

**Canadian Dental Specialties Association
Report to Canadian Dental Association
April 15, 2016**

The Canadian Dental Specialties Association (CDSA) is in its fifth year and has progressed from a vision to becoming the officially recognized national voice of dental specialties in Canada.

During this time we have established a strong relationship with the Canadian Dental Association (CDA). The long-standing CDA Committee on Specialists Affairs (COSA) was disbanded by the CDA in 2014 and the CDSA became the recognized voice of dental specialists by the CDA. The CDSA comprises approximately 10% of CDA's individual (affiliated) membership and is a recognized voting representative at the CDA AGM.

The CDSA is an independent corporate association that represents the nine nationally recognized dental specialty associations in Canada. It is dedicated to the representation and advancement of the Canadian Dental Specialties, the profession of dentistry nationally and internationally, the achievement of optimal oral health, general health and quality of life of Canadians, and the support of the profession of dentistry in the advancement of optimal oral health.

The objectives of the CDSA are:

1. To educate the public, the health professions, and other persons, bodies or agencies, on the Canadian Dental Specialties;
2. To identify and position the Corporation on all subjects which are of importance to the collective of Canadian National Dental Specialty Organizations, and the profession of dentistry at large;
3. To develop, in consultation with the Members and other stakeholders, national positions, policies and programs which are of importance to the collective of Canadian National Dental Specialty Organizations, and their respective individual dental specialist members throughout Canada and which will promote optimal oral health;
4. To promote the public welfare and access to care by the advancement of the Canadian Dental Specialties in the field of education, research, care delivery and professional service;
5. To develop programs and standards of practice at the national level, which will support the Canadian Dental Specialties, the dental profession and the interests of the public;
6. To develop and maintain effective national communication strategies and programs to communicate with the public and the various stakeholders on all matters within the Corporation's mandate;



7. To promote unity and harmony, and to cultivate fellowship and social relations among its Members and colleagues nationally and internationally; and
8. To effectively manage the necessary resources so as to enable the fulfilling of the Corporation's mandate.

Since its inception, the CDSA has enjoyed an excellent relationship with the CDA. Open communication and dialogue have been maintained throughout the year with monthly CDA Activity Updates and CDA Board of Director Highlights Reports. Our annual meeting with the CDA Board of Directors has allowed for the identification of pertinent issues requiring further mutual understanding for the benefit of organized dentistry.

Current President, Dr. Nicoll, and the entire Board of Directors of the CDA, have strongly supported the CDSA and have attended or were represented by a designate at many individual specialty Associations' Annual General Meetings. The CDSA values CDA attendance at these meetings as it reinforces collaboration and promotes effective dialogue on issues of common interest to oral health in Canada.

The CDSA has identified the need for recognition and participation in other national dental organizations. The Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) as well as the Canadian Dental Regulatory Association Federation (CDRAF) have granted observer status to their respective meetings.

The CDSA continues to provide committee members to the Canadian Oral Health Roundtable (COHR), the NHIB Review Task Force, the USC&LS, and the CDA-ACFD Special Care in Dentistry Working Group. Continuous dialogue within committees is essential to target the emerging health programs and challenging issues for vulnerable groups (children in low-income families, elderly people living in institutions, First Nations, disabled persons and others from low-income backgrounds) as recognized by CDA and identified by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS).

This year we hope to close the gap that exists between provincial and national dental specialty organizations by attending and presenting at each provincial specialist association's annual general meetings. We also wish to identify trends in the changing relationships between general dentists and dental specialists.

The CDSA has become the only national voice of the collective dental specialty organizations. We are hopeful that the CDSA can continue to be a valuable resource to the CDA and other national dental organizations on matters pertaining to dental specialties.

**CURRENT CDSA BOARD MEMBERS
2016-2017**

CDSA BOARD MEMBER	SPECIALTY	CDSA EXECUTIVE POSITION
Dr. Ernest Lam	Canadian Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (CAOMR)	President
Dr. Jean-Pierre Picard	Canadian Academy of Periodontology (CAP)	Vice-President
Dr. Frank Hohn	Canadian Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (CAOMS)	Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Duncan Chambers	Association of Prosthodontists of Canada (APC)	Past-President
Dr. Grahame Usher	Canadian Academy of Endodontics (CAE)	
Dr. Christina McCord	Canadian Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and Oral Medicine (CAOMP/OM)	
Dr. Carlos Quiñonez	Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry (CAPHD)	
Dr. Robert Kinniburgh	Canadian Association of Orthodontists (CAO)	
Dr. Paul Andrews	Canadian Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (CAPD)	

Respectfully submitted,



Duncan Chambers
President, CDSA