

## Fall Orientation Council Meeting President Report – October 2021

Good morning

To begin, I would like to acknowledge Past President Dr. Craig Humber for his dedication, leadership, and efforts in guiding and managing the CDSS through many challenges during the past few years. Craig has made significant contributions to the CDSS and the membership and his fingerprints will remain all over the Council and the College. It was a privilege to serve with you, and I am appreciative that you will continue to contribute in multiple Committee roles.

I would also like to welcome the Council's newest members to the group, Dr. Raj Bhargava of Saskatoon and Dr. Biliwal Hussain of Unity. The introduction of new members and new ideas are a welcome, necessary, and integral component to the organic turnover of a successful organization. I still remember my feelings of enthusiasm as a new Councilor five years ago, and I sure you will be great additions to the Council.

And I would especially like to congratulate Dr. Derek Thiessen of Swift Current, on his appointment to the Executive Committee as Vice President. The knowledge, stability, and leadership of experienced Councilors are also a vital component of a successful organization. The addition of Derek to the Executive Committee with President Elect Dr. Aaron Bazylak and myself will certainly afford the Council and the College the necessary leadership, stability, and continuity going forward.

I would like to welcome returning Councilors Drew Krainyk, Michael Koskie, Jay Lalli, and Wes Thomson back to Council. And I would also like to also thank all of our Council members. You are a remarkable committed group of individuals giving of your time and efforts to serve the public, the college, the profession, and our colleagues. It is easy to be proud of a diverse group of good people with a common goal to do the right thing with the best of intentions. It is a pleasure collaborating with all of you, and I am eager to continue the good work and progress during this next year.

And I would like to extend a special thank you to our two public representatives – Nancy Croll and Don Robinson. Your backgrounds, knowledge, and Council experience are definitely an asset to the Council and College and a vital component to the progress of the organization. And you definitely do not do it for the money! So thank you for your dedication, sacrifices, and efforts.

Next, I would like to recognize the CDSS senior management – CEO Jerod Orb, Registrar Dr. Gerry Uswak, and Chair Gord Gillespie for shepherding and guiding the College, the Council, and the membership through the numerous challenges currently facing the regulatory environment and the profession. Their knowledge, experience, and backgrounds allow the College a position of stability and strength, and an ability for progress.

And I would be remiss to acknowledge the staff of the CDSS – Marion, Christie, Jason, Tania, Jaime, and Ben - who behind the scenes perform the everyday duties to fulfill the mandate of the College and support the members. A growing group for a growing organization. The management and staff have always served as caretaker, and have always been steady, as different members have rotated in and out of Council and Committees.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the ongoing efforts of all Committee members and volunteers who serve endless hours, and often without recognition, for all of their contributions to the College and the profession.

The CDSS is a dental regulatory body, that regulates dentists by the right of the Minister of Health, Government of Saskatchewan, via the Dental Disciplines Act 1997. This is to say, the Government delegates, through legislation, the responsibility to the CDSS to license and regulate dentists in Saskatchewan in the

public interest. The CDSS must remain humble and cognizant of the vision, mission, and values to maintain the privilege of self regulation in dentistry. As such, the CDSS is accountable to the profession to ensure that all decisions are made within the parameters of the organization as the primary determinant.

The CDSS vision: Enabling a Healthy Public by Regulating Healthy Members. In my personal opinion, you cannot have one without the other.

The CDSS again had a busy, challenging, and difficult year; and again, demonstrated its steadiness and resilience in protecting the public and supporting the membership. A synopsis of the year:

1. Strategization of the pandemic response in collaboration with stakeholders.
2. Redefine the management CEO position.
3. Selection of a new registrar. Again, welcome Dr. Gerry Uswak.
4. Response to the SDHA challenge of the DDA Section 25.
5. Continue to improve Council governance and continuity (thus far, a three year project) – organization structure, council structure, committee structure, terms of reference, standardized agenda, task calendar, action list, council election cycle, vice president election process, administration bylaws update, code of ethics.
6. Leadership in presentation of a Community Water Fluoridation Program to the Regina City Council. Again, thank you Dr. Gerry Uswak.
7. Identification of the regulatory and advocacy roles of the College to reaffirm regulatory requirements and acknowledge and address membership support and advocacy concerns.
8. Participation in CDA Governance Review and Membership Support Priorities.

Going forward, from my perspective, some of the main priorities of the Council and the College for the protection of the public and support of the membership are:

1. Standards - define a process by which CDSS Council adopts standards and adopts the revision to existing standards, as well as to set a goal to develop and or update a set number of standards each year.
2. Sedation Standard – aside from the Infection Prevention and Control Standard, this is arguably the most important Standard for the College and the public, and it is way out of date.
3. Redevelopment of the College's Regulatory Bylaws and alignment with the Administration Bylaws.
4. Redevelopment of the Practice Enhancement Program.
5. Strategizing the CDSS Licencing Requirements – possible introduction of an ethics exam to align the College with our interprovincial counterparts.
6. Analysis of the Cayton Report and strategization for the implementation of improvement recommendations.
7. Research, investigation, and preparation for the possible development of an advocacy Association.
8. Vigilant scrutiny of the evolving pandemic situation.

The CDSS continues to be in a good position, and it is an honour to serve as the President of the CDSS during this coming year. I am excited to work with the Council, Committees, Management, and Staff for the betterment of the public, the members, the College, and the profession.

“Successful change initiatives share two key characteristics: effective persuasion and a **clear understanding of organizational change as a long-term, multistep process rather than a singular event.**” In my opinion, the Council has been at its best when implementing change in manageable, incremental “bites”; and, Council has been stifled when attempting to implement change in a single, complete, and perfect decision or document.

For this Fall Council meeting, we again are using an agenda that has proven to be efficient, effective, and productive. I anticipate everyone is prepared to be a contributing participant. I expect everyone to be a good leader, honest, respectful, professional, and accepting of vigorous debate and consensus decision making.

Thank you.