

CDAC Report to the Royal College of Dentists of Canada



September 2022

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CDAC Chair

During the last CDAC Annual General Meeting on December 17, 2021, Dr. Debora C. Matthews, DDS, MSc, FACD, was elected CDAC Chair by the Commission members.

Dr. Matthews has been a CDAC member since 2019, as a representative of Canadian dental specialists and is a Professor and the Director of the Graduate Periodontics program at Dalhousie University, where she has also held important administrative roles, such as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Assistant Dean, Research. Dr. Matthews has also served as a CDAC surveyor and is a CDAC representative to the National Dental Examining Board (NDEB) Board of Directors.

Dr. Matthews thanks *"Dr. Amarjit Rihal for his unflagging dedication and support of CDAC as chair for the past 6 years. He has employed his expertise in technology and demonstrated his vision in the recent development and implementation of a virtual model of accreditation. He has taken us through some difficult times, and his unwavering belief in the value of CDAC has been instrumental in ensuring we continue to meet our mandate."*

Interim Virtual Reporting System (IVRS)

As reported in 2021, due to restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and in following with CDAC membership direction, an Interim Virtual Reporting System for accreditation survey visits was developed, tested, and implemented for all survey visits conducted in 2021.

Accreditation Survey Visits 2021-2022

The composition of, and requirements for, accreditation surveys were unchanged from standards for traditional reviews and in-person survey visits. Updated self-study reports were submitted in advance of the survey in accordance with CDAC requirements. Virtual meetings were scheduled to mirror that which would occur during an in-person review, accounting for time zone differences as much as was feasible. Secure video conferencing using online platforms ([Zoom](#) or [MS Teams](#)) were used; the platform varying according to individual institutional technology and security requirements. These platforms allowed for secure document sharing prior to the visit for review by the survey team, and during the visit to enable for writing and editing the final report. Privacy protocols stipulated by each program, provincial Health Authority and provincial government were followed.

Facility tours were conducted virtually through 360° images of required areas (e.g., clinical areas, sterilization center, classrooms, student spaces, laboratories, etc.) that were digitally linked to floor maps of the facility. A hand-held room scanner, with 8x zoom-in capability, captured the

views. The 'facility tour' was shared with surveyors prior to accreditation for review and to stimulate questions for follow up.

Live streaming of scheduled clinical activities and interaction with students in real-time was accomplished through portable cameras and software preloaded onto a tablet. The system used secure 1080p high-definition wide frame cameras tethered to a tablet through cell service connectivity. This was tested in advance of the survey visit and reviewed by CDAC staff. Individual consent (patient, student, staff, instructor) was obtained by the institution prior to use of the live feed. To meet privacy and regulatory requirements these sessions were streamed, not recorded. Connection to the cameras was activated and deactivated by CDAC staff. Encrypted feed for live stream involved two (2) levels of password protection. CDAC staff were available for trouble shooting during the set-up of the audio and video equipment and throughout the site visit.

The virtual technology was tested in a simulation setting prior to pilot testing at two Canadian dental programs (non-hospital general practice residency and dental specialty). Information from qualitative interviews with the site and survey teams from these institutions was used to improve the virtual accreditation system prior to full launch.

All postponed 2020 and scheduled 2021 accreditation survey visits were completed in 2021. In total, 38 accreditation surveys including 3 DDS/DMD programs, 5 post-doctoral dental specialty programs, 6 dental hygiene programs, 7 dental assisting programs and 17 health facility dental services/dental residency programs were completed in 2021.

2022 Accreditation Survey Visits

The following survey visits have been completed or are scheduled in 2022. All survey visits have been, or will be, conducted through the Interim Virtual Reporting System (IVRS).

Additional survey visits could be scheduled for new programs or programs requiring a limited survey visit.

Universities

1. University of Manitoba – DMD
2. University of Manitoba – Orthodontics
3. University of Manitoba – Periodontics
4. University of Manitoba – OMFS

Universities – Dental Hygiene Programs

5. University of Manitoba

Colleges – Combined Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting Programs

6. Vancouver Community College – DA
7. Vancouver Community College – DADDP
8. Vancouver Community College – DH
9. Oulton College – DA
10. Oulton College – DH

Colleges – Dental Hygiene Programs

11. Canadian National Institute of Health
12. Collège Boréal
13. College of New Caledonia
14. Algonquin College
15. La Cité Collégiale

Colleges – Dental Assisting Programs

16. College of the Rockies
17. CDI College Calgary
18. CDI College Edmonton
19. KDM College Calgary
20. KDM College Edmonton
21. CBBC Career College
22. CBBC Career College – DADDP (NEW)
23. Risio Institute for Digital Dental Education – DADDP (NEW)
24. Sprott Shaw College (NEW)

Universities – Dental Assisting Programs

25. University of Saskatchewan DA

Health Facilities and Internships

26. McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) GPR
27. Montreal Children's Hospital GPR
28. Jewish General Hospital GPR
29. Eastern Health SER
30. Sunnybrook INT
31. Sunnybrook SER
32. Université Laval NHBDI

Hybrid Accreditation Model Working Group

Following feedback received from programs, survey team members and staff regarding the IVRS (and compared to traditional onsite survey visits), a working group has been created to discuss the creation of a hybrid accreditation model. Recommendations will be presented to the Commission.

Dental Hygiene Standards

CDAC staff is working with our Dental Hygiene stakeholders to update the CDAC accreditation requirements for Dental Hygiene programs, incorporating the 2021 Entry-to-Practice Canadian Competencies for Dental Hygienists.

CDAC Governance Review Steering Committee (GRSC)

Update on the project to have CDAC become a separate legal entity

In March 2021, Terms of Reference were approved for a Governance Review Steering Committee (“GRSC”). This committee was struck to investigate the necessary steps for CDAC to become an independent legal entity under the Canadian Non-for-profit Corporation Act. The GRSC was charged with recommending to the Commission a new organizational structure including board composition, member competencies and by-laws, as well as a sustainable funding model, for approval in accordance with CDAC’s Strategic Plan.

Since December 10, 2021, the GRSC has met virtually and in-person, with the most recent meeting having been held in early June 2022. Following this meeting, a stakeholders’ consultation report has been circulated to all stakeholders for input. A timeline of the incorporation of the new CDAC is included in the report.

Dr. Matthews (Chair, CDAC) and Frédéric Duguay (Director, CDAC) attended several stakeholder meetings to present the recommendations of the GRSC contained in the consultation report.

All stakeholders are invited to submit written submissions before September 23, 2022, for consideration prior to presenting recommendations to the Commission and to the Canadian Dental Association.



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