

## Professional Conduct Committee Report to the CDSS Council (March 2023)

The Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) continues to operate under the mandate of the Dental Disciplines Act.

The Professional Conduct Committee is a Statutory Committee required under the Dental Disciplines Act (The Act) Section 28(1), stating each association shall establish a Professional Conduct Committee. In addition, as required under The Act Section 15 (2) (f) (i) each association can make bylaws to prescribe procedures for the review, investigation and disposition of complaints by the PCC or the mediation of complaints alleging that a member is guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence.

The PCC investigates and provides a written report on all complaints that are forwarded to it by the Registrar of the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan. Following the review of each case, the PCC will arrive at one of the three decisions:

- i) Request that the Discipline Committee hear and determine the formal complaint set out in the written report.
- ii) No further action is warranted on the facts of the case.
- iii) The matter will be resolved and no further action will be necessary after signing and meeting the requirements of a Consent to Conditions agreement.

The PCC includes Registrants of the CDSS as well as a member of the public. Since the last council meeting we have had Lisa Cassidy join us as Coordinator of Professional Standards & Complaint Process. In my opinion Lisa has done a phenomenal job thus far and I have been thoroughly impressed with her grasp of PCC processes, when to reach out for assistance, and willingness to improve efficiencies within the process.

Also since the last PCC Report, Dr. Uswak is no longer the Registrar and as of the writing of this document there is no Registrar or Acting Registrar. I have worked with Dr. Bazylak, Gord Gillespie, and Sean Sinclair to implement a process that can be utilized to confirm we are still meeting the regulatory requirements of the DDA with respect to investigation of complaints regarding Registrants. The process is the same that we have used in the past where there was a conflict of interest with the Registrar. The processes used can be summarized in the following:

### 1. Process for New Complaints to the CDSS

- Sean and I will both be informed by Lisa of a complaint that is received
- We will then discuss referral to QAC, ARC, PCC
- All letters that would have went out from the Registrar will now go out from Sean signed on his letterhead. We will prepare the document and he will approve before they are sent out
- Anything that would typically go out with my name on it will still go out in the same manner
- Sean will not be involved in the day to day operation of each case but will approve all documentation that goes out
- See notes below with respect to how significant issues will be managed

### 2. Current Cases

- He would like a list but at this point does not need details
- If current cases go according to the usual script his only involvement will be approving documentation



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- If things go off script then Lisa can update Sean and I and we will manage it with the rest of the PCC as we have in the past
- He will have to look into any conflicts of interest on current cases and if there are any he will advise on best practices

This obviously will increase our legal costs which is something that Sean has assured me he will be mindful of. He does not plan to have any more involvement in any cases than the Registrar would have. He will be available as needed to provide legal advice as he often was before.

Thank you to all the members of the PCC who dedicate enormous amounts of their time, experience, and knowledge to help ensure that this vital role of the CDSS is executed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Drew Krainyk, Chair