

CDSS Vision: *Regulated Healthy Members, Enabling a Healthy Public.*

CDSS Mission: *CDSS regulates and assists members through registration, licensing and communicating professional standards to enable the provision of safe, excellent, comprehensive patient centered oral-facial health care within a well performing oral-facial and general health care system.*

The Dental Disciplines Act legislatively gives CDSS decision-making authority to regulate the practice of dentistry by its registrants in Saskatchewan.

COVID-19 – CDSS IPC Interim Protocol Update -Phase 5

The CDSS IPC Interim Protocol Update – Phase 5 (Dec. 7, 2020) remains in place to enable clinics to safely deliver dental care to patients and to minimize COVID risk in the dental setting.

Even with increasing provision of the first dose of COVID vaccine to the public, we will continue to use the Phase 5 protocol until such time that the Ministry deems it prudent to move to a new phase.

COVID-19 – Vaccine Immunization for Dental Teams

COVID continues to have an impact on the practice of dentistry across the country and here in Saskatchewan. CDSS continues to work with government to ensure that we are all meeting our obligations to provide safe environments for our clinics, patients and staff.

The Province does not consider that dentists are a priority group for immunization and will continue to immunize the population using an age-based process as well as those health care providers and others identified as priority groups.

COVID-19 - Rapid Antigen Testing

CDSS registrants can participate in the Ministry/SHA rapid testing data collection process. CDSS has provided registrants with information on how to register to participate. This project is directly between registrants and SHA.

CDSS has forwarded the order in council that makes dentists eligible for delivering COVID testing to CDSPI to demonstrate that it is within a dentist's scope of practice during COVID.

Amendment of the Dental Disciplines Act

It appears certain that the Government will amend/remove Section 25 of the DDA to enable dental hygienists, dental therapists and dental assistants to be independent practitioners as well as being able to establish clinics without a link to a dentist.

We do not have a timeline on this process. CDSS has made the point that it will respect the Government's decision to proceed with this but that CDSS expects regulatory structures for SDAA, SDTA and SDHA that provides the same level of regulation that CDSS does. CDSS also maintains that this is a professional and business decision that will not improve access to care.

New Proposed CDSS Regulatory Bylaws

CDSS will hold back on sending the Proposed CDSS Regulatory Bylaws to Government until the changes to the DDA become clear.

CDSS Member Resources

CDSS Members should visit www.saskdentists.com as a trusted source of information on the regulation of dentistry in Saskatchewan and become knowledgeable with CDSS bylaws, standards, policies and member resources. CDSS members are required to follow these bylaws, standards and policies in providing care for their patients. Please take the time to review and be familiar with these resources.

Additionally, the latest information on COVID and how it pertains to dental practice is found in these resources.

National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE)

There remains a disconnect regarding who should administrate and deliver the NDSE e.g. NDEB or RCDC. RCDC does not believe that its membership dues should pay for the exam. The NDEB Board does not want to carry on with delivering the NDSE as it puts them in a deficit financial position. The NDEB Board expects to pull out of the exam delivery in late 2022.

CDSS Registrant Numbers

Here is the breakdown of membership numbers since the most recent licensure period. These numbers do not contain the 2021 USask College of Dentistry graduates.

	LICENSED/ACTIVE	LICENSED/NON-PRACTICING	LOCUM	AB/SK
ASSOCIATE MEMBER	<u>10</u>	0	0	0
CONDITIONAL FACULTY MEMBER	0	0	0	0
GENERAL PRACTITIONER	<u>471</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
REGISTERED - NOT LICENSED	0	0	0	0
SPECIALIST	<u>67</u>	0	0	0
PENULTIMATE STUDENT	0	0	0	0
TEMP FACULTY MEMBER	<u>12</u>	0	0	0
UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	560	8	1	3

Conclusions

In my short time here at CDSS, I have come to recognize how CDSS members continue to demonstrate their commitment to public safety and the safe delivery of care to their patient while protecting their dental teams. The same can be said for Executive, Council and CDSS staff.

I would also like to thank the CDSS staff (Jerod Orb, Marion Lafreniere, Christie Kurtz, Jason Korte and Tania DeForest) for their hard work and support as I transition into the Registrar job.

I owe a big debt of gratitude to Dr. Mitch Taillon, outgoing Registrar, for taking me under his wing and bringing me up to speed on all of the matters at hand. Fabulous mentorship.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Gerry Uswak, Incoming Registrar