

**CDRAF 2026 Report to
Royal College of Dentists of Canada
September 2026**

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

1. CDRAF Officers – 2025-2026

The following appointments were made, effective October 17, 2025.

Dr. Chris Hacker, Chair
Dr. Dean Zimmer, Vice-Chair
Mr. Edward Hollett, Treasurer

2. National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE)

The Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) provides regular updates to the CDRAF Board on its progress on the project plan for NDSE (including Dental Anesthesia in 2026), comprised of timelines and status of meetings, communication, financials, examination development, delivery and results, competency profile review.

The following CDRAF Board members are members of the NDSE Committee:

- Dr. Randall Croutze 2026-2027
- Ms. Caroline Daoust 2026-2028
- Mr. Daniel Faulkner 2026-2029

Dr. Jack Gerrow attends NDSE Committee meetings as an observer. The committee has worked well and is providing in depth oversight of the NDSE process.

3. National Competency Standards for Dental Specialists

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSAs) for the Beginning Periodontist were approved by the CDRAF, ACFD and RCDC in 2025.

KSAs for the following beginning dental specialists were undertaken by individual working groups and approved for external consultation in

October 2025. These KSAs were presented to the CDRAF Board for approval at its meeting on August 12, 2026:

- Endodontists
- Prosthodontists
- Oral and Maxillofacial Radiologists
- Oral and Maxillofacial Pathologist/Oral Medicine

The KSAs for Beginning Orthodontists is out for a second circulation and it is expected that they will be presented to the CDRAF Board for approval at the Board meeting in October.

The same process will be followed to develop KSAs for the remaining dental specialties by 2027.

4. Commission on Dental Accreditation (CDAC)

The CDRAF representative for the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada is Ms. Caroline Daoust for 2026-2029.

CDRAF continues to support CDAC's new governance structure with CDRAF representation on CDAC's Board of Directors as well as representation on its Standards Review and Accreditation Review Committees. CDRAF is collaborating with CDAC on ensuring that the CDAC budget is transparent and presents an accurate accounting of the costs for each CDAC program and on promoting greater transparency, of accreditation reports.

5. Regulatory Updates

(a) *British Columbia*

British Columbia's *Health Professions and Occupations Act* (HPOA) was given Royal Assent on November 24, 2022. While passed at that time, the legislation came into full force on April 1, 2026, replacing the existing *Health Professions Act*. The act was introduced as Bill 36-2022 to modernize health professional regulation.

Following an organization wide external systems review, and facing an increasingly unsustainable complaints process, with new pending legislation, the British Columbia College of Oral Health Professions (BCCOHP) made changes to its complaints process. The new process was developed and initiated whereby low risk non-clinical complaint matters, that make up the

vast majority of complaints received, could be resolved through consent-based resolutions.

(b) Manitoba

Discussions have started regarding establishing a separate regulator in Manitoba. No timeline has been given.

(c) Nova Scotia

Bill 36 received Royal Assent in the Nova Scotia legislature and the Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia migrated under the *Regulated Health Professions Act* (RHPA) and changed its name to the Nova Scotia Regulator of Dentistry and Dental Assisting (NSRDDA), effective May 1, 2025.

(d) Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan government has gone through second reading of the *Regulated Health Professions Act* (RHPA). The Council of the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan will no longer provide member services.

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

One of the CDRAF strategic plan initiatives is to “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”.

The Multi-Stakeholder Working Group comprised of representatives from ACFD, NDEB and CDRAF met in December 2025 to continue its discussions and review of current NDEB examination processes and to make recommendations for enhancement and modification where necessary. It received an update on the development and implementation of the ACFD Bridge Training to Dental Practice in Canada Program.

7. Embrace and Promote Cultural Safety, Reconciliation and Humility

The CDRAF strategic plan has ‘Embracing and Promoting Cultural Safety, Reconciliation and Humility’ as a strategic objective. It includes Land Acknowledgements in each meeting, workshops, discussions and presentations from Indigenous leaders.

Immersive experiences in Indigenous learning and culture have been embedded in CDRAF board meetings, including the annual in-person meeting of board members and systems partners.

During the August 2025 CDRAF Board meeting, the Board was provided with a personal and effective presentation from Katy Carson, Director of Cultural Safety and Humility at the British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals (BCCOHP) on incorporating Indigenous ways of knowing into practice.

At its recent meeting in August, the CDRAF Board participated in a Cultural Safety and Humility (CSH) Program, held externally in Vancouver.

8. National Recognition of Dental Anesthesia

All jurisdictions reported Board approval for the national recognition of Dental Anesthesia, pending provincial government approval and by-law amendments.

9. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

The DRAs shared reports on their Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Racism and EDI initiatives at the August CDRAF Board meetings in 2025 and 2026.

10. CDRAF Strategic Plan – 2027-2030

The CDRAF Board will start initial discussions at its meeting in August on the next strategic plan and arrange a dedicated meeting to draft a document that will be circulated to system partners for feedback.