

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF DENTISTS OF CANADA

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting
Fairmont Empress and virtually via Zoom
on Saturday, September 28, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. PT

Present:	Dr. Izchak Barzilay	-	Chair
	Dr. Jean-Pierre Picard	-	Vice-Chair
	Dr. Carolyn Mason	-	Board Chair Emeritus
	Dr. John Zarb	-	Registrar
	Dr. James Posluns	-	Treasurer
	Dr. Christine Corbeil	-	Examiner-in-Chief
	Dr. Garry Aslanyan	-	Associate Examiner-in-Chief
	Dr. John Odai	-	Endodontics
	Dr. Keith Da Silva	-	Dental Public Health
	Dr. Daniel Turgeon	-	Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
	Dr. Maico Melo	-	Outgoing Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
	Dr. Julia Pompura	-	Incoming Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
	Dr. Nadia Marchese	-	Oral Medicine
	Dr. Lisa Johnson	-	Oral Pathology
	Dr. Sandra Maduke	-	Orthodontics
	Dr. Ming-Yi Chou	-	Prosthodontics
	Dr. Omar Usman	-	Periodontics
	Ms. Amandine Perdebat	-	Managing Director, Secretary
By Invitation:	Dr. Arun Misra	-	Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities
	Dr. Jack Gerrow	-	Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities
	Dr. Trish Lukat	-	Canadian Dental Specialties Association
	Dr. Robert Loney	-	Examiner-in-Chief, National Dental Specialty Examination
	Mr. Sean Gehring	-	Director, National Dental Specialty Examination
	Ms. Laura Gay	-	Auditor, Stern Cohen LLP
Recorder:	Ms. Leena Ramharakh	-	Recorder
Regrets:	Dr. Paul Andrews	-	Pediatric Dentistry
	Dr. Chrysi Stavropoulou	-	Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry
	Dr. Ronald Sperber	-	(Inc.) Associate Examiner-In-Chief, FE

1. CALL TO ORDER

Proper notice was given and there being a quorum present, the Dr. Izchak Barzilay called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. and presided as Chair.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda - on **MOTION** by Dr. Keith Da Silva, **SECONDED** by Dr. Julia Pompura, with

none opposed or further discussion, **the agenda was approved and adopted.**

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chair asked for any errors or omissions in the Minutes of the Annual General meeting dated September 23, 2023, that were distributed prior to the meeting and posted on the RCDC website.

On **MOTION** by Dr. Ming-Yi Chou and **SECONDED** by Dr. John Odai, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Annual General meeting of September 23, 2023, be accepted as presented with none opposed or no further discussion. Motion carried.

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Governance Committee:

Dr. Izchak Barzilay presented on the activities of the Committee on behalf of Dr. Paul Andrews. The Governance Committee is required to ensure that the Board of Directors fulfils its legal, ethical, and functional responsibilities through adequate strategic planning, governance policy development, recruitment strategies, and training programs. The Governance Committee highlighted a few accomplishments such as the annual review of policies, procedures, and position descriptions; overseeing the continuous work of the business plan deliverables; ensure more transparency with the membership; oversee the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) Director election process; and work with other Committees to ensure good governance. On behalf of Dr. Andrews, Dr. Barzilay thanked the members of the Committee for their exceptional work that they have accomplished.

(i) 2024 – 2025 Slate of Officers:

The 2024 – 2025 Slate of Officers were presented as follows.

- Dr. Jean-Pierre Picard – Board Chair
- Dr. Keith Da Silva – Provisional Board Vice-Chair
- Dr. Ming-Yi Chou - Provisional Board Vice-Chair
- Dr. Izchak Barzilay – Board Chair Emeritus
- Dr. John Zarb - Registrar
- Dr. James Posluns - Treasurer
- Dr. Christine Corbeil – Examiner-in-Chief, Fellowship Examination
- Ms. Amandine Perdebat - Secretary

On **MOTION** by Dr. Sandra Maduke and **SECONDED** by Dr. Guy Maranda (Virtually), **the 2024-2025 Slate of Officers were approved with none opposed or no further discussion. Motion carried.**

(ii) Incoming Director in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery:

Dr. Izchak Barzilay presented and congratulated the incoming Director for the Board on behalf of Dr. Paul Andrews.

- Dr. Julia Pompura – Oral Maxillofacial Surgery

B. Bylaw Committee: Bylaw Number 2024 09 28

Dr. Jean-Pierre Picard presented on the activities of the Bylaw Committee. The Bylaw Committee is responsible for the oversight of the College Bylaws to ensure that the Board of Directors fulfil its legal, ethical, and functional responsibilities. This is accomplished by ensuring that the bylaws are aligned with the organizational priorities, the national and provincial legislations, and are effective in achieving the organizational mandates. The Bylaws are reviewed annually and followed up through a rigorous review and approval process as outlined in the annual report. The Bylaw Committee highlighted on a few accomplishments such as the change of the membership category, the update of the Officers of the Board of Directors, and the inclusion of the National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE) as well as the Fellowship Examination within the Bylaws.

On **MOTION** by Dr. Christopher Robinson and **SECONDED** by Dr. Keith Da Silva, **Bylaw Number 2024 09 28 was approved with none opposed or no further discussion. Motion carried.**

C. Fellowship Affairs Committee:

Dr. John Zarb reported on the Fellowship Affairs Committee, which oversees membership, education, professional development, communication, and awards. This year marked the fourth year of monthly webinars and the continuation of the one-day Continuing Education event. The mentorship program was relaunched with strong engagement from both Senior and Early Career Fellows. The first regional networking event took place in Halifax, Nova Scotia in June 2024, with more planned nationwide over the next year. Dr. Zarb thanked the Committee and RCDC staff for their support.

D. Fellowship Examination Committee:

Dr. Christine Corbeil reported on the Fellowship Examination Committee's achievements, noting the assessment of 217 candidates in 2024. The Fellowship Examination Committee reported on enhancing evaluation clarity through the introduction of performance-level descriptors and Global Rating Scale rubrics, while streamlining the assessment process with the innovative risr/ platform for iPad scoring. Looking forward, the Committee aims to extend GRS implementation across all specialties and evolve toward a station-based Objective Structured Clinical Examination format. Dr. Corbeil thanked the Chief Examiners, their teams, the psychometrician, and RCDC staff for their dedication.

E. Budget and Audit Committee

Dr. James Posluns reported on the Budget and Audit Committee's work, noting that the College remains financially viable despite NDSE costs, which were funded through the Strategic Initiative Fund. Key changes identified included the fact that NDSE costs are now reported separately, and most NDSE revenue will appear in next year's statements. The College faced a \$200,000 operational shortfall due to increased wages and benefits, partially offset by higher exam fees and investment gains. He thanked the Committee and RCDC Staff.

(i) 2023 Audited Financial Statements:

Ms. Laura Gay reviewed the Audited Financial Statements, confirming a clean audit with no misstatements. This year's statements demonstrated a clear separation between RCDC and NDSE finances. Only \$82,000 in non-refundable application fees was recognized as NDSE revenue due to timing issues. The planned \$700,000 NDSE loss and RCDC's operating deficit were covered by an \$860,000 transfer from the strategic initiatives fund, which retains \$1.14 million. The reserve fund holds \$1.18 million, maintaining strong financial positions.

On **MOTION** by Dr. Garry Aslanyan and **SECONDED** by Dr. Daniel Turgeon, the **audited financial statements for fiscal year ending March 31, 2024, were APPROVED, with none opposed or no further discussion. Motion carried.**

(ii) Election of Auditor:

Dr. Izchak Barzilay kindly requested Ms. Laura Gay to leave the meeting room for the motion of re-appointing Stern Cohen LLP as the audit firm for fiscal year ending March 31, 2025.

On **MOTION** by Dr. Guy Maranda (virtually) and **SECONDED** by Dr. Lisa Johnson, it was **APPROVED** that Stern Cohen LLP be the auditing firm for RCDC for fiscal year ending March 31, 2025, with none opposed or no further discussion. Motion carried.

5. **NATIONAL DENTAL SPECIALTY EXAMINATION:**

Dr. Robert Loney reported on the inaugural National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE). In 2023, RCDC resumed responsibility for dental specialty licensure examination in Canada. The computer-based assessment featured multiple-choice and constructed-response questions based on updated specialty-specific blueprints developed in collaboration with the National Dental Examining Board (NDEB). Among 153 candidates, 120 passed—a success rate of 79%, consistent with results under NDEB administration in 2023.

The NDSE has initiated projects to support dental regulatory authorities, such as defining specialty competencies, and developing a Dental Anaesthesia examination scheduled for 2026. Dr. Loney thanked RCDC, Examiners, and Specialty Team Leads for their essential contributions.

6. **STAKEHOLDER REPORTS:**

Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF):

Dr. Arun Misra shared key updates from the CDRAF report. The CDRAF looks forward to ongoing collaboration with the NDSE. Work has started on National Competency Standards for Dental Specialists, including a pilot draft for Periodontics. At the August 2024 meeting, members discussed variations in academic licensure across dental regulatory associations and revisited the 2015 removal of RCDC Bylaw 5.1 A3, which had allowed academic staff eligibility for the NDSE. This change, made under CDRAF's direction, can be reconsidered at their discretion.

Canadian Dental Specialties Association (CDSA):

Dr. Trish Lukat provided the CDSA report and advised that the Canadian Academy of Dental Anesthesia has joined the CDSA.

7. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Further to what my discussion was yesterday, is it an initiative or an objective of this Board to emphasize specialists across this country and/or promote them? And to what extent might they consider doing this?

Just to revisit some of the concepts we discussed yesterday—yes, we are in ongoing discussions with the CDSA and are open to exploring further collaboration. That said, we want to be mindful of our respective areas of responsibility. The CDSA plays a key role in coordinating efforts across national specialties, particularly in supporting joint awareness campaigns. While this work primarily falls within the scope of the CDSA, we can certainly explore, at the Board level, how the RCDC might contribute more actively.

8. NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025, in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m. on a **MOTION** by Dr. Ming-Yi Chou and **SECONDED** by Dr. Nadia Marchese **with none opposed or no further discussion. Motion carried.**