

Annual Report
of the
College of Denturists of British Columbia
established December 7, 1995
Report to March 31, 1997

Chair's Comments

We are pleased to present the second annual report of the College of Denturists of British Columbia, pursuant to Section 17(2) of the *Health Professions Act*. This report covers the time from April 1, 1996 through March 31, 1997.

This has been a busy year for the College. Advances have been made in the critical areas of planning, policy, and procedure. The broad range of tasks includes development of mission, vision and obligation statements, registration policy, quality assurance guidelines, fair and timely inquiry procedures, and guidelines for disciplinary proceedings.

Once again I commend the commitment, dedication and the contribution of our Board's public members. It is, at all times, our pleasure to have them associated with our organization.



Gary Stewart
Chair of the Board

Elections

The initial election of registrants to the Board was completed to correspond with the annual year end of the College (March 31). Members were elected to fill positions for three, two and one year terms to ensure continuity. One newly elected member resigned her position prior to taking office. It is anticipated that the position will be filled by an appointment at the initial meeting of the Board in the 1997/98 term.

Board Members

Professional Representatives

Jim Connolly
Ken Manson
John Mayr
Ron Postings
Gary Stewart
(Vacant)

Public Representatives

Frieda Home
K. Douglas Smith
Betty White

Administrative Staff

Registrar

John Mayr

Executive Secretary

Ethel Inglis

Registration

The number of registrants declined as a result of registration categories listed within the Bylaws. Further, the obligations and expectations of the College on its registrants have resulted in a number of retirements and a reduction in the inactive category. There is, however, a substantial group of students who are eligible to challenge licensure examinations. We therefore expect that the number of registrants in all categories will continue to increase slightly.

Registration Category	Period Ending March 31, 1996	Period Ending March 31, 1997	Period Ending March 31, 1998
Denturist (Active)	202	196	188
Denturist (Inactive)	17	20	16
Students	25	21	18
Temporary	5	1	4

The Bylaws no longer require the registration of assistants.

Committees

Executive Committee

Members: G. Stewart (chair), F. Home, D. Smith

The Executive Committee is tasked with the financial operations of the College, specifically developing the annual budget. Complete analysis of statements from a diverse selection of other organizations was reviewed. The Committee, and the Board, is pleased with the results and looks forward to observing ongoing financial performance of the College. The introduction of the Discipline Surcharge is an exciting development. The Surcharge establishes a separate account specifically for disciplinary hearings and related activities, effectively removing the need to include hearing costs within the annual operating budget. This resulted in a substantial payment by registrants in the initial year. However, based on the low number of disciplinary actions resulting in hearings, the actual fees paid by registrants, when considered over a longer period, will be less than if the budget included an annual estimate for hearings.

Inquiry Committee

Members: E. Swan (chair), D. Smith, J. Connolly

The Inquiry Committee continues to be an active committee because of the number of complaints received. The following table outlines categories of complaints and their disposition.

TYPE OF COMPLAINT	NO ACTION*	CONSENT/ AGREEMENT	CITATION
Ill-fitting dentures	12	-	-
Regulation/Act	1	1	1
Advertising	7	-	-

***NO ACTION** includes mediated settlement which may include refund to patient, but no formal action by the College.

Registration Committee

Members: D. Smith (chair), B. White, F. Trestain, B. Shivji

The Registration Committee offered one opportunity for eligible candidates to challenge the practical examination for licensure. Two of seven candidates were successful. The Committee is concerned with the historic low success rate and has undertaken an analysis of the training of denturist students. This has included contacting Vancouver Community College to discuss concerns related to the initial education of denturist students. The results of a survey of registrants is under review to determine appropriate outcomes for the internship portion of the training. The development of theory examinations is proceeding with the first administration anticipated in June 1997.

Patient Relations Committee

Members: N. Hagel (chair), E. Swan, S. Lee

The Patient Relations Committee has undertaken a review of programs and options currently offered to professionals. This includes obtaining information from other health regulatory bodies and government agencies. It is anticipated that the initial program will be completed in the next fiscal year.

Quality Assurance Committee

Members: K. Manson (chair), F. Home, F. Trestain

The Quality Assurance Committee has undertaken a process to determine the types of quality assurance programs which provide the best results, keeping in mind the small and diverse registrant base of the College. The Committee reviews applications for continuing education credits on an ongoing basis. Next year's tasks will include developing a framework for all quality assurance activities and making continuing education credits more relevant to maintaining competency.

Discipline Committee

Members: B. White (chair), G. Stewart, N. Hagel

The Committee completed one hearing in June 1996. The hearing process identified a number of educational opportunities for members of the Committee, members of the Board, and the registrants of the College. Discussion between the Discipline Committee and the Inquiry Committee has resulted in a commitment to complete strategic planning with a broad overview of the inquiry and discipline process. Guidelines for penalties will be developed, within the duty of the College, and will include input from registrants and other regulatory bodies both within and outside of British Columbia.

How to contact the office:

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