



Executive Committee: Meeting Summary

FOR INFORMATION

This document provides a summary of the Executive Committee on July 23, 2021. The full minutes of this meeting will be approved at the next meeting and circulated.

This document provides a summary of the Executive Committee on July 23, 2021. The full minutes of this meeting will be approved at the next meeting and circulated.

COVID-19 Update

Executive Committee reviewed revisions to the 'COVID-19: Managing Infection Risks During In-Person Dental Care' guidance document.

The RCDSO has unified its guidance with that of the other three oral health Colleges. The Oral Health Working Group agreed on a preliminary approach for each College releasing the document and consistent messaging to each membership. The revised content aligns with the provincial public health measures under Step 3.

Notable changes include:

- The introductory section has been significantly revised to reflect the new provincial requirements, as well as the College's work to collaborate with the other oral health colleges.
- Revisions to recordkeeping, temperature taking, oral rinses, etc. of individuals attending the dental office.
- Reduced precautions for patients who have screened negative for COVID-19 that includes more latitude to administer aerosol-generating procedures (AEPs) and reduced PPE requirements.

Registrar Dan Faulkner reminded the Executive Committee that all dentists are required to use their best clinical judgement for these and all other procedures. The Executive Committee agreed that caution should still be in place with the threat of a potential variants and fourth wave of the pandemic, the US border opening and school opening.

Advertising

Executive Committee considered a proposal to manage increased volume of advertising questions and emails received by the Practice Advisory Service (PAS). Most questions related to Advertising and Practice Names are from dentists. Very few are from members of the public and most often do not cause any risk to the public.

A total of 25 matters relating to Advertising and Practice Names were considered by ICRC panels in 2020 based on formal complaints and investigations.

The College is proposing a risk-based approach to determine advertising issues that pose the greatest risk to the public. Complaints will continue to be forwarded to the PCRA department for processing, and information that suggests a risk to the public will be brought to the Registrar for consideration of an investigation.

The Executive Committee asked staff to:

- develop a risk-based approach to respond to inquiries on advertising; and
- engage in further analysis and develop options for modernization, including research on best practices and approaches from other regulatory Colleges

This item will be provided to Council in the Fall.

International Trade Committee

The Registrar reminded Executive Committee that the International Trade Committee was not constituted this year at the request of the Nominations Committee. As the International Trade Committee had not met since January 2020 due to inactivity and lack of issues, the Nominations Committee asked that consideration be given to determining whether this committee should be disbanded. If any specialized work needs to be done, any committee can strike a short-term working group for that purpose.

The Executive Committee agreed to recommend disbandment of the International Trade Committee to Council.



Legal and Legislation Committee

The Registrar reported that the terms of reference of the Legal and Legislation Committee includes study and recommendations to Council or the Executive Committee on:

- matters having a legal, legislative or regulatory significance for the practice of dentistry in Ontario or for the governance of the College and its members
- legal and legislative suggestions received from committees or other groups or individuals
- the current application of the Act, other statutes, the regulations and by-laws.

Although the Committee was constituted for this term, it has not met because there are no issues to consider, other than some minor housekeeping amendments to the by-laws.

The Executive Committee was asked to consider disbanding the Legal and Legislation Committee by way of by-law amendment.

Following discussion, the Executive Committee asked that this proposal be deferred until early 2022. It was suggested that should Council decide ultimately to revoke this as a Standing Committee, it can be coordinated with the committee member appointments in January 2023. It was also suggested that the Committee could be rebranded as a Governance Committee, but additional analysis is required.

Faculty Fees Reimbursement

The current policy approved by Council entitled 'Reimbursement of Annual Membership Fees to Dental Faculties/Schools in Ontario' authorizes the College to reimburse up to 25 faculty members from each faculty/school for their annual renewal fee if the member:

- offers services to the university/school of dentistry, but does not engage in other dental practice
- requires membership with the College for the purposes of providing services to the university/school in the university/school's dental clinic
- has no other source of income from dentistry

Executive reviewed analysis describing the potential conflict of this policy with our regulatory responsibilities, the financial impact and concerns about fairness of this policy to a specific group of dentists.



If all 50 faculty members are reimbursed, the total loss of revenue to the College would be \$125,500.00. As directed by Council, the College has been looking at areas to ensure financial accountability.

The Executive Committee agreed that this policy is not in the public interest since revenue used for this reimbursement leaves less for core functions of the College and provides benefit to a small subset of the profession.

Contact:

Dr. Sandy Venditti, President svenditti@rcdso.org