathered, and surveys conducted. A current state analysis was completed based on the data, information and surveys. Board Directors and observers from Provincial Dental Regulatory Authorities (DRA) were invited to participate in a preliminary planning session which helped to develop the framework for the plan.

A steering committee consisting of several registrars, elected officials, as well as the Executive Director was formed to consider all the data and to formulate the plan. Steering Committee meetings were held virtually and face to face and many volunteer hours were contributed to effectively complete the plan.

The next steps for the organization include creating an operational plan, which will provide a road map for how the strategies will be achieved, and implementing a measurement and follow up process that will keep the plan at the forefront.

The time frame for this Strategic Plan is three years. In 2020 the CDRAF will revise the Strategic Plan and continue to meet the challenges and opportunities that the future will bring.

HISTORY OF THE CDRAF

The Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) is a forum constituted of the provincial dental regulatory authorities (DRAs). These bodies hold the exclusive, legislated mandate of public protection.

The Letters Patent of the Federation were issued on March 3, 2004 marking the official creation date of the CDRAF.

In April 22, 2004, the first meeting of the Federation as a legally constituted organization was held in Ottawa.

At that first meeting in April 2004, Dr. Gordon Thompson was elected by the Federation board as its first President and Chair. Dr. Thompson was at the time the Executive Director and Registrar of the Alberta Dental Association and College.

Since then, the organization benefitted from the talents, dedication and leadership skills of six Presidents country-wide.

Since its inception, the CDRAF has experienced success on very important initiatives notably by ratifying a Mutual Recognition Agreement (2009) for the profession of dentistry in Canada with respect to general dentistry and dental specialties and developing a Memorandum of Understanding (2014) with respect to a uniform Canadian process for the certificate and licensure of internationally trained dental specialists.

These achievements were possible because of the CDRAF's members' vibrant determination to act in the public interest and their willingness to work together in a generous spirit.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Dental Community,

It is my sincere pleasure to present you with the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation's first Strategic Plan 2017-2020. I would like to recognize and thank every one involved in its development.

Over the past decade, our Board made great strides and dedicated time and energy to address issues of common interest for our members. Tangible successes were achieved. Nevertheless, we have realized in recent years, that CDRAF's "business as usual" approach was no longer possible. We needed to pull together not only to increase CDRAF's effectiveness and agility but also to create additional membership value and better serve the public interest.

I strongly believe that this ambitious plan will assist in sustaining a collaborative environment that is critical to CDRAF's future and will enhance its leadership role amongst the Canadian dental community.

Dr. Cliff Swanlund, Alberta Dental Association and College
CDRAF President

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We recognize and respect the breadth of expertise within our Federation and we support collaboration that contributes to shared knowledge.

We seek every opportunity to share freely and with a generous spirit.

We are sensitive to individual jurisdictional and legislative differences as we strive for consensus.

We practice, in good faith, a willingness to be open and honest with each other.

CDRAF MISSION AND VISION

MISSION

The Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation fosters collaboration, consistency of approach and supports best practices in dental regulation.

VISION

The CDRAF serves, protects and acts in the interest of the public.

CDRAF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Competency Standards

Develop national competency standards for dentists including dental specialists.

Governance

Create a model that enables and supports the mandate of the CDRAF by Spring of 2018.

Relationships

Form alliances and partnerships with others to achieve our mission.

Trends and Special Topics

Develop regulatory responses to emerging trends in a timely manner.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 1: COMPETENCY STANDARDS

Goal: Develop national competency standards for dentists including dental specialists.

Objectives:

1. Lead the development of a national document describing the set of skills, knowledge and abilities required to obtain an initial licence to practice as an entry level dentist.
2. Lead the development of a national document describing the set of skills, knowledge and abilities required to obtain a specialist certificate for every specialty.
3. Create a common system or process of measuring continuing competence to allow for mobility.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 2: GOVERNANCE

Goal: Create a model that enables and supports the mandate of the CDRAF by Spring of 2018

Objectives:

1. Determine appropriate legal structure.
2. Re-brand the organization to reflect the nature of the organization's main purpose as a Forum.
3. Create new Bylaws to reflect new structure if necessary.
4. Create terms of reference and responsibilities for all functional groups and staff.
5. Develop a plan for dealing with unforeseen circumstances and emergency responses.
6. Determine processes for reporting on Forum activity.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 3- RELATIONSHIPS

Goal: Form alliances and partnerships with others to achieve the mission of the CDRAF.

Objectives:

1. Enhance awareness and understanding of the role and the purpose of the CDRAF.
2. Define consistent processes and mechanisms for flow of communication with members and other parties.
3. Broaden base of knowledge and share best practices by seeking out and cultivating relationships with health professional organizations and other regulatory authorities.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 4: TRENDS AND SPECIAL TOPICS

Goal: Develop regulatory responses to emerging trends in a timely manner.

Objectives:

1. Establish mechanisms for validating and prioritizing topics.
2. Establish mechanisms for gathering and analysis of data.
3. Establish mechanisms for generation of response.