CDAC 2020 Activity Report

July 2020
The Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC), in consultation with its partners, develops and approves requirements for educational programs preparing dentists, dental specialists, dental interns/residents, dental hygienists and dental assistants. CDAC also develops and approves requirements or standards for institutional dental services.
Who We Are

The Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) accredits:

- Undergraduate dental educational programs
- Dental specialty educational programs
- Dental Hygiene educational programs
- Dental Assisting educational programs
- Health facility dental services
- Hospital and non-hospital dental residency educational programs

VISION
Quality educational programs and health facilities through accreditation.

MISSION
The CDAC evaluates oral health educational programs and health facilities to determine eligibility for and grant accreditation.

VALUES
The CDAC is committed to the integration of the following values:

- **Quality** – Striving for excellence in all its endeavours.
- **Collaboration** – Engaging with stakeholders to accomplish its mission.
- **Respect** – Embracing diversity of ideas, culture and language.
- **Integrity** – Acting in an ethical and transparent manner.
GOALS

Goal #1
Develop and maintain national accreditation requirements for education programs and health facilities based on current knowledge and practice in consultation with stakeholders.

Goal #2
Collaborate with certification bodies and regulatory authorities in the evaluation of programs preparing entry level practitioners.

Goal #3
Evaluate educational programs and health facilities using defined processes.

Goal #4
Identify accredited educational programs and health facilities.

Goal #5
Monitor the need to establish reciprocal agreements with related international accrediting agencies.
Update on Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning Process

In 2018, CDAC conducted the following strategic planning activities and meetings:

- Environmental scan (Consultant and CDAC) - February 2018.
- An online survey was sent to 228 CDAC stakeholder representatives on March 29, 2018. 170 representatives responded to the survey (75% response rate)
- A report including all comments received was circulated to all individuals attending the strategic planning open session on May 5, 2018 in Ottawa
- 35 participants representing a wide variety of stakeholders attended the May 5th session. The strategic areas of focus identified during the open session were provided to the CDAC Strategic Planning Steering Committee.
- The CDAC Strategic Planning Steering Committee met on September 10, 2018 in Ottawa to review the strategic areas of focus and all the comments received.
- The CDAC Strategic Planning Steering Committee met via videoconference on October 1, 2018 to finalize the strategic initiatives and the related objectives.
- The CDAC three-year strategic plan was circulated to all stakeholders for comment in January 2019 and was approved by the Commission in November 2019.

Strategic Plan

Although the strategic plan has not yet been approved by the Commission, the following is a draft of the strategic initiatives and related objectives that was circulated to stakeholders for comment:

Vision

CDAC is a globally recognized leader in accreditation standards and processes

Mission

CDAC assesses oral health education programs and facilities to determine accreditation status

Strategic Initiatives

1. Governance – Become an independent legal entity
2. Finance – Secure predictable, equitable and sustainable funding
3. Quality Assurance – Enhance the consistent application of the accreditation process
4. Stakeholder Relations – Strengthen CDAC’s position as a recognized leader in accreditation
Update on Strategic Planning

Objectives

**Governance** – Become an independent legal entity

1. Negotiate an agreement with appropriate CDAC stakeholders
2. Secure not for profit incorporation status
3. Ensure financial viability of an independent CDAC
4. Develop governance structure

**Finance** – Secure predictable, equitable and sustainable funding

1. Establish a predictable revenue model
2. Negotiate agreement of new model with funding partners
3. Identify new sources of revenue

**Quality Assurance** – Enhance the consistent application of the accreditation process

1. Formalize, evaluate and document calibration process
2. Formalize training and evaluate readiness of surveyors
3. Communicate calibration process to stakeholders
4. Update accreditation terminology for clarity
5. Identify and implement best practices in the accreditation process

**Stakeholder Relations** – Strengthen CDAC’s position as a recognized leader in accreditation

1. Facilitate opportunities for dialogue and engagement among stakeholders in the accreditation process
2. Raise awareness of the benefits of accreditation and the value of CDAC to potential beneficiaries
3. Promote the value of participation to current stakeholders in the accreditation process
4. Lead and facilitate dialogue regarding accreditation best practices with external accreditation bodies
Update on CDAC Independence

Completed activities

Request for Proposal (RFP) – Document was completed on March 6, 2020

- RFP document was posted on 3 national websites:
  - Merx.com
  - Bidscanada.com
  - RFP.ca
- In addition, cover letters and RFP documents were sent directly to approximately 6 different Law offices in the greater Ottawa area that have a special interest in Governance and Corporate Business law
- A total of 9 proposals from various law firms in the Ottawa and Toronto area were received and vetted
- The contract was awarded to Dentons Canada LLP. Their offices are located in the greater Ottawa area.

Timeline of completed and planned activities

- March 5, 2020 - Publication and circulation of RFP
- April 6, 2020 - Deadline for interested bidders to submit questions
- April 24, 2020 - Deadline for CDAC to respond to questions received from interested bidders
- June 1, 2020 - Deadline for submission of proposals
- June 1-5, 2020 - Selection of top bidders
- June 8, 2020 - Negotiation for services with selected bidder
- July 8, 2020 - Contract awarded to Dentons Canada LLP
- July-August 2020 - Appointment of Steering Committee members
- March 2021 - Completion of CDAC Independence Project.

Looking forward

CDAC will be working with Brenda Fair of Fairwinds Training and Development to facilitate the process with the Steering Committee. Members of the Steering Committee will be appointed in consultation with our legal representatives to ensure as even as possible distribution representing all our stakeholders. Appointment of the Steering Committee members will be completed by the end of August. At this time, we anticipate to be on time with our projected March 2021 completion date.
CDAC representation at 2019-2020 stakeholder meetings

CDAC Chair and/or Staff attended the following stakeholder meetings:

- Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF)
  - January 19, 2019 – Montreal, QC (Meeting with ODQ and RCDSO)
  - February 8, 2019 – Toronto, ON (Meeting with CDRAF Working Group)
  - February 9, 2019 – Toronto, ON
  - March 2, 2019 – Montreal, QC (Meeting with CDRAF Working Group)
  - April 10, 2019 – Ottawa, ON
  - June 16, 2019 – Vancouver, BC (Meeting with ODQ and RCDSO)
  - August 22-23, 2019 – St. John’s, NL
  - April 22, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

- Federation of Dental Hygiene Regulators of Canada (FDHRC)
  - April 10, 2019 – Ottawa, ON
  - April 9, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

- Canadian Dental Assisting Regulatory Authorities (CDARA)
  - April 10, 2019 – Ottawa, ON
  - April 7, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

- Canadian Dental Association (CDA)
  - April 11-12, 2019 – Ottawa, ON
  - April 24, 2020 – Virtual Meeting

- National Dental Hygiene Certification Board (NDHCB)
  - May 2019
  - September 2019

- Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry (ACFD)
  - June 16-18, 2019 – Vancouver, BC (Biennal Conference and Annual General Meeting)
  - March 5, 2020 – ACFD, Deans Council (select working group meetings)

CDAC Chair and/or Staff attended the following meetings and conferences in 2019:

- American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Annual Session and Exhibition
  - March 16-18, 2019 – Chicago, IL, US

- Ontario Dental Hygienists Association / College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario Educators Forum
  - May 2, 2019 – Toronto, ON

- Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) Closed and Open Sessions
  - August 1-2, 2019 – Chicago, IL, US
Other Meetings

PGY1 Working Group

The CDAC Chair also participated in the Joint Working Group on Postgraduate Year 1 in Dentistry in Canada. The CDAC Director attended the Joint Working Group’s meetings as an observer. The mandate of the working group is to prepare a literature review on PGY1 training models in Canada and elsewhere in the world, and to investigate necessary resources to have a widespread PGY1 program in dentistry in Canada. Membership of the Joint Working Group is composed of one representative from each of the following organizations: ACFD, CDRAF, NDEB and CDAC.

Office of the Manitoba Fairness Commissioner (OMFC)

The Chair and the Director of CDAC met with the Manitoba Fairness Commissioner and the Planning and Policy Analyst at the Office of the Manitoba Fairness Commissioner in Winnipeg, MB.

This meeting was organized at the request of CDAC to discuss concerns being raised by the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF).

The outcome was very positive, and CDAC agreed to keep the OMFC informed of future developments concerning issues discussed. CDAC also agreed to keep the OMFC informed of its accreditation activities.

CDRAF Working Group

CDAC representatives attended two meetings of the CDRAF working group created to look at CDAC governance and accreditation process.

COVID-19 Strategy Committee Working Groups

CDAC arranged strategy working group meetings with all four of our review committees to discuss implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on the function of CDAC and its programs. The committees supported the CDAC’s APR process and decided to review responses from the programs in accordance with CDAC accreditation requirements as described on page 10 of this report.
Royal Canadian Dental Corps accreditation

CDAC has been working closely with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and the Royal Canadian Dental Corps to conduct survey visits for the accreditation of the CAF dental clinics.

- Survey visits of the Canadian Armed Forces dental clinics began in September 2018 and were finalized in mid-January 2019. This represents survey visits at 24 Detachments (25 locations) across Canada.

  - CFB Gagetown, NB (September 24, 2018)
  - CFB Shilo, MB (October 1, 2018)
  - CFB Winnipeg, MB (October 2, 2018)
  - CFB Edmonton, AB (October 3, 2018)
  - CFB Wainwright, AB (October 4, 2018)
  - CFB Cold Lake, AB (October 5, 2018)
  - CFB Kingston, ON (October 9, 2018)
  - CFB Trenton, ON (October 10, 2018)
  - CFB Borden, ON (October 11, 2018)
  - CFB Moose Jaw, SK (October 15, 2018)
  - CFB Esquimalt, BC (October 16, 2018)
  - BFC Valcartier, QC (October 18, 2018)
  - BFC Bagotville, QC (October 19, 2018)
  - CFB North Bay, ON (October 25, 2018)
  - CFB Ottawa, ON (October 30, 2018 - NDHQ)
  - CFB Ottawa, ON (October 31, 2018 - Montfort)
  - BFC Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC (November 2, 2018)
  - CFB Halifax, NS (November 5, 2018)
  - CFB Greenwood, NS (November 6, 2018)
  - CFB Petawawa, ON (November 7, 2018)
  - CFB Toronto, ON (November 22, 2018)
  - CFB Gander, NL (December 5, 2018)
  - CFB Comox, BC (December 12, 2018)
  - BFC Longue-Pointe, QC (December 13, 2018)
  - CFB St. John’s, NL (January 14, 2019)

CDAC has completed final edits and delivered all final review reports to CAF in March, 2020. Also, the APR's for the detachments were emailed out along with the current cohort of CDAC programs in April, 2020.
International Activities

For certification and licensure in Canada, programs that are accredited by either CDAC or the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) are considered accredited. In addition, the following general dentistry programs are also considered accredited:

- Effective March 30, 2010, general dentistry programs accredited by CDAC or the Australian Dental Council (ADC).
- Effective December 15, 2011, general dentistry programs accredited by CDAC or the Dental Council of New Zealand (DCNZ).
- Effective December 5, 2012, general dentistry programs accredited by CDAC or the Irish Dental Council.

With respect to the Mutual Recognition Agreements between CDAC and the Dental Council of New Zealand (DCNZ), the CDAC Director participated, as an observer, on the site visit of the University of Otago Faculty of Dentistry (Dunedin, Otago, NZ - September 1-6, 2019).

During this visit, several meetings were also organized with representatives of the Dental Council of Ireland (DCI), also attending the site visit as observers. The President, the Registrar, and the Education Manager attended for the DCI.

The CDAC Director also attended the monthly meeting of the DCNZ in Wellington, NZ on September 9, 2019.

Also on September 9, in Wellington, the CDAC Director attended a meeting with DCI representatives and the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Dental Council.

As part of the continued monitoring involved with CDAC’s reciprocal agreements, The CDAC Director attended the August Open and Closed Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) meetings (Chicago, IL - August 1-2, 2019).
Accreditation Updates - 2020

COVID-19 Positional Statement and Action

The current pandemic has affected all organizations involved in the education, accreditation, certification and registration of future health professionals. CDAC is no exception. Our role and mandate are to evaluate and monitor education programs – through onsite surveys (when possible), annual program reviews, progress reports, and other means it deems necessary – to ensure they meet the CDAC accreditation requirements in order to grant (or deny) accreditation status. During the pandemic, CDAC has had no choice but to postpone planned 2020 survey visits; however, CDAC continues to closely monitor program compliance with accreditation requirements through its Annual Program Review (APR) process, including, this year, a reporting requirement for program changes implemented due to the COVID-19. Progress Reports for programs with reporting requirements on specific Recommendations will also be required, as usual.

Please also note that accredited programs are obligated to advise CDAC, at all times, of any significant change to the program, regardless of special circumstances like COVID-19. It is the expectation of the CDAC that programs will meet their stated competencies and outcomes.

The information provided by programs through the APR process (Deadline for submission: June 30, 2020) was reviewed and collated against an evaluation rubric by the CDAC staff. To review this information meetings with Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene committees were completed in July. Decisions regarding the accreditation status of each program were reviewed during these committee meetings. Meetings for the Dentistry and Health Facility committees are scheduled to be completed in August. CDAC will advise all regulators if a program’s accreditation status is removed. Please note that CDAC does not divulge to the public information provided by programs or the reasons for its accreditation decisions.

Programs’ continued compliance with accreditation requirements does not mean that they cannot make modifications. Programs must maintain the ability to adapt and improve their curriculum and the program delivery model based on available new evidence, research, best practices, knowledge sharing, input from Advisory Committees and Program Director/instructor participation in the accreditation, certification and regulation processes.

Please note the CDAC accreditation requirements state:

CDAC strives to ensure that its accreditation requirements and processes do not constrain innovation or program autonomy. The expertise of educators in the development and implementation of educational programs, curriculum and learning experiences is fully acknowledged. CDAC places its emphasis upon assessment of the program’s ability to meet its stated objectives and outcomes.

Please also be assured that CDAC remains committed to working collaboratively with all its stakeholders. We hopefully anticipate resuming postponed survey visits later this year if the Health Authorities and Educational facilities allow us to resume normal activities.
Accreditation Updates - 2019/2020

Dental / Dental Specialty Programs (12)

2019
University of Toronto (Toronto, ON)
- Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)
- Orthodontics
- Pediatric Dentistry

2020
University of Toronto (Toronto, ON)
- Endodontics
- Oral Medicine and Oral Pathology (OMOP)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (OMR)
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics

McGill University (Montreal, QC)
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)

University of Alberta (Edmonton, AB)
- Periodontics (NEW)

University of Manitoba (Winnipeg, MB)
- Periodontics (NEW)

Dental Assisting Programs (9)

2019
- College of New Caledonia (Prince George, BC)
- SAIT/University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon, SK)
- CDI College - Edmonton (Edmonton, AB)
- Confederation College (Thunder Bay, ON)
- Camosun College (Victoria, BC)
- Columbia College (Calgary, AB)
- Niagara College (Welland, ON)
- Holland College (Charlottetown, PE)
- CDI College - Edmonton (Edmonton, AB) - September 2019
Accreditation Updates - 2019/2020

Dental Hygiene Programs (7)

2019

- Oxford College (Scarborough, ON)
- College of New Caledonia (Prince George, BC)
- APLUS Institute (Toronto, ON)
- Confederation College (Thunder Bay, ON)
- Camosun College (Victoria, BC)
- Niagara College (Welland, ON)
- Toronto College of Dental Hygiene (Toronto, ON)

Dental Internship Programs, Health Facilities, and Fellowships (8)

2019

- Northeast Cancer Centre (Sudbury, ON)
- Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre (Halifax, NS)
- St. Joseph’s Health Centre (London, ON)
- London Health Sciences Centre (London, ON)
- Western University Residency Program (London, ON)
- Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (Ottawa, ON)

September 2019

- Alberta Health Services - Foothills Medical Centre (Calgary, AB)
- Alberta Health Services - Foothills Medical Centre Residency Program (Calgary, AB)
# Postponed Survey Visits - 2020

## Dental / Dental Specialty (6)
- University of Toronto (Toronto, ON)
  - Dental Public Health
- McGill University (Montreal, QC)
  - Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
- Université Laval (Québec, QC)
  - Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
  - Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS)
  - Periodontics
  - Endodontics (NEW - 2019)

## Dental Hygiene Programs (3)
- Canadore College (North Bay, ON)
- Cambrian College (Sudbury, ON)
- Collège de Maisonneuve (Montreal, QC)

## Dental Internship Programs, Health Facilities, and Fellowships (9)
- IWK Health Centre (Halifax, NS)
  - Dental Service
  - Internship
- Dalhousie University (Halifax, NS)
  - Internship
- Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre (Winnipeg, MB)
  - Dental Service
  - Internship
- Princess Margaret Cancer Centre (Toronto, ON)
  - Dental Service
- Royal University Hospital (Saskatoon, SK)
  - Internship (NEW)
- University of British Columbia (Vancouver, BC)
  - Internship
- Vancouver General Hospital (Vancouver, BC)
  - Dental Service

## Dental Assisting Programs (2)
- Cambrian College (Sudbury, ON)
- Red River College (Winnipeg, MB)