

# Articulator

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## Chair's Report

By Tyler Perrault

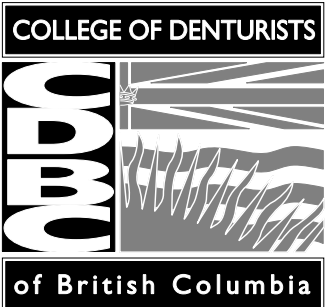
I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the Vancouver Olympics in person, or on television. I along with my wife and son took in the festivities on the second weekend of the games. We were treated to a wonderful weekend of weather and the energy of the crowds in downtown Vancouver was unforgettable! I look forward to channeling some of this new found energy into our future endeavors as individuals and as a College.

Our College has been fortunate in attracting so many skilled, committed, and enthusiastic people, all of whom have participated in shaping and guiding our College thus far. I would like to thank all members of the Board for their hard work and dedication provided to the College over the past year. In particular, I would like to thank our outgoing member Alex Hupka (elected representative) for his efforts in the past years and in helping direct the development of the Quality Assurance Program. Your experience and guidance will truly be missed

I would also like to give a warm welcome to our newest member Brian Butt RD (elected representative). We appreciate his willingness to work with our Board and are excited to learn more about his experiences, viewpoints, and ideas as we work together over the coming year.

2009 was a busy year for the College of Denturists of BC. The College held their AGM in Victoria on September 26 and experienced a great turnout from our Registrants. Our first ever Friday night social event welcomed Registrants who enjoyed a few drinks, some good food, door prizes, and socializing with College board members, staff and fellow Registrants. This event was planned as an opportunity to enhance positive relationships between the College and Registrants.

We also made a lot of progress with our work on the Quality Assurance Program (QAP) in 2009. We presented the Field Contribution Activities (FCA) to Registrants, and at the AGM we formed working groups to explain FCA's and solicit feedback from Registrants. This feedback was presented to the Quality Assurance Committee and used to make continuing adjustments to the QAP. As many of you know, development of this program has been in progress for the past five years and is one of our biggest projects to date.



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## Chair's Report ... continued

We are working toward a functional system that will benefit the greatest number of Registrants, while meeting the requirements of the *Health Professions Act*. As we move toward implementation of the program, your feedback and participation will be extremely important.

Over this past year, our College has worked, in collaboration with representatives from the Denturist Association, on proposed changes to the scope of practice for Denturists in BC. We have met with government representatives and representatives from the College of Dental Surgeons of BC. Our work on this matter continues into 2010 as we meet, again, with the College of Dental Surgeons of BC and the College of Dental Technicians of BC to solicit their feedback on our proposed scope of practice. With the recent implementation of the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), it is important that our College strives for a standard scope of practice that is equivalent across Canada.

Lastly, the Registration Committee continues to improve the elements of the College's Theory Examination and, once again, is preparing for the 2010 Clinical Examination. The 2010 Clinical Examination will return to Vancouver Community College (VCC) for a second time, due to the feedback and success of the 2009 examination held at VCC.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Whistler at the Denturist Association's Annual Convention in May 2010. Please feel free to contact me at anytime with your questions, concerns or thoughts!

**The College of Denturists of British Columbia's Clinical Examination is scheduled for Monday July 19, 2010—Thursday July 22, 2010 at Vancouver Community College.**

All candidates must be approved by the Registration Committee before they are eligible to write this examination.

## COLLEGE OF DENTURISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The College derives its authority from the Health Professions Act. This legislation establishes a social contract between the College and the public who seek services from denturists in British Columbia. The social contract obligates the College to serve and protect the public.

## 2010 College Board Meetings

- Friday April 9, 2010 – College Office, New Westminster, BC
- May 2010 (TBA) – Westin Hotel, Whistler, BC
- Saturday September 11, 2010 – Annual General Meeting
- Friday December 10, 2010 –  
College Office, New Westminster, BC



## Committee Meetings

### Executive Committee

Tuesday, June 22, 2010  
Tuesday, November 16, 2010

### Inquiry Committee

Monday May 17, 2010  
Monday July 19, 2010  
Monday September 20, 2010  
Monday, November 22, 2010

### Quality Assurance

Tuesday, April 20, 2010  
Tuesday, August 17, 2010  
Friday, December 10, 2010

### Registration Committee

Wednesday, May 19, 2010  
August 2010 (TBA)

These meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend! Come and meet our board members, see what we are doing ...

you never know what you might learn!

## 2010 Election Results and More!

The staff and Board of the College would like to offer a warm welcome to Mr. Brian Butt who has been elected to serve a three year term. As well, congratulations to Mr. Gary Feldman who has been re-elected to serve another three year term.

This year the College received two nominations during our annual nomination period. As there were two vacant offices and two nominees, these Registrants were deemed to be elected by acclamation. Congratulations Brian and Gary! The College looks forward to working with these dedicated individuals!

Unfortunately, Mr. Alex Hupka will not be returning to the Board of the College of Denturists of BC. Alex has served on the College Board for three years and has dedicated countless hours, especially as Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee. Alex, your valuable opinions and insights will be missed and we are truly grateful for your contributions to the new Quality Assurance Program. We wish you much success in your future ahead.

### ~ Introducing your newest Board Member ~

My term as a Board member with the College of Denturists of BC was educational and enjoyable. I will miss the current team, including the staff and Board members.

To my colleagues in the denturist profession in BC; if you have the opportunity to serve a term with CDDB you will not be disappointed. The kind and caring staff always make sure that you are informed and comfortable in your duties as a Board member. Thank you to my colleagues who voted me in and allowed me to serve on their behalf.

Sincerely,

Alexander Hupka

My name is W. D. Brian Butt and I have been a practicing Denturist for 20 years. I practiced with various associates in Ontario for 15 years before moving to British Columbia to open my own private practice.

I have a Bachelor of Physical Education from McMaster University and graduated as a Denturist from George Brown College in Toronto. I enjoy many outdoor sports such as skiing, waterskiing, gliding, cycling, and kayaking. I feel privileged to be able to live in British Columbia.

I am looking forward to serving on the Board of the College of Denturists and ensuring it remains a strong independent self governing body that will meet the necessary requirements of the *Health Professions Act*. This is a good time to get involved with the College as they are, or will be, experiencing exciting changes including a revised set of Bylaws, a new Quality Assurance program, and exploring an expanded scope of practice.

Thank you for this opportunity and I appreciate your support.

Yours truly, W. D. Brian Butt

*There are currently **221** Active Denturists registered with the College of Denturists of British Columbia.*

# Registrar's Report

By Jennifer Roff

## Busy Busy Busy!

The end of the College's fiscal year is always a busy time for the office. Thank you to all Registrants who renewed their registration with the College prior to the deadline of March 31, 2010! Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

The College office would like to announce that Janice Ho, the Quality Assurance Program Coordinator, began her maternity leave on March 19, 2010. She will take a full year and is expected to return at that time. We wish Janice a healthy delivery and all the best with her newborn baby girl. In the meantime, please send all quality assurance related e-mails to [qa@cd.bc.ca](mailto:qa@cd.bc.ca). The office staff will ensure that e-mails continue to be answered in a timely fashion.

What else have we been up to? Here is a summary,

**Proposed Bylaws** – On Wednesday January 13, 2010 the Board of the College provided notice of our proposed Bylaws to the Minister of Health, the public and other interested stakeholders as required by section 19(6.2) of the Health Professions Act. Feedback on our proposed bylaws was required to be submitted no later than Friday February 26, 2010. The College is pleased to report that they did not receive any feedback. Currently, the Board awaits further direction from the Ministry of Health.

**Health Professions Review Board** – Since the Health Professions Review Board came into effect in March 2009, the College has had four applications for review; two registration matters and two inquiry matters. To date, only one of these matters has been closed. An applicant withdrew her request for a review of an inquiry decision because an appropriate agreement was reached between the applicant and the Registrant involved. The College will provide more information regarding the other matters when they have been concluded.

**National Initiatives** – The College has been working closely with various Denturist regulatory organizations across the country to organize a meeting in Whistler, BC. The meeting of regulators will focus on issues of mutual concern, including scope of practice, accreditation, national examinations, international applications and labour mobility. The last meeting of Denturist regulators took place in 2002, so I believe everyone is looking forward to collaborating with one another.

**Health Regulatory Organization** – The College belongs to a group of health regulators that meet on a bi-monthly basis to discuss issues of mutual concern amongst health professionals in British Columbia. Our College sits on three sub-Committees; Patient Relations, Quality Assurance and Health Professions Review Board. This ensures we have current knowledge of the activities of other health regulatory organizations and are progressing in a similar fashion.

As per usual, the College is scheduled to be audited in May 2010. Results of the audit, financial statements and the annual report will be presented at the College's Annual General Meeting on Saturday September 11, 2010.

Lastly, if anyone has any suggestions for improvement, we would love to hear from you. Is there something you want to see available on our website? Is there information you would like to see published in the Articulator? It's important to let us know, so we can make the appropriate adjustments.

I hope each of you is enjoying a happy and healthy start to 2010. This is going to be a great year!

*See you in Whistler !!!*

## Call for Examiners



This year, the College expects a large group of students to challenge the Clinical Examination. The Registration Committee requires Registrants in the Active Full class to act as examiners for these examinations. A number of opportunities exist:

- **Examiners** – Participates as a member of the College’s exam team, scoring in accordance with the examination criteria. There is a minimum three day time commitment. Clinical examiners are compensated in accordance with the exam per diem rate of \$450 per day and receive direct continuing education credits.
- **Objectively Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) Station Developers** – The Registration Committee seeks Active Full Registrants to develop OSCE stations. Compensation will be based on performance.
- **OSCE Examiners** – Participates in scoring the OSCE. This is a ¾ day time commitment. Examiners are compensated with \$250 and will receive direct continuing education credits.

If you are interested in any of the above opportunities, please contact the College office!

## Theory Examination



The next opportunity to challenge the College’s theory examination will be held on Wednesday, June 30, 2010.

All candidates must be approved by the Registration Committee before they are eligible to write this examination.

Depending on individual circumstances, approval may take 6-8 months. It is each applicants responsibility to read, understand and comply with the application requirements.

## Duties to Colleagues

Registrants are reminded of the following bylaw,

87. (1) Registrants should not
- (a) comment or pass judgment on the qualifications of, or procedures rendered by, other registrants unless
    - (i) such comment is in the best interests of the patient's health and well being,
    - (ii) the registrant has been subpoenaed as a witness and is testifying under oath.
  - (b) compete for patients or professional services by methods which would adversely affect the honour, dignity, or credibility of the profession, or
  - (c) compare their professional competence to that of other registrants.
- (2) In the event of a consultation, registrants should render only the treatment which was specifically requested.

The Inquiry Committee of the College will take complaints of this nature very seriously. It is important that we uphold the dignity and honour of Denturism by practicing professionally and ethically.

*Please note that Internship Portfolios are due on Friday, April 30, 2010.*

## New Denturists



**Please welcome the newest Denturists in BC!**

Jodie Tara Atkinson  
Susan Bain  
Boris Eroshevski  
Alisha Kumar

Allen (Corey) Quinn  
Kin-Keong Sun  
Kimberly Symes  
Jiyong (Jason) Wen  
Victor Zlotnik

## Update on our Quality Assurance Program

Early this year our proposed bylaws were posted to the public and other interested stakeholders for a consultation period of 6 weeks. The College did not receive any opposition or feedback during this time. Currently, the proposed bylaws are before the Health Minister, awaiting approval. Once approved, the College will be taking a big step forward into the reality of what quality assurance will look like for all health professionals, including Denturists.

Although this program is mandatory, we have planned ahead in order to involve as many Registrants in the process of creating a program that they can call their own. The different components of the new QA program have evolved over time and will continue to do so, improving the quality of practice and Denturism as a whole.

The new QA Program is different and will require adjustments for all professionals in the field. The College will implement a gradual transition period to allow Registrants to become comfortable with the new bylaws, as well as the new QA requirements.

Under the new program, Registrants will no longer be concerned with a minimum number of continuing education credits. Instead, Registrants will be required to complete **3 tasks**: the Checklist, a QA Tool, and one Field Contribution Activity.

When the proposed bylaws are approved, a Quality Assurance information brochure will be mailed to Registrants and appropriate guidelines available on the College's website ([www.cd.bc.ca](http://www.cd.bc.ca)). If you have any questions about the new Quality Assurance Program, please contact the College office at 604-515-0533.

### ~ Quality Assurance Focus ~

by Carol R. LeVasseur DD

During the summer of 2008 I invited Dr. Keith Milton to lunch near my office, in Ladner. The purpose of this was to not only reconnect with a colleague and a good friend that I have had the pleasure of working with during my tenure at Vancouver Community College-City Centre (VCC-CC), but to also ask him if he would consider presenting a lecture on Pharmacology to our Denturist Study Club. During the process of planning for this, I became aware that our senior Denturist students at VCC-CC were about to begin their third semester, which included lectures in Pharmacology & Emergency Care and Radiographic Pattern Recognition. My practical nature could not resist asking if it would be possible for me to sit amongst the senior students to attend these classes. Although this had never been done before, Dr. Milton was open to the idea, and it was approved by the Dean of Health Sciences.

In September 2008 I began a process of learning that has inspired students, satisfied my quest for knowledge and continues to enrich my practice. Recently, in January 2010, still at VCC-CC, I completed the Anatomy & Physiology course. The material presented far exceeded the 1980 to 1984 courses taken prior to my licensing. These courses have been approved for credits by our Quality Assurance Committee and the cost is very very affordable.

During the Fall of this year, I hope to again be seated amongst another class of our students to learn how the science of Gerontology applies to Denturism. Education is key to a healthy and happy life. In order to help and educate our patients, we must learn through education ourselves. In my opinion, the assurance of the quality in continuing education is reflected within the following three factors: *Information*, *Inspiration*, and *Implementation*. Opportunities are everywhere. I urge you to discover courses that make you happy, and I hope that you also will enjoy the process. Until then, please accept my warmest salutations.

As per your request, below are guidelines for completing your Checklist and QA Tools.

### Guidelines for an Acceptable Checklist

1. All elements must be checked off on the scale system (1 – 5, or n/a).
2. For each theme, Registrants must fill out a goal or comment. If a Registrant feels that s/he does not need any improvement in a particular theme then s/he can explain why s/he feels that way.
3. If a Registrant indicates 'n/a' for an element, they can explain why it is not applicable to him/her. For example, some of the elements may not apply to Registrants who work for another Denturist or who do not work out of a regular office. The Program Coordinator may contact the Registrant for further clarification.
4. All goals should relate specifically to the work of the Denturist and not reference to money and/or profits.
5. Blank spaces left on the checklist will not be approved and Registrants will be required to complete the blank section(s) by e-mail and/or by telephone. If Registrant's responses to the checklist are unclear or questionable, they will be forwarded to the QA Committee for further review.

### Guidelines for an Acceptable QA Tool

1. The QA Committee will provide guidelines on appropriate answers to the Case Study questions.
2. All questions require an answer that relates to the specific Case Study.
3. On the last page, the example provided must be a personal example that relates to the Case Study.
4. Blank spaces left on the QA Tool will not be approved and Registrants will be required to complete the blank section(s) by e-mail and/or telephone.
5. If Registrant's responses to the QA Tool are unclear or questionable, they will be forwarded to the QA Committee for further review.

***Please do not hesitate to contact the College office if you have any other questions.***

Registrants must print the current Checklist and QA tool from the College's website **each year**. Past Checklists and QA tools will be removed from the website at the end of each year.



### Get Connected!

- Most of the QA information is accessible online or by e-mail.
- Please update your e-mail address with the College office and help reduce costs and our impact on the environment.

## Case Studies Wanted!

As you are aware, problem solving is an integral part of your work. With each new patient comes a list of questions that will help determine whether you can assist this person with their oral health needs. What is the history of the patient? Will this be their first denture? Does the patient have a suitable ridge in order to be eligible for dentures? And so forth. Though there may be some common problems you encounter on a regular basis, there may also be a few challenges that have stumped you or made you go outside your comfort zone to come up with appropriate solutions. These unique problems are not only important learning moments for you, but could be useful for your fellow Denturists. Many of the Registrants have expressed that they learn the most when sharing their personal experiences with each other.

We are looking for Denturists to share their unique or more challenging issues through case studies. Selected case studies will be featured in future Quality Assurance Tools. The topic choices include communication, patient management, professional lifecycle, and office management skills. In addition, as part of the new Quality Assurance Program, completing a case study will give you credit for the Field Contribution Activity. This is one way to give back to your profession and receive credit for your experiences. Please contact the College office or e-mail [qa@cd.bc.ca](mailto:qa@cd.bc.ca) to get more information about submitting a case study.

## A FRIENDLY REMINDER ...

### Scope of Practice

4. A Registrant may carry out non-surgical intraoral procedures
- (c) in accordance with a prescription, make or furnish partial dentures and overdentures.



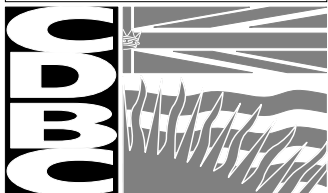
### What is a Patient Relations Committee?

The *Health Professions Act* (HPA) states that each designated health profession must establish a patient relations program. The purpose of this program is to seek to prevent professional misconduct of a sexual nature. The Board of the College established a Patient Relations Committee to create a program that will educate Registrants and the public, to prevent sexual misconduct of a sexual nature. Some of the topics will include education regarding appropriate boundaries, sexual misconduct, and expectations of professional healthcare providers.

Please stay tuned to learn more about this topic in the upcoming year!



COLLEGE OF DENTURISTS



of British Columbia

The Articulator is the newsletter of the College of Denturists of British Columbia. It is meant to provide information to Registrants, members of the public, and other organizations. In the event of a disagreement between information in this newsletter and the Health Professions Act, Denturist Regulation, bylaws, or policies of the College, the wording of the Act, Regulation, bylaws and policies take precedence. Letters and articles are welcome. The College reserves the right to edit submissions for length or to refuse to publish any letter or article. Copyright April 2010. Visit [www.cd.bc.ca](http://www.cd.bc.ca) for more information.

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