

BCCOHP BOARD OPEN MEETING**Thursday, 20 June 2024****9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.****Karen England Meeting Room,
1765 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver, BC
Main Floor****MINUTES**

The British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals (BCCOHP or "the College") Open Board Meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m.

In Attendance

Carl Roy, Chair

Julie Akeroyd

Elizabeth (Lise) Cavin

Pat Dooley

Marion Erickson (via Zoom)

Hooman Janami

Dr. Lina Jung

Rachel Ling

Amandeep Singh

Regrets

Cathy Larson

Shirley Ross

Kim Trottier

Staff in Attendance

Dr. Chris Hacker, Registrar and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Karen Mok, Director, Professional Conduct, Competence and Fitness

Stephanie Nicholls, Director, Transformation and Change

Roisin O'Neill, Executive Director, Policy, Planning and People

Jennifer Roff, Director, Professional Practice

Sasan Solaimani, Technical Support

Mary Yu, Executive Assistant

Dan Zeng, Executive Director, Finance, IT and Operations

Guests

Sophia Crosby-Coulson, Chair, Registration Committee

Rachel Ling, Chair, Nomination and Appointment Committee

Dr. Jim Richardson, National Dental Examining Board (NDEB)

Preparation of Minutes

Megan Krempel, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

1. Call Meeting to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement

Carl Roy, Chair, called the Open Board Meeting to order and provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations were raised by Board members Amandeep Singh, Denturist Association of BC, and Lina Jung, practicing dentist and member of the BC Dental Association. The Chair welcomed Board members to identify potential conflicts of interest at any time during the meeting.

3. Chair Appointment ([attachment](#))

Karen Mok, Director, Professional Conduct, Competence and Fitness, explained that as part of the BCCOHP bylaws Section 2.12, the Board, by majority of its members, must elect a Board Chair. This must be done at the first opportunity after April 1 in years in which there are Board elections.

Board members were referred to the related Briefing Note on the Board Chair election process and invited to ask questions or seek clarifications.

Karen Mok opened the floor for nominations. Board member Rachel Ling nominated Carl Roy. Calls for additional nominations were made. Hearing none, Carl Roy was elected as Board Chair by acclamation.

Chair Roy thanked the Board for their continued confidence and looked forward to continuing with the excellent work.

RESOLUTION:

It was MOVED (Julie Akeroyd) and SECONDED (Pat Dooley)

RESOLVED that the Board accepts the results of the election of the Board Chair for fiscal year 2024/25.

CARRIED

4. Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of June 20, 2024, Open Board Meeting Agenda ([attachment](#))**
- 2. Approval of March 14, 2024, Open Meeting Minutes ([attachment](#))**
- 3. Reports from Committees ([attachments](#))**
 - a. Inquiry**
 - b. Patient-Centred Care**
 - c. Quality Assurance**
 - d. Sedation and General Anesthesia**

RESOLUTION:

It was MOVED (Amandeep Singh) and SECONDED (Elizabeth Cavin)

RESOLVED that the items on the Open Consent Agenda for the June 20, 2024 BCCOHP Board Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

5. National Dental Examining Board (*attachments*)

Dr. Chris Hacker, Registrar/CEO, spoke of Dr. Jim Richardson's long career in dentistry and the conclusion of their 15-year term as the BCCOHP's representative on the National Dental Examining Board (NDEB). Dr. Henderson was in attendance to provide their final report to the BCCOHP Board and provide support with the selection of the next NDEB representative.

Dr. Jim Richardson informed that all regulatory colleges have a representative on the NDEB and that candidates would typically have either completed a degree program or graduated from an accredited school. Dr. Richardson suggested that having a representative who was a graduate of a dentist degree completion program, possibly from internationally-trained pools, would provide diversity on the Board. The position would be multi-year and potentially up to 10 years.

In regard to representative remuneration, Dr. Richardson advised the position was paid with an honourarium per day, including travel costs covered by NDEB. Although no formalized reporting process was in place, the NDEB Board representative would communicate directly with the College's CEO/Registrar (Dr. Hacker) on the NDEB's activities. The NDEB additionally generates a regular communication piece which provides a synopsis of what has taken place. Dr. Richardson suggested that a formalized reporting structure would be of benefit.

A new NDEB representative should be identified by the BCCOHP Board for its next meeting in September 2024.

On behalf of the BCCOHP Board, the Chair thanked Dr. Richardson for representing the interests of the College on the national body.

During further discussion regarding the need for a formal reporting structure, Dr. Hacker agreed to commence work on a vision for that.

RESOLUTION:**It was MOVED (Rachel Ling) and SECONDED (Dr. Lina Jung)**

The Board resolves to direct staff to recruit a candidate for the Board's consideration in September 2024 for appointment to represent BCCOHP as an NDEB Board member.

CARRIED

**6. Nomination and Appointment Committee ([attachment](#))
Committee Membership List for Approval**

Rachel Ling, Member, Nomination and Appointment Committee, referenced the Committee's most recent meeting on April 24, 2024, and highlighted work on onboarding two new Committee members and assisting with the transition of Mary Yu, Executive Assistant, who would be providing support following the retirement of Nancy Crosby.

7. Registration Committee Report ([attachment](#))

Sofia Crosby-Coulson, Chair, Registration Committee, provided comments regarding:

- New members of the Registration Committee
- Noted growth seen in most professions, including dentists, hygienists, denturists, and therapists
- Consideration of the consequences of the termination of the CDI College Denturist Program and resulting opportunities for other vocational facilities to take this on
- Whether amendments would be made to bylaws in regard to dental therapists and the restriction of their work only with the First Nations Health Authority.

Dr. Hacker explained there was a need for more dental therapists in BC to serve the First Nations communities, particularly those in rural and remote areas. There were currently only four dental therapists in BC, and they were pressured to keep up with the demand for services. With currently no denturist program in BC, a cohort of 25 BC students were completing their denturist program education in Saskatchewan and the hope was that some of these students would return to BC to practice.

Health Break

The meeting paused at 9:33 a.m. and returned at 9:48 a.m.

8. Organizational Performance Reporting ([attachments](#))

1. Oral Health Professionals Audience Profile
2. Oral Health Equity Patient Profile
3. Video Overview of Oral Health Equity Patient Profile (on Portal)
4. Video Overview of Oral Health Equity Index Report (on Portal)
5. Oral Health Equity Index Report (online link)

Dr. Hacker noted the performance reporting would provide space for a more in-depth look into organizational performance, to have a line of sight on improvements, and how best to report on them.

Stephanie Nicholls, Director, Transformation and Change, referred to a previous Board Meeting in which several Key Performance Indicators were adopted and would be used to inform the performance dashboard. The intention was for staff to hear further input from the Board.

During review of the dashboard, comments were offered regarding:

- The link between the Oral Health Equity Index and the Voice of Patient to provide a holistic view and illustrate gaps
- Inclusion of a group with a household income level below \$70,000 to identify those who may not have the income to visit dentists and track their access over time
- Appreciation for the data-driven approach and measuring year-on-year
- Metrics would roll into BCCOHP standards and inform quality assurance programs
- Appreciation for the simplicity of navigating the dashboard
- The performance management system being used as a tool for a better understanding at the operational level and from a results of issue perspective
- Strong alignment with the program with the BCCOHP's mission to ensure public safety from harm and discrimination
- The program affirming the BCCOHP's commitment to being leaders in regulation modernization
- Potential for the product to be replicated by other colleges.

9. Standards and Guidance (*attachments*)

1. Committee Report

2. Professional Standards Development Project

Dr. Hacker referred to the information provided with the Board Meeting materials and welcomed questions or comments from Board members.

A proposed resolution was deemed redundant given the Board's approval of the Project Charter at a previous meeting.

10. Public Questions

Dr. Hacker welcomed public representatives and referenced the College's Public Participation Policy of which participants had been provided a copy in advance. It was confirmed that the allocated discussion time would be approximately 15 minutes; however, this could be extended at the discretion of the Chair. As stated in the Policy, questions submitted prior to the meeting would be prioritized, and Dr. Hacker noted there had been similarity and coordination in themes among the submissions.

During development of a new BCCOHP-specific professional and ethics standards and creation of a suite of resources, a BCCOHP working group was tasked with reviewing resource documents from the legacy colleges. During review, resources were identified for having the potential to put the public and BCCOHP at risk or if they were not deemed to be in alignment with the Ministry of Health's (Ministry) regulations. Some documents, including the Interpretive Guidance for the Definition of FIT Relating to Implant Dentures (FIT Guidance), were removed from the web site for further review and consideration.

A participant questioned the rationale behind the BCCOHP's decision to remove the Fit Guidance, and why there had not been consultation with the denturist stakeholders. The

speaker expressed concerns that the removal would set the profession back and potentially strip the public of safe and efficient care.

The speaker shared the hope that the modernization of the regulators would bring BC denturist regulations in line with the rest of Canada. Denturist representatives requested that they be able to present to the Board on how the document clarified the denturists' approach to the delivery of services to the public and suggested that removing the document without consultation would cause the profession to lose trust in the College leadership and would be detrimental to the public's best interest.

During ensuing discussion, comments were offered by both Board members and public representatives related to:

- Request that any presentation from denturists consider both the current regulation and scope of practice
- The College being accountable for all registrants to operate under the approved scope of practice
- The College sought legal opinion on the work
- No preferential bias was applied to any regulatory profession groups
- The amalgamation not being intended for any profession to come out with less than what they already had
- Denturists lobbied to gain advances in their scope of practice prior to amalgamation..
- It was noted that scope change required Ministry of Health approval before implementation.
- With advancements in technology, the denturist profession seeks to work collaboratively with the BCCOHP for achieving changes to the regulation
- An immediate focus is required to ensure the interpretation of the current regulation is legal in BC.
- Consultation with registrants will occur once the Standards review is completed and the Board considers recommendations.
- The Standards and Guidance Committee's oversight of the professional standards work and working group
- The working group, comprised of BCCOHP policy experts and Oral Health Professionals, has been meeting since September 2023
- A nominee from the denturist registrant groups has not been put forward to participate on the Professional Practice Advisory Team nor the working group
- A denturist member sits on the Standards and Guidance Committee
- The hope was the BCCOHP's recruitment of a denturist would be successful:
 - Candidates with less than the suggested seven years of practice would still be considered
- No complaints received to date on the denturists' scope of practice.

The Chair thanked the public representatives for attending and for bringing their concerns forward, adding there would opportunity to consult on changes in the future.

Public representatives departed the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

The Board reflected on discussions and noted their appreciation for the emotional but respectful dialogue. Dr. Hacker agreed to follow up with public representatives in regard to them providing a presentation to the Board at its September 2024 meeting.

During discussion, comments were offered regarding:

- Regulated professions do not determine their own scope, the Ministry does
- Opportunity to collaborate and support a proposal to the Ministry
- Denturists intention not to expand their scope of practice, but to restore what they had prior to amalgamation.
- The Definition of Fit was not in the scope of practice
- The need to continually reinforce the goal of team-based care
- Who would be responsible for educating government on the regulations from other provinces?
- Regular communication with the denturists was advised.

This concludes the Open Meeting – 11:23 a.m.