

**CDRAF 2022 Report to  
Royal College of Dentists of Canada  
September, 2023**

The Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) is pleased to present this update on activities during the past 12 months.

1. National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE)

In 2022, The National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB) gave notice that it would not be able to continue administering the National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE) but agreed to offer the 2023 examination.

The Royal College of Dentists (RCDC) and NDEB are working collaboratively to transfer the administration of the NDSE from NDEB to RCDC for 2024. The CDRAF has appointed 3 representatives to the RCDC National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE) Committee.

2. National Dental Specialty Recognition

The CDRAF Board reviewed an application from the Canadian Academy of Dental Anesthesia (CADA) for recognition of Dental Anaesthesia as a specialty of dentistry.

At its meeting in February 2023, the CDRAF Board determined that the application met the criteria and approved the application to recognize Dental Anaesthesia as a specialty of dentistry

Implementation of the new specialty will vary with each dental regulatory authority over a period of time. Faculties of Dentistry will determine whether to implement a training program. The RCDC and CDAC have been requested to develop the required examinations and standards.

3. National Competency Standards for General Dentists

A working group comprised of one representative from each of the CDRAF, ACFD, CDAC and NDEB developed a draft framework that was widely circulated to stakeholders. A final draft is currently out for a second circulation for feedback and will be reviewed for approval by the CDRAF Board at a future

meeting. Following approval, the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) will be requested to include the document in its Accreditation Standards.

4. Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) Independence  
CDAC achieved independence as a not-for-profit organization in December 2022 and has established a new Board of Directors and governance structure.

There are ongoing discussions with CDAC on a proposed new funding model for regulators and stakeholders.

5. CDRAF Strategic Plan

The CDRAF Board approved its strategic plan for 2023-2026, with seven strategic initiatives:

- Embrace and promote cultural safety, reconciliation and humility.
- Promote the development of regulatory policies, which support equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility.
- Establish national entry-level competency standards for general dentists and dental specialists.
- Collaborate with the National Dental Examining Board of Canada and other stakeholders to ensure that the certification processes for graduates of accredited and non-accredited undergraduate dental programs are fair, reliable, valid, accessible and timely.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to ensure that the certification processes for graduates of accredited and non-accredited dental specialty programs are fair, reliable, valid, accessible and timely.
- Provide the regulatory requirements of Accreditation to the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.
- Facilitate collaboration on regulatory responses to emerging trends and issues.

The CDRAF Board is kept apprised of progress on the initiatives at each Board meeting (August progress review attached).

6. CDRAF Multi-Stakeholder Working Group to review Certification Processes

As part of the Strategic Plan, the CDRAF Board identified the need to establish a multi-stakeholder collaborative working group to understand the efficacy of the Reciprocal Accreditation Agreements, the NDEB Equivalency Process and

Qualifying Programs and to explore potential changes to the established processes and additional pathways to certification and licensure.

The working group has held several meetings to learn more about the processes, including a two-day workshop with the NDEB.

In January 2023, ACFD submitted an application for funding to Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). The application is for development, implementation and evaluation of a new pathway that would allow internationally trained dentists with knowledge and skills comparable to graduates from accredited dental programs the ability to access the certification process more efficiently.

ACFD recently received notice from ESDC that the application was successful and ACFD is now entering into a negotiation phase of the process.

#### 7. Virtual Care Standard

The CDRAF Board have discussed developing a Standard on Virtual Care that can be modified for each jurisdiction. Terms of Reference are being drafted for a working group.

**Progress Tracking on 2023-2024 CDRAF Strategic Plan**

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>Embrace and promote cultural safety, reconciliation and humility</b>	Chair, Executive Director and Admin staff to meet with indigenous representatives yearly.	Obtain guidance for internal and external practices including guidance for organizing educational presentations to the Board.	Presentation made to Board at April 2023 meeting, Each year chair and Exec director to meet and obtain guidance
	Arrange an educational presentation for the Board (including representatives) on reconciliation, cultural safety and humility.	Educate participants. Obtain guidance.	As above
	Implement guidance obtained from meetings and workshops.	Include items in every agenda and meeting that promote reconciliation, cultural safety and humility.	As above and land acknowledgment will be written and given by Chair at each meeting

Progress tracking on 2023-2026 CDRAF Strategic Plan

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Status</u>
	Promote reconciliation, cultural humility and safety standards and processes in the work of national and provincial dental organizations.	Share updates on initiatives from DRAs and stakeholders and identify various practices.	Agenda Item at October meeting each year
<b>Promote the development of policies which support equity, regulatory diversity, inclusion and accessibility.</b>	Share EDIA policies.	DRAs share, learn about and use various policies and practices at the provincial level.	Agenda item August 2023 meeting. Registrars will be asked to provide resources in advance of the meeting.

Progress tracking on 2023-2026 CDRAF Strategic Plan

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>Establish national entry-level competency standards for general dentists and dental specialists</b>	Continue to collaborate with NDEB, ACFD and CDAC in the development of National Entry-Level Competency Standards for General Dentistry.	Finalize and adopt National Entry-Level Competency Standards for General Dentistry.	WG considered discussions at ACFD and CDRAF meetings and has revised the document. June CDRAF meeting approval to circulate. Feedback by October meeting
	Participate in the development of Competency Standards for each Dental Specialty.	Review, provide recommendations and adopt each Standard as developed.	Ongoing. RCDC and NDEB to provide reports

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Status</u>
<p><b>Collaborate with the National Dental Examining Board of Canada and other stakeholders to ensure that the certification processes for graduates of accredited and non-accredited undergraduate dental programs are fair, reliable, valid, accessible and timely.</b></p>	<p>Conduct an in-depth review of processes, service standards and accountability measures with NDEB yearly.</p> <p>Conduct an in-depth review of documents with NDEB (bylaws, candidate information, application procedures and protocols) yearly.</p> <p>Conduct an in-depth review of the results of the examinations with NDEB yearly.</p>	<p>Schedule an agenda item with NDEB attendance. Allocate sufficient time resources.</p> <p>Provide feedback to NDEB.</p> <p>Approved set of accountability measures between CDRAF and NDEB.</p>	<p>In depth review held at April 2023 meeting. Next review in Spring 2024</p> <p>RCDSO and NDEB agreement. reviewed in June 2023 NDEB will approach other DRAs. Possible MOUs with all DRAs.</p>
	<p>Lead a multi-stakeholder collaborative to understand the efficacy of the current Equivalency Process and to explore additional pathways.</p>	<p>Complete objectives and a project plan.</p> <p>Submit a funding request for ESDC Foreign Credential Recognition Program.</p>	<p>WG held meetings in Dec 2022, Jan, March and June 2023. Provided feedback to NDEB on EP and establishing communications plan.</p> <p>Supported ACFD to prepared and submit grant application. Will review</p>

Progress tracking on 2023-2026 CDRAF Strategic Plan

			alternatives once grant application result is known. Invited Fairness Commissioners to attend CDRAF Board meeting.
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<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Timeline</u>
<p><b>Collaborate with stakeholders to ensure that the certification processes for graduates of accredited and non-accredited dental specialty programs are fair, reliable, valid, accessible and timely.</b></p>	<p>Consult regularly with RCDC as they develop and implement a national assessment for dental specialists.</p> <p>Review draft proposals and provide feedback.</p>	<p>Monthly meetings of the Working Group with RCDC.</p> <p>Report to CDRAF Board.</p>	<p>Dan and Jack attending RCDC Board meetings. Meetings not required monthly. Reports at Board meeting. Jack and ? to attend RCDC AGM in September. Report to RCDC needed by Sept 6.</p>
	<p>Conduct an in-depth review of processes, service standards and accountability measures with RCDC yearly.</p> <p>Conduct an in-depth review of documents with RCDC (bylaws, candidate information, application procedures and protocols) yearly.</p> <p>Conduct an in-depth review of the results of the examinations with RCDC yearly.</p>	<p>Schedule an agenda item with RCDC attendance. Allocate sufficient time resources.</p> <p>Provide feedback to RCDC.</p> <p>Approved set of accountability measures between CDRAF and RCDC.</p>	<p>Yearly once RCDC assumes responsibility</p>

Progress tracking on 2023-2026 CDRAF Strategic Plan

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>Provide the regulatory requirements of Accreditation to the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.</b>	Consult regularly with the CDAC Governance Review.	Provide feedback/ recommendations through the CDRAF representative on the CDAC Governance Review.	Complete
	Review draft proposals and provide feedback.		Complete
	Participate in discussions regarding ongoing funding model.	Schedule agenda items as required.	Ongoing. In-camera discussions in August
	Conduct an in-depth review of the CDAC Standards yearly review CDAC documentation and processes for fairness, validity and transparency yearly.	Schedule an agenda item for the CDRAF representative on CDAC to provide an in-depth report with sufficient time allocation and resources.  Provide feedback/ recommendations to the CDRAF representative on CDAC.	Yearly once the new organization has been established.

Progress tracking on 2023-2026 CDRAF Strategic Plan

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Outcome</u>	<u>Status</u>
<p><b>Facilitate collaboration on regulatory responses to emerging trends and issues.</b></p>	<p>Facilitate discussions on emerging regulatory trends to establish priorities for future agendas and workshops.</p>	<p>Hold Registrar calls on emerging issues.</p> <p>Schedule agenda items to identify emerging trends and issues at every Board meeting.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>request to establish working group on Remotely delivered Oral Health Care</p>