

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: MEETING SUMMARY

FOR INFORMATION

This document provides a summary of the Executive Committee meeting held on May 17, 2024.

Discussion and information items

Meeting with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and Office of the Fairness Commissioner (OFC)

Registrar/CEO Dan Faulkner reported that he and the Deputy Registrar attend quarterly meetings with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Office of the Fairness Commissioner (OFC). The MOH and OFC are interested in the College's registration practices and the process for candidates going through the National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB). The NDEB has expedited timelines for examinations and is increasing examination seat capacity.

Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal Pilot Project

Gillian Slaughter, Director of Professional Conduct and Regulatory Affairs (PCRA) reported on a pilot project involving the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) and other health regulators using expert adjudicators in discipline panels. Gillian noted that the CPSO invited the RCDSO to join this Discipline Tribunal pilot project.

Gillian Slaughter reported an increased number of referrals to the Discipline Committee over the past year. She consulted other colleges in the project, all of whom reported positive experiences and high-quality decision writing. They will continue the project in 2025.

Dan Faulkner and Gillian Slaughter met with the OPSDT Chair and legal counsel for more details. Staff proposed three options for the Executive Committee: appoint RCDSO independent legal counsel (ILC) as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), hire a scribe/decision writer, or join the OPSDT pilot in 2025.

The Executive Committee discussed suggested options, considering potential changes to the discipline process and costs. The EC recommended appointing ILC as SMEs for the Discipline Committee, engaging a scribe/decision writer as needed, and including background information on the Tribunal process in the briefing note to Council.

Council De-brief, May 9, 2024

At the request of the President, the Executive Committee discussed Council's feedback from the May 9, 2024, meeting regarding Dr. Carlos Quiñonez's presentation on the Social Contract and the Balance Billing item.

Registrar Dan Faulkner thanked the Executive Committee for their feedback, noting it would help in planning future Council onboarding, education, and meeting management.

RCDSO/ODA Executive Meeting, May 15, 2024

Dan Faulkner and Marc Trudell reported attending a productive meeting with the ODA's Executive Director, President, and President-Elect on May 15, 2024. They discussed the Canadian Dental Care Plan, Emergency Class Certificate of Registration, Access to Care, Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC), and the Remote Areas Dental Program.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

Registrar Dan Faulkner reported that the College is attentive to recent geo-political events and tensions and that as an objective and impartial regulatory body, will not comment on specific non-dental issues.

Michelle Tremblay, Organizational Transformation and College Equity Officer, updated the Committee on ongoing equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) initiatives. Gillian Slaughter outlined the Committee's role in decision-making and EDI training for members, noting three plenary sessions held so far. Members must declare conflicts of interest and/or potential bias in all case work and adjudication.

In order to ensure a careful management of conflict and bias, there will be updates to our investigative correspondence templates, more information available to the public on the complaints, investigation and committee processes, enhanced EDI training and reminders to the profession about appropriate social media behavior.

Contact: Daniel Faulkner, Registrar and CEO (dfaulkner@rcdso.org)