

Canadian Dental Specialties Association
Association Canadienne des Spécialités Dentaires

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CDSA ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the CDA AGM – Saturday, April 20 2013

Submitted by Calvin Pike, DDS, President CDSA

The Canadian Dental Specialties Association is just two years old and we are growing in knowledge and experience albeit in a slow but steady manner. We have recognized that while our name reflects what it is we are, it is however early to say that we have the authority to represent all nine dental specialties.

To date the Canadian Dental Association has agreed and adjusted to the CDSA as the voice of specialists. This has been demonstrated by the shifting of the mandate from Committee on Specialist Affairs (COSA) to CDSA. This has been confirmed by numerous requests from CDA to have CDSA populate national committees and working groups with informed specialists selected by CDSA over this past year. It has been reinforced tangibly by the provision of opportunity and resources for CDSA delegates to attend and participate in the CDA AGM general assembly and other concurrent activities. Participation at the AGM and in the strategic planning sessions, as well as the general assembly activities, allows for meaningful working opportunities. CDSA Board has taken advantage of these opportunities.

CDA funding recently offered to CDSA, will enable us to hold our own "face to face" AGM in conjunction with the CDA AGM. This CDA funding significantly reduces the fiscal burden on the CDSA member organizations and their respective members. This goodwill gesture we believe should benefit both CDA and CDSA as the CDSA can retain its autonomy and yet also remain cognizant of our mutually interdependent relationship with the CDA.

So as to further increase our recognition in dentistry, CDSA has developed a website which is now functional for its members and the public.

We have also petitioned both the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation and the Royal College of Dentists of Canada to be granted observer status. CDSA believes that there are issues of mutual concern and interest that would support our involvement in both organizations. I am happy to say the CDRAF has given consent and RCDC will consider the same once we have presented at their next meeting. We expect that our long history of support for RCDC will assist us in this request. In addition, the recent invitation extended to CDSA to participate at the upcoming specialty recognition process is another milestone.

As for our future, we are a young organization, and our most challenging role is to increase our presence in organized dentistry nationally so that we may assume more responsibility and further develop the authority to be the national voice for dental specialties.

I would like to thank the CDSA Board for its commitment and collegiality, as well to the CDA, especially Past President Dr. Robert Sutherland for his counsel and support. Our new CDSA President, Dr. Ritchie Mah will continue a similar dialogue with new CDA President Dr. Peter Doig as they work collaboratively to include specialists as partners with CDA and its mandate for dentistry.

