



Executive Committee: Meeting Summary

FOR INFORMATION

This document provides a summary of the Executive Committee on October 22, 2021. The full minutes of this meeting will be approved at the next meeting and circulated.

Discussion and Information Items

Registrar's Report

Dan Faulkner reported to Executive Committee that the Ministry of Health plans to consult with health regulatory colleges on governance reform. The aim is to improve decision-making and enhance transparency and accountability of the regulatory colleges. The Ministry will also consult on requiring French language services across colleges.

The Registrar told the Committee a Vaccination Policy is being developed for all staff, Council and Committee members, guests and vendors to attend the office on-site. Some staff will be required to enter the building to work, while some will continue to work remotely or on a hybrid basis. Staff will be required to provide written proof of full vaccination status unless there are medical exemptions. The finalized policy will be provided to Council and Committee members.

Following positive feedback from a recent survey sent to the profession, staff are developing a webinar for late November that will include engagement and polling features. The online session will be led by the President and the Registrar with support from subject matter experts from the RCDSO for specific topics.

The Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) Board meets Saturday, October 30 to continue its discussions on the issue of a national examination for dental specialists. DRAs wish to retain a form of national assessment for new specialists but the



discussions are for DRAs to agree on expectations from the assessment for licensure purposes and from the third party developing and delivering the assessment to individuals.

Faculty Fees Reimbursement

The recommendation made on July 23, 2021 to revoke the “Reimbursement of Annual Membership Fees to Dental Faculties/Schools in Ontario” policy has been deferred, pending the outcome of further analysis.

College staff will consider options including establishing a new class of registration or policy to encompass the various reimbursements and reduced fees already available. Elements to be considered include:

- Existing classes of certificates of Registration as set out in the regulations under the *Dentistry Act 1991*.
- The College’s by-law, which offers a reduced annual fee of \$250 for candidates who satisfy the by-law criteria, in furtherance of improving access to care.
- Reduced fees offered in support of dentists participating in the Ontario Dental Association’s Remote Areas Program offering dental care to approximately thirty communities spread throughout northwestern Ontario.
- Average costs assumed by the RCDSO for each member, including the basic costs of PLP coverage, and regulatory costs.
- The RCDSO’s objectives as set out in the Strategic Plan.

Recommendations will be brought back to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Practice Name

In February 2020, the College granted use of a practice name to a member. Recently, another member applied for the same practice name, but was denied. The College received a letter from a lawyer on behalf of the member with the recent request, asking for an explanation why the request was denied and to ask that the member’s request be reconsidered.

Staff will draft a written decision for the President to review before providing to the legal counsel representing the recent member.

Independent Council Chair

College President Dr. Sandy Venditti notified the Committee that she is resigning as Chair of Council meetings in order to take an active part in discussions. Executive Committee agreed that having an independent chair would ensure that the meetings run efficiently.

Staff will seek an independent chair to be engaged in time for the Council meeting on November 18, 2021.



RCDSO Candidate Eligibility Course

The Committee heard that the College's Candidate Eligibility Course needs to be revised as some of the content is out-of-date.

Staff propose that the Candidate Eligibility Course be re-organized and re-written to emphasize competencies and to identify skill sets. The Executive Committee agreed with the recommendation that the course emphasize a self-assessment of key competencies to be a good councilor/committee member and that is not based on a pass/fail evaluation. Staff will now create a project plan and budget for development and delivery of the new course in time for the 2022 election cycle.

Preparation Time Policy

At its September 17, 2021, meeting, Council made a motion to amend By-Law 10 allowing the Executive Committee to approve a policy permitting Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (ICRC) panel chairs and members to claim for additional per diems to address the backlog of investigations awaiting disposition. A draft policy was provided to the Executive Committee for its review and consideration.

The Registrar confirmed, and the Executive Committee agreed, that the expected workload of the ICRC is greater than was otherwise anticipated. He said staff would provide updates to the Executive Committee at future meetings on progress on the backlog of cases to assist it in determining whether to renew the policy. Executive Committee unanimously approved the policy and it will expire on December 31, 2021 unless renewed by the Executive.

RCDSO Strategic Plan

Assistant Registrar Andréa Foti reported that the current strategic plan will expire at the end of 2022. The November Council meeting will hear more information on the intended steps for developing the next strategic plan, together with timelines. Development of the plan will include engagement with staff, Council, and external stakeholders.

In addition, staff will start the process in November for the second reporting on the College Performance Measurement Framework (CPMF). The Ministry has provided updated versions of the reporting tool and asked for the College's feedback on the changes. The deadline for submitting the report will be March 31, 2022.

COVID-19 Update

With current case counts holding steady and increasing vaccination rates, staff are looking at further updates to RCDSO's guidance. This will include reviewing the available evidence and requirements for enclosed operatories, further reductions to fallow times, and PPE requirements.



Staff will consult with other oral health colleges, as well as with representatives from the faculty of dentistry and dental school of University of Toronto and Western University. A revised guidance document should be available for the Executive Committee and Council's review in December 2021.

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