



# the Sentinel

A publication of the College of Dental Surgeons of  
British Columbia for dentists and certified dental assistants

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## What's the *Health Professions Act* All About?

In November, the Ministry of Health posted draft Regulations for Dentists on the Ministry website, inviting comment. In December, the draft Bylaws approved by CDSBC Council were posted on the College website for comment. These were the latest steps towards transitioning the regulation of dentists and certified dental assistants (CDAs) from the *Dentists Act* to the *Health Professions Act* (HPA). Many dentists and CDAs are now asking – What's this all about? How will it affect me in my day-to-day practice?

### **Health Professions Act**

Until recently, many health professions were regulated by their own statutes, such as the *Dentists Act*. In the 1990s, the government decided that all health professions should be regulated by the same act. The HPA is the umbrella legislation that was revised in 2003 to provide for a common regulatory structure for all of British Columbia's self-regulated health professions.

**The Regulations for Dentists and draft College Bylaws have been posted by government for stakeholder comment.**

**Important CDA News  
on page 7.**

*continued on page 8*



President's Report Dr. Peter Lobb

## Ethical Behaviour Is About Choices

Ethics has been an important interest of mine for much of my professional life. It is what initiated my involvement with the College and the Canadian Dental Association, where I served on their respective ethics committees.

The pursuit of ethical and moral behaviour is a noble goal and is a cornerstone on which all professions build their foundations. I believe it is equally important for each of us as individuals to also pursue this same goal.

Choices about what we do, how we do it and why are often reflections on how others view us. As dental professionals, the expectations of us by others are often elevated, just as the disappointments are greater if we let them down.

In the dental abstract "Why Our Ethics Curricula Don't Work," Dr. Charles Bertolami makes the statement that "as a profession, dentistry is accorded an extraordinary degree of self-governance on the grounds that it is party to a binding social

contract based on service to the public." Upon reflection, he goes on to challenge us with this ethical dilemma – as health professionals, do we always place the patient's welfare first and the patient's needs before that of the dental practitioner, or do we do this only to the extent that the patient's and the practitioner's interests are not in conflict?

*"There is an enormous disconnect between knowing what's right and doing it, between understanding the principles of ethics at the intellectual level and applying this in daily life."*

With ethical behaviour and biomedical ethics evolving in recent decades into a science headed by experts, it seems to me that ethics and behaviour are not just about what experts tell

us is right, but about the choices we choose to make. Dr. Bertolami concludes, "There is an enormous disconnect between knowing what's right and doing it, between understanding the principles of ethics at the intellectual level and applying this in daily life. Simply put, people do not necessarily do wrong because they do not know what is right."

As dental professionals, this makes our challenge to serve and protect the public using principles of ethical behaviour all the more demanding.

**Reference:** "Why Our Ethics Curricula Don't Work" by Charles N. Bertolami, *Journal of the American College of Dentists*, Summer 2006, Vol. 73, No. 2, pages 35–46

## Licence Renewal Reminder Fees Due 4 p.m. March 1

- The renewal form *requires your signature.*
- Haven't received your renewal package? Make sure we have your current mailing address. You may not practise after March 1 without having paid a practising licence fee.
- If your payment is late, NSF or, in the case of CDAs, your credit card is rejected, your licence will be cancelled until all fees and penalties are paid.
- If your continuing education cycle ended on December 31, 2006, make sure your credits earned to then are up to date. The CE reporting form is available on our website.
- Dentists must indicate they are insured by CDSPI or provide a copy of the certificate.

Questions? Call us or visit the Registration and Licensing section of our website.

Moved? Change your address online at [www.cdsbc.org](http://www.cdsbc.org) under "Registrants", or send in the form below.

## Tough Patient Situations – What Would You Do?



Don't forget to attend the College's 2007 PDC Presentation *Tough Patient Situations: What Would You Do?* on March 9th.

Dental personnel have the opportunity to hear and discuss workable solutions to tough situations that face dental practitioners from new grads to seasoned clinicians.

This presentation will be illustrated with examples based on private practice and College complaints.

### Change of Address Form

By Fax: 604 734-9448  
or toll free to: 866 734-9448

Return by Mail: Registration  
College of Dental Surgeons of BC  
500 – 1765 W. 8th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5C6

<input type="radio"/> Dr. <input type="radio"/> Miss <input type="radio"/> Ms. <input type="radio"/> Mrs. <input type="radio"/> Mr.		CDSBC Registration Number	
Surname		Given Name(s)	
<input type="radio"/> practice <input type="radio"/> home <input type="radio"/> mailing			
New Address			
City		Province	Postal Code
Phone (   )	Fax (   )	Email	





Registrar's Report Heather Laing

## Centred on the Needs of Those We Serve

The College is a dynamic organization. Like each of us, it faces constant opportunities to embrace change. Even when change is a challenge, we are continually striving to learn, to grow and to be better tomorrow than today. We strive to maintain your trust and respect.

*Dentistry is a people-oriented profession, and as many of you have said, your patients enrich your lives.*

As I reflect on the work of the College, I cannot help but note how fortunate dentists and certified dental assistants are to work with people who need your help. You hear their stories, listen to their concerns and use your best judgment and skills to treat their problems. Dentistry is a people-oriented profession, and as many of you have said, your patients enrich your lives.

At the College, we work hard on your behalf to serve and protect the public in the supervision of the profession, keeping the needs of people as the cornerstone of the decisions made in connection with our regulatory responsibilities. I am proud of the diligence with which our staff carry out their responsibilities, and I am grateful for the direction and support of the College Council and members of College committees.

You will appreciate from articles in this edition of *The Sentinel* that, in the year ahead, the College will be in flux as we prepare to transition to the *Health Professions Act*. As we commit to constant improvement, we ask for your patience. Our task is to continue to do what is so necessary to the College and your profession – ensuring that what we do and how we do it are centered on the needs of those we serve.

We invite your feedback to help us focus our efforts and we welcome your ideas about how we can improve.

## IN BRIEF

### Are You Signing Your Prescriptions?

Dental technicians are authorized only to manufacture dental appliances according to a prescription from a dentist or physician. Under the Dental Technicians Regulation, a prescription is defined as *"a document, signed and dated by a dentist or medical practitioner, that directs a dental technician to perform a service that a dental technician is permitted, by the dental technician's certificate of registration, to perform for the purpose specified in the document."*

To ensure your patient's treatment is not unduly delayed, dentists must provide the technician with a written prescription that contains a valid signature. Please ensure all prescriptions you write are signed and contain detailed instructions for the dental technician.

### New CE Guidelines in Effect

As of January 1, 2007, the 2003 *Guidelines for Mandatory Continuing Education* are no longer in effect. To be eligible for credit, continuing dental education activities must now adhere to the guidelines revised on May 18, 2006, which were circulated to registrants with the spring 2006 issue of *The Sentinel*. The new guidelines are also available online at [www.cdsbc.org](http://www.cdsbc.org) under "About the College."



# Law Requires Obtaining Consent from Children

## “Judgment call” may be required

Children have the right to be consulted about decisions concerning their health care. Providing health care for children involves a delicate balancing of the child’s rights and needs as well as the rights of the parents.

The *Infants Act* says that children (anyone under the age of 19) can consent to their own health care if they are capable. Although the *Infants Act* defines an infant or minor as anyone under 19 years of age, it does not identify a minimum age to give health-care consent.

So when are children considered to be capable? This really comes down to a judgment call and it is up to each health-care provider to decide on the capability of each patient to make decisions about their own care. The law considers children capable if they understand the need for medical treatment, what the treatment involves, and the benefits and risks of having, or not having, the treatment.

It is never too early for the health-care provider to include the child in explanations about treatment. If the health-care provider is satisfied that the child understands the information presented enough to make an informed decision, and believes that the treatment is in the child’s best interest, the child can be deemed capable of giving consent to treatment. It is important to document the content of discussions with the child,

including the information presented, questions asked by the child and the decision reached.

In summary, if a child understands treatment options and is capable of giving informed consent, consent must be obtained from the child. Health-care providers must use their best judgment with each patient to determine the child’s ability to understand.

If a child is not mature enough to understand the nature, consequences, risks and benefits of proposed treatment, the child does not have the capacity to consent, and parental or legal guardian consent should be obtained instead.

**It is never too early for the health-care provider to include the child in explanations about treatment.**



# Up for a Challenge?

## Apply for the College's New CDA Council Member Position

Perhaps you have been practising as a certified dental assistant for many years. You are now considered a key team member and a leader in your office. Your skills are polished and practised. Getting through the dental day is rewarding – rarely stressful – but also less of a challenge than it used to be. It's the challenge that you find yourself missing.

You sometimes ponder a change, like going back to school, but are not sure why, because you really like your work as a CDA.

**“They say you only get out of it what you put into it. For me, I have received much more than what I feel that I have contributed.”**

Consider this: *Put your name forward to become the next CDA Member of Council of the College of Dental Surgeons.*

The College is looking for a second CDA Council member to take office in September 2007 for two years, joining veteran CDA Council member Kathy Boyd who will be continuing on in the second half of her term. The position requires someone who has a depth of experience in certified dental assisting, and understands how issues will affect the dental patient and dental assistants in general practice, specialty and public health work settings. This opportunity

is suited to someone who is prepared to be an active participant involved as one of 18 CDSBC Council members in determining policies that direct the regulation of dentists and CDAs.

As a Council member, you will associate with leaders – not only leaders in

“I have become a better speaker. I have become a broader thinker. I feel I have earned the respect of other Council members, and I enjoy an increased level of self-confidence as I now fulfil roles that I never before even imagined myself in,” says Kathy.



dentistry, but leaders in business and communities throughout British Columbia. You will also likely meet many other CDAs around the province.

There are many benefits to being a Council member, the least of which is becoming knowledgeable in dental regulatory matters.

Kathy Boyd says the biggest benefits she has gained over the last few years from serving on Council have all been personal.

“They say you only get out of it what you put into it. For me, I have received much more than what I feel that I have contributed. In time, my position as a Council member will end, but how the experience has influenced me personally, I get to keep.”

## Here's What it Takes — CDA Council Member Criteria

The December Council Highlights on page 11 outline the decision about the appointment of a second certified dental assistant member to Council. Application forms for the position were sent out with the 2007 Annual Licence Renewal notices in January, with an application deadline of March 1.

Here are the criteria the CDA Council Member Selection Working Group will consider in recommending an appropriate candidate to Council.

Candidates must be registered and in good standing with the College, not hold a position on the Board of the CDABC, and meet the following criteria.

- 1 Be available to attend regularly scheduled weekday and weekend meetings, including Council meetings and workshops, strategic planning sessions and evening conference calls, as required.
- 2 Be available to attend and speak at CDA component society meetings to assist registrants in understanding the regulatory process.
- 3 Have a minimum of five years experience as a CDA.
- 4 Possess knowledge of regulation of dentists and CDAs.
- 5 Have a keen mind and analytical ability.
- 6 Possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, with capability for active participation in meetings.
- 7 Be willing to spend personal time reviewing ongoing materials from the College.
- 8 Have access to email and fax.

## IMPORTANT CDA NEWS

### CDA Licence Fee Changes

Unlike previous years, your 2007/08 mandatory College licence fee does not include funds to provide a grant to CDA member service organizations. The Certified Dental Assistants of British Columbia (CDABC) has elected to collect its annual membership dues directly from CDAs. Membership in CDABC is voluntary and you will need to submit a separate membership form and fee to the CDABC.

You can find out more about the benefits of being a CDABC member, which include employment surveys and information, education opportunities and other CDA resources, at [www.cdabc.org](http://www.cdabc.org). Watch for your CDABC membership form in the mail.

### CDAs: Do You Hold a Current Licence to Practise?

Following annual licence renewal on March 1, 2007, all CDAs must have a valid licence to practise before a dentist can delegate any duties or procedures. This applies to both current CDAs and new hires.

Dentist employers must comply with Article 10.17 of the Rules under the *Dentists Act* which reads in part that "a duly licensed member may delegate the duties or procedures to a certified dental assistant if he is satisfied... that the certified dental assistant is ...licensed to perform the delegated duties or procedures..."

CDAs are encouraged to show their renewed licence to their employer, and dentists are encouraged to ask to see the licence before delegating duties.



### College employee profile

Karen Walker

If you have ever attended a study club meeting at the College's Dental Clinic or booked one of our meeting rooms over the last year or so, you have likely come in contact with Karen Walker, our Dental Clinic Coordinator.

Karen arrived at the College in 2005 after working as a certified dental assistant for 28 years. For the last 12 of those years, she combined this with working as a Special Education Teaching Assistant for the Delta School District.

While ensuring the smooth running of the Clinic by maintaining its supplies and equipment, Karen also assists with overseeing our Certified Dental Assistant Examinations, monitoring the 125 registered study clubs, providing general office support such as reception relief and helping with the processing of continuing education credit submissions. Karen also provides assistance to the College in licensing, particularly during annual licence renewal.

"I enjoy the interaction with registrants, and was especially appreciative of the warm welcome I received when I started in July 2005," says Karen.

Never one to sit around, Karen is an avid walker who has done the 60-kilometre walk for breast cancer the last three years. She also tutors a

young lady through Big Sisters and volunteers in the Salvation Army kitchen.

Karen has two children of her own and two step-children from her marriage to Ralph last spring. When not at the office or doing her other extra-curricular activities, she enjoys making gift baskets and greeting cards.

**"I enjoy the interaction with registrants, and was especially appreciative of the warm welcome I received when I started in July 2005."**

With her previous experience in the dental profession, her outgoing and friendly demeanour, along with her nature to never shy away from any presented challenge, Karen is a terrific asset to the College. We look forward to a long working relationship, and hope she feels the same.

### *cover story continued*

In conjunction with the HPA, there are two main components that are specific to each profession being regulated under the HPA: regulations and bylaws.

#### **Regulations**

The government creates a regulation for each individual health profession governed under the HPA. Each regulation contains title protection, a scope of practice statement and a set of reserved actions that outline what members of that profession are authorized to do (i.e. scope of practice).

#### **Scope of Practice**

The Health Professions Council report of 2001 set out the framework for a new way of regulating health professions. Previously, each regulated profession had an exclusive scope of practice – activities that those outside the profession were prohibited from performing unless permitted to do so by statute.

The new system provides general scope of practice statements and non-exclusive reserved actions, different sets of which are granted to each profession. The scope of practice, set of reserved actions and title protection are all found in the Regulation for each profession. Each college also has the authority to set standards, limits and conditions on the professional's practice within this scope of practice.

#### **Reserved Actions**

Reserved actions are clinical activities that present a significant risk of harm and are therefore assigned by government to specified health professions only. At the same time that the Dentists Regulation was posted for comment, a master list of reserved actions (Reserved Actions Regulation)



# Council Highlights > October 27, 2006

was also posted. This master list outlines all of the activities that only a qualified health-care provider can undertake and describes each reserved action according to the extent of the activity that poses the greatest risk to the public. Individual professions are then granted all, a part or none of each reserved action.

**There is the general assumption that dentists, like all professionals, will only perform reserved actions to the extent that they are personally competent to carry them out.**

Health-care activities or procedures that are not found on this master list are not considered to be reserved actions and may theoretically be performed by any person. An example of a professional activity that is not a reserved action is counselling patients regarding health-care needs.

*Reserved Actions for Dentists*  
The reserved actions that have been granted to dentists are listed in a table on page 3 of the Dentists Regulation. There is a general assumption that the day-to-day practice of dentists will not be affected by the new regulations.

*continued on page 12*

### Draft Bylaws Under the HPA

Council unanimously approved draft Bylaws for designation under the *Health Professions Act* and directed that these draft Bylaws be forwarded to the Ministry of Health for consideration.

The process for designation under the HPA is as follows:

1. Consultation with the Ministry of Health for approval of draft Bylaws
2. 90-day posting of the draft Bylaws on the College website for comment by all individuals and organizations
3. Review and amending of Bylaws based on results of 90-day consultation between Ministry and College
4. Approved Bylaws forwarded to Cabinet for legislative approval
5. Once approved and proclaimed by Lieutenant Governor, College designated under the HPA, and the *Dentists Act* repealed.

We believe the process will take approximately six to 12 months to complete.

### Reserve Fund

Council created a contingency reserve fund, to be used to meet unanticipated or unbudgeted expenses if approved by an extraordinary (2/3rd) resolution of the full Council. This fund will be developed from monies surplus to the operations of the College and has been initially funded by \$500,000.

### Permission to Rewrite a CDSBC Clinical Examination

Council decided to allow a CDA applicant to sit the CDSBC Clinical Examination for a third attempt if the applicant met certain criteria.

### CDRAF Report

The Registrar reported to Council on a two-day meeting of the Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation (CDRAF) held in Montreal on October 23rd and 24th to discuss national dental regulatory issues. Topics covered included labour mobility, competition bureau issues, electronic health records, CDA pro bono survey, Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) policies and immigration issues. The CDRAF agreed to meet in Toronto on February 16-18, 2007, to finalize a process and protocols for the registration of internationally trained dental specialists in response to increased government pressure and legislation. A one-day education session focused on interprofessional care and the challenge to promote collaboration in a patient-centred model.

### Staff Compensation

The Council met in-camera to discuss the results of two external reviews of the compensation for professional and administrative staff at the College. The Council agreed to amend the vacation policy and to position the College more competitively in the marketplace by establishing compensation packages to attract and retain excellent staff members.

### Registrar

The Council met in-camera to discuss the continuing employment of Ms. Heather Laing as Registrar and to carry out its annual review of and compensation for the Registrar.

# Council Highlights > December 9, 2006

**College Finances**

Council reviewed the Quarterly Financial Statements for the period ending November 30, 2006. The Treasurer, Dr. McNiece, reported that heading into the last quarter, the College is in excellent financial health and he projects a surplus at the end of the fiscal year.

**Budget 2007-2008**

Council approved a balanced budget for 2007-2008 of \$9,363,218 to finance the operations of the College and to provide funding for national dental and CDA regulatory bodies and for dental member service organizations.

Effective March 1, 2007, the licence fee for practising dentists will be \$2,583 (\$1,130 for regulatory and \$1,453 for member services). This compares to March 1, 2006, when the licence fee was \$2,647 (\$1,239 for regulatory and \$1,408 for member services).

Effective March 1, 2007, the annual licence fee for practising certified dental assistants will be \$100, all of which goes to fund the operations of the College and national CDA regulatory bodies. This compares to March 1, 2006, when the licence fee was \$222 (\$100.35 for regulatory and \$121.65 for member services). CDABC did not seek a grant from the College in 2007. The CDABC has notified the College that it will collect its own annual membership fees directly from CDAs who want to maintain their voluntary membership in the Association.

**Dentistry Canada Fund**

Council approved a one-time donation of \$10,000 to Dentistry Canada Fund, which supports dental education, research and access to oral health, particularly for senior citizens.

**Audit Committee Report**

Council approved the responses received from the Registrar and Treasurer to the recommendations made by the Audit Committee. Governance Policies on Financial Planning/Budgeting, Financial Condition and Activities, and Asset Protection were amended. Among the changes are the requirement for the Registrar to maintain a contingency reserve from which funds may only be authorized by an extraordinary motion of Council, and to report to Council at the earliest opportunity the amount by which any item in the approved operation or capital budget is forecasted to exceed the budgeted amount, obtain authorization from Council before committing the College to any operating or capital expenditure of more than \$25,000 that was not approved in the budget, and make any purchase or award any contract of over \$25,000 without obtaining comparisons on quality and price.

**UBC Bursary Proposal**

Council agreed to invite Dr. Charles Shuler, the newly appointed Dean of the Dental Faculty of UBC, to make a presentation to Council concerning bursaries for dental students.

**Dental Clinic at College Place**

Dr. Don MacFarlane and Dr. Craig Naylor made a presentation on behalf of the Alliance of BC Dental Study Clubs. The purpose of the Alliance is to foster the continuing competency of B.C. dentists through the hands-on study club programs at the clinic and lecture facility at College Place.

Council agreed to continue to support the facility with the understanding that all capital spending and improvements will be borne by the Alliance and that it will eventually operate the clinic independently.

**2007 Election Dates**

**Council approved the following:**

- Feb 15:** Notice of elections and call for nominations
- Mar 15:** Close of nominations
- Apr 5:** Deadline for submission of candidate statements
- Apr 26:** Mailing of ballots
- May 24:** Election count

In the 2007 elections, a President, Vice-President and Treasurer will be elected for a one-year term. Dentists will be elected from Fraser Valley and Vancouver also for a one-year term. Dentists will be elected from Southern Interior, North and Vancouver Island for a two-year term.

**Minimal & Moderate Sedation Standards**

Council approved the amendment of the "Minimal and Moderate Sedation Standards" to "Minimal and Moderate Sedation Guidelines" while the document is being reviewed by the Accreditation Committee.

### **Quarterly Monitoring Reports: Registration and Licensing; Complaints**

As part of its monitoring function, Council reviewed reports concerning financial planning/budgeting, financial conditions and activities, asset protection, compensation and benefits, global executive constraint, and reports from both the Registration and Licensing Team and the Complaints Team concerning treatment of the public and treatment of registrants.

### **CDA Advisory Committee Report**

Ms. Kathy Boyd, Chair, reported that the CDA Council Member Selection Working Group will meet in early March 2007 to shortlist the applications received to select a second CDA Council Member. The application deadline is March 1, 2007.

### **CDSBC Clinical Exam/NDAEB Clinical Practice Evaluation**

To promote the labour mobility of dental assistants and to meet the goals of the Dental Assisting Regulatory Authority for one standard of dental assisting across Canada, the Council recognized the National Dental Assisting Examining Board (NDAEB) written examination and Clinical Practice Evaluation.

As of January 1, 2007, Council approved the testing of application of pit and fissure sealants and topical anaesthetic agents through the NDAEB Clinical Practice Evaluation. The CDSBC will no longer conduct its own Certified Dental Assistant Clinical Examination.

### **Consent to Operate a Program**

Council gave consent to:

- Sprott-Shaw Community College to operate Level II Dental Assisting Programs at their Burnaby and Victoria campuses conditional on applying for accreditation status with the Commission on Dental Accreditation within 18 months.
- Insignia College of Health and Business at its Victoria campus to operate a Dental Office Management Program.

### **Health Professions Act**

The proposed HPA Bylaws, approved by Council, have been submitted to the Ministry of Health and were posted by government on December 20, 2006, for the required 90-day public consultation period.

The Ministry of Health has released proposed Regulations for the master list of reserved actions. Regulations setting out use of title, scope of practice and reserved actions for each of dentists, physicians, pharmacists and chiropractors have been posted. These Regulations are currently posted on the Ministry and College websites for comments by the profession and others.

### **College Awards**

Dr. Stoneman, Chair of the Election and Awards Committee, informed Council that the following individuals will be recognized for their contributions to the College and to the profession of dentistry:

#### *Honoured Member Award*

- Ms. Sandra Bailey
- Dr. Marke Pedersen

#### *Distinguished Service Award*

- Ms. Cia Harms
- Dr. Alan Lowe

#### *Certificate of Appreciation*

- Ms. Maureen Kent

#### *Award of Merit*

- Dr. Martin Braverman
- Dr. Kevin Doyle
- Ms. Jane Faulafer
- Dr. Burton Goldstein
- Dr. Dana Herberts
- Ms. Frances Kirkpatrick
- Dr. Bill Liang
- Dr. Lex MacNeil
- Ms. Debbie Payne
- Dr. Wendy Rondeau
- Dr. Bill Seth
- Dr. Michael Wainwright

The Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2007, at the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel at 6 p.m.

### **Internationally Trained Dental Specialists**

Four members will represent British Columbia at the CDRAF meeting in Toronto on February 16 – 18, 2007, to finalize a process and protocols for the registration of internationally trained dental specialists, including agreements on gap training and assessment on competency.





**continued from page 9**

There is also the general assumption that dentists, like all professionals, will only perform reserved actions to the extent that they are personally competent to carry them out.

**Bylaws**

Each regulatory college has its own bylaws which are drafted by that college but must be approved by the government. The bylaws set out the details of the operation of the organization, including the duties and responsibilities of a governing board, committees and the registrar; qualifications for registration; and the regulation of professional conduct. It is important to note that certain parts of the bylaws, such as the code of ethics, are not subject to government approval. College Council recently approved draft Bylaws and submitted them to government for review. These draft Bylaws are now posted on the CDSBC website for comment from dentists, CDAs and other interested parties.

**Overall Role Remains the Same**

Although many aspects of the regulation of dentists and CDAs are undergoing change, it is expected that the day-to-day practice of dentists and CDAs will not be significantly affected by the transition to regulation under the HPA. The

**Draft Bylaws are now posted on the CDSBC website for comment from dentists, CDAs and other interested parties.**

overall role of the College will continue to be the protection of the public through ensuring safe and appropriate dental care for the people of British Columbia. For more information, go to [www.cdsbc.org](http://www.cdsbc.org).

**Regulating dentists and certified dental assistants in the public interest.**

*The Sentinel* is published by the:

**College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia**

Suite 500 – 1765 West 8th Ave.  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V6J 5C6

Tel: 604 736-3621  
800 663-9169  
Fax: 604 734-9448  
866 734-9448

Email: [postmaster@cdsbc.org](mailto:postmaster@cdsbc.org)

[www.cdsbc.org](http://www.cdsbc.org)

Contributors: Kathy Boyd, Karen England, Betty Larsen, Heather MacKay, Debbie Preissl

Readers' questions, comments and content suggestions for *The Sentinel* are welcome and may be forwarded to the Editor, c/o the College.

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*The Sentinel* and other communications circulated by the College are the primary sources of information about regulation for dentists and certified dental assistants in B.C. Registrants are responsible for reading these publications to ensure they are aware of current standards, policies and guidelines.

**Out and About at Thompson Okanagan Dental Society 2006**

Representatives from the College and the Certified Dental Assistants of BC spoke on the role of the two organizations.



L to R: Ms. Kathy Boyd, CDA Council Member; Ms. Betty Larsen, Director, CDA Regulation; Mr. Kris Johnson, CDABC Program Coordinator; Ms. Natasha Kellett, CDABC President-Elect; and Ms. Maria Hokhold, member of the CDABC Board of Directors.