

FrontLine/PremièreLigne

THE ASSOCIATION OF PROSTHODONTISTS OF CANADA • L'ASSOCIATION DES PROSTHODONTISTES DU CANADA
Representing the Specialists and Specialty of Prosthodontics in Canada

President's Message

APC Focuses on Strengthening Ties with other Dental Organizations



Dr. Donald F. Reikie
President,
Association of
Prosthodontists of
Canada

In February your executive council met for the annual interim council meeting. This gathering provides the opportunity to manage and resolve most of the business issues arising from our association's business operations throughout the year. This year's meeting also included further discussions on the matters of "name/definition/scope of practice" of our specialty in addition to the issue of improving the working relationship between the Prosthodontist and General Dentist. Considering the importance of these topics and the magnitude of previous energy consumed by them I appointed ad hoc committees to research the issues and report back to council. Another area of focus of this year's executive council is the furthering strengthening of ties between APC and the regional/provincial Prosthodontic organizations. Although still in the planning stages, possible mutual benefits of these organizations may include shared websites and other member benefits in addition to further development of an executive pathway that sees regional Presidents progressing on to serve as APC regional councilors. This collaboration between all organiza-

tional levels of our specialty within Canada will serve to strengthen the voice of our specialty politically in addition to enhancing our specialties' identity in the eyes of the public and the dental community.

During the executive council meeting an announcement was made that Dr. Peter Stutman would be stepping down as our newsletter editor. Over the past 6 years Dr. Stutman has tirelessly served APC in this capacity and his efforts will certainly be missed. As is characteristic of Peter, he further announced his replacement and his willingness to stay on to train this person. Our new newsletter editor is Dr. Effrat Habsha. She jumped into her new role without hesitation and with Peter's help has done an admirable job of this edition of *Frontline*. Dr. Stutman has kindly agreed to stay on and serve APC as the Communications Committee Chairman, overseeing activities of the *Frontline* newsletter, the *Journal* (annual joint publication with the *Journal of the Canadian Dental Association*), and the website.

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In recent years APC has been at the forefront of developing and promoting a liaison between APC and the other eight Canadian Dental Specialty Organizations. Dr. James Taylor's efforts in promoting the establishment of the Canadian Federation of Dental Specialty Organizations (CFDSO) has been instrumental in this regard. Presently plans are being made for a Multidiscipline Dental Specialty Conference for the year 2006. All nine Canadian Dental Specialty Organizations are invited to attend this meeting and would jointly attend scientific and social functions while individually hosting their own executive meetings and AGMs. Although only preliminary plans have been made, Dr. Chris Wyatt will act on APC's behalf in further developing the conference format.

The *Journal of APC* has successfully collaborated with the JCDA in publishing two joint issues thanks to the hard work of Dr. Sebastian Saba. A joint publication program between the *Journal of CDA* and various Canadian Dental Specialty Organizations was initiated by APC and has now been adopted by other dental specialties. To continue with future APC/JCDA joint issues Dr. Saba will require more of our membership to submit Journal articles. As Prosthodontists we all

have the knowledge and background to contribute to the dental literature. In the interests of supporting our national organization and promoting our specialty please take the time to submit a paper to Dr. Saba. Details of article requirements can be obtained from Dr. Saba (saba@qc.aira.com).

The annual session and AGM of APC will be held in Orlando, Florida on Nov. 6-9/02 as guests of the American College of Prosthodontists at the Renaissance Orlando Resort. Registration packages will be mailed out to our membership. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as this meeting will certainly be a great one.

Dr. Donald F. Reikie, President
The Association of Prosthodontists of Canada
Representing the Specialists and Specialty
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Farewell and thank you



Dr. Peter W. Stutman

Past Editor/Past President (2001), Association of Prosthodontists of Canada

It has been six years since Morley Rubinoff told me to put some positive spin to my complaints about the plight of the Prosthodontists in Canada. "Get active and contribute - become the editor to our newly conceived newsletter and journal". There must have been something in the water at the meeting! Little did I realize how "newly conceived"!

Well it has been both a rewarding and frustrating experience. The involvement and support by many members of our association has been very gratifying, the rewards of our efforts have been numerous. The indifference and apathy of an equal amount of our members has been the source of my frustration, the inability to achieve all that we had envisioned that day six years ago.

But I would not have missed the ride. I have befriended many of you and have had the wonderful opportunity of meeting most of the members of our association. It has been my honour to represent APC as its President last year and to have been the editor of both the newsletter and our journal for the past six years. I am equally proud of the role I played in the development of www.prosthodontics.ca.

We have brought this association to the forefront of the specialty organizations of Canada. APC is now one of the leaders in the development

of the proper recognition of the dental specialties in Canada. We have developed close ties to all the regional/provincial Prosthodontists associations. We as Prosthodontists are more visible on the dental landscape and I am very proud of that achievement.

But these accomplishments were not produced in a vacuum. I would like to say that it has been a privilege to work with these presidents of APC, Drs. Morley Rubinoff, Benoit Soucy, Don Kramer, Peter Stevenson-Moore, James Taylor and Don Reikie. This list is not complete without the inclusion of Drs, Renee Gajjar, Ken Hebel, Sebastian Saba, Pierre Boudrias, Hank Levant, Chris Wyatt, Mike Moscovitch, Randy Mazurat, Robert Elia, Bernie Legatto, and Ken Sutherland.

I would like to wish our new editors all the best and ask all to continue the support of our newsletter and journal by contributing and writing. Please support our newsletter editor Dr Effrat Habsha and our journal editor Dr Sebastian Saba.

Again, a heartfelt thank-you to all who are helping in the advancement of our cause.

Peter Stutman,
Past President and Past Editor,
The Association of Prosthodontists of Canada

APC/American College of Prosthodontists Annual Meeting

The annual session and Annual General Meeting of the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada will be held in conjunction with the American College of Prosthodontists in Orlando, Florida on Nov. 6-9, 2002 at the Renaissance Orlando Resort.

Editor's Message

by Effrat Habsha



Dr. Effrat Habsha
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Since its inception six years ago, *FrontLine/PremièreLigne* has been an effective means of disseminating information and a vehicle for communication among our members. Until now, Dr. Peter Stutman has been our only editor of *FrontLine/PremièreLigne*. Thank you, Dr. Stutman, for your years of dedication in producing *FrontLine/PremièreLigne* and for giving me the opportunity to serve as the new editor. I shall endeavour to continue the tradition of producing an outstanding and informative newsletter.

In keeping with our mission to stay connected, in this issue of *FrontLine*, three Provincial/Regional Presidents, Drs. Yvonna Hrabowsky, Brahm Miller and Richard Price, share the relevant issues and activities of their respective associations. A common issue affecting our profession is promotion and recognition of our specialty to general dentists and the public. We can strengthen our position in the dental community by becoming more involved with continuing education and by increasing our presence in publications. The upcoming joint issue of the *Canadian Dental Association* and the *Journal of the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada* is an excellent means of promoting ourselves as a specialty. Please refer to the message from the Editor in chief of the Canadian Dental Association, Dr. John O'Keefe, for details on how you can

contribute to the upcoming APC Special Issue. Another means of making our specialty more visible is via the Internet. The APC website, 'prosthodontics.ca', provides links to affiliated organizations and facilitates communication with members and the public. We must make ourselves more visible as a specialty or run the risk of being overshadowed by the self-proclaimed 'Specialists in Esthetic Dentistry'.

As editor of *FrontLine/PremièreLigne*, I plan to focus on issues that affect our profession. To achieve this, I invite you to contact me to discuss any issues that you feel should be shared with our membership. Please feel free to contact me at:

Telephone: 416-322-6862

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e-mail: ehabsha@tdc.on.ca

Yours truly,

Dr. Effrat Habsha

Editor, Association of Prosthodontists of Canada



APC welcomes our new Secretary

by Effrat Habsha



Celeste Poon

On behalf of the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada, I wish to thank Ms. Sarah Houston for her years of dedication and contribution to our association as the APC secretary. Sarah, we wish you continued success in your future endeavours.

I wish to introduce our new APC secretary, Ms. Celeste Poon. Celeste has a background in dental assisting and has been working tirelessly on the transfer of information and on updating

the APC membership directory since she took over as secretary. She will be dealing with administrative and secretarial APC duties. Celeste can be reached at administrator@prosthodontics.ca.

Welcome aboard Celeste!

Thank you,

Effrat Habsha

Editor, Association of Prosthodontists of Canada

APC Special Edition

by John O'Keefe

Dear Colleagues,

For the past 2 years the *Journal of the Canadian Dental Association* has partnered with the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada to produce our APC Special Issue. I know that the APC has appreciated the exposure that this venture has brought, while the *Journal* is delighted to publish clinical material that is of interest to our primary readership.

I sincerely hope that we can keep up this fine tradition of partnership and in this light I invite you (or any of your friends, whose arms are susceptible to gentle twisting!) to consider submitting a prosthodontic-related manuscript to me or Sebastian Saba at your earliest convenience, with an eye to having it included in a 2002 APC Special edition. The *Journal* is particularly interested in manuscripts that review the literature relating to an interesting prosthodontic topic, manuscripts that report the findings of clinical re-

search, or manuscripts demonstrating interesting or unusual techniques for solving prosthodontic-related problems.

In 2000, we published in September, In 2001, we published in October. As a rule of thumb, we need a good 5 months from submission time to publication time – if the peer review process goes perfectly to plan and manuscripts are in good shape on initial submission. I look forward to working with APC members on publishing another special issue in the near future.

Best wishes,

Dr. John P. O'Keefe

Editor in chief, Canadian Dental Association

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Update Report from the Association of Prosthodontists of Ontario

by Yvonna Hrabowsky

The Association of Prosthodontists of Ontario (APO) has a new website – www.prosthodontistsofontario.org. It lists the names of our members, the executive officers and describes various prosthodontic services with patient photographs. We congratulate and thank Dr. Harold Berenstein for a job well done. Please check us out.

Last year the Ontario Dental Association (ODA) provided funds for the Ontario Association of Dental Specialists (OADS) to publish a Suggested "Fee" Guide. The services of Dr. R.K. House have been enlisted to collect and evaluate data and protect confidentiality. Each Specialty has the option how to present their data in the Guide. On April 19th, 89% of the Prosthodontists of Ontario voted 65% in favour of a Formulary instead of a Fee Guide. The Formulary is an algebraic equation to determine fees unique to each practitioner and each patient case. It lists procedure codes with corresponding measured "T"ime and "R"esponsibility values that can be entered into the equation with the individual prosthodontists "C"ost of overhead and "P"rofessional experience factor to arrive at a fee for each procedure. After participating in the data collection, each ODA member-prosthodontist will have the formulary on disk with their personal practice evaluation in relation to the data collected. It will include their own "C" and "P" values. These can then be used to derive an appropriate fee for other less used procedures or determine which fees may be under or over valued. It will be our first opportunity for practice evaluation in comparison to other prosthodontists. The proposed equation is

$$\text{Fee} = (C \times T) + (P \times T \times R) + E$$

The first portion (C x T) is cost recovery, (P x T x R) is professional income and E is additional expense.

The APO List of Services Committee has invested countless hours developing this equation. The "T" values were based on actual measured times for various procedures. The "R" values were compared in relation to other procedures and carefully derived. The APO would like to acknowledge our thanks and gratitude to Dr. Henry Levant and his Committee for their determination and perseverance. Dr. Levant has also been instrumental in developing new codes and descriptions, and in protecting our interests and integrity in the ODA/OADS project.

The APO Formulary allows for individuality and provides a framework for new graduates to develop their first list of fees. Experienced prosthodontists know that for complex procedures you may only cover your overhead or even lose income if you charged the ODA general dentist suggested fee plus 20%. This arbitrary 20% differential may be an acceptable guide to other specialties but it is not proportional to the degree of difficulty or time required to treat complex prosthodontic cases that involve reconstructing previously treated teeth. By not listing a suggested fee we avoid two difficulties: the legal risk of collusion, and insurance company enquiries that might compare a practitioner's fee with the "suggested" price.

We are still in the middle of data collection. The ODA/OADS Guide will be published in 2003 and will be reevaluated in the years to come. Your comments and suggestions are welcome. Please visit us at our Web Site.

Yours for better dental health,
 Yvonna Hrabowsky,
 President of the Association of Prosthodontists of Ontario

British Columbia Society of Prosthodontists News

by **Brahm A. Miller**

The British Columbia Society of Prosthodontist's highlighted agenda for this year is focusing on promoting and strengthening the future of the specialty. We have four promotional mailings and newsletters going out to the dentists which explains how we can be a valuable resource to their practice and help to make their patient care more effective.

Case presentations and journal reviews are included with the information. We are also anticipating hosting keynote speakers which will serve to involve us more directly as a society in continuing education. The society is active once again in sponsoring the University of British Columbia Prosthodontic Prize and new this year, the Vancouver Community College Prosthodontic Award for the most deserving graduating technician/ceramist.

Our website and links are continuously being upgraded and we have just completed an all-day presentation to the Pacific Dental Conference, one of the premier dental conferences in Canada; Prosthodontics-Changing the Face of Dentistry, which was outstanding. Six Prosthodontists were involved in the presentations.

Two additional items of note. We have received a report from the Royal College of Dentists of Canada outlining the entry level exam for all dental specialties and the interim exam for existing specialists in B.C. Entry level exams are limited to candidates who have attended A.D.A. and C.D.A. programs. We have also, as a society, rejected the idea of a prosthodontic specialist fee guide.

Respectfully submitted

Brahm A. Miller DDS MS FCDS(BC) Cert.
Prosthodontist.

President, British Columbia Society of Prosthodontists.

Update from the Atlantic Prosthodontists Society

by Dr. Richard Price

The Atlantic Prosthodontists Society met several times in 2001 to discuss the 2002 fee guide, labour mobility within Canada, and the forthcoming International College of Prosthodontists (ICP) meeting in Halifax, July 9-12, 2003. The Society is looking forward to welcoming dentists from around the world to Halifax and we will be working with the ICP to make their visit in Halifax memorable. Regarding the fee guide, all the members agreed that treatment plans are becoming increasingly complex, but the fees for diagnostic services do not reflect the additional time and responsibility incurred by specialists when planning complex cases. The current trend towards offering discounted treatment plans may lead to problems later and should be addressed.

Lieutenant-Colonel James Taylor (Past President APS) attended one of our meetings and provided an update on the labour mobility issue within Canada. The members were interested in the developments across Canada and welcomed the progress that has been made. At another meeting, Mr. C. Hudson, Canadian Professional Services Manager for 3M ESPE spoke to the Society on 3Cementation of Indirect Restorations².

In 2001 one of the members, Dr. R. Price, successfully defended his doctoral thesis and was awarded a PhD in oral technology and dental materials from the University of Malmö, Sweden.

This fall, Dalhousie University's 'Graduate Stud-

ies in Prosthodontic and Biomedical Engineering' will become the third graduate Prosthodontic program offered in Canada. The clinical component of the three-year program will utilize newly constructed state-of-the-art Faculty of Dentistry clinics and laboratories. Graduates will receive a Diploma in Prosthodontics and a Master of Applied Sciences degree in Biomedical Engineering. Many members of the Atlantic Prosthodontists Society will be teaching in this new graduate program and we are looking forward to participating in this new Prosthodontic program.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dr. Richard Price
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APC **Classifieds**

Practice Opportunity

by **Harold Shapiro, D.M.D.**

Bruce J. Sahrbeck, D.D.S.

Luise S. Sarmiento, D.M.D.

A wonderful opportunity awaits those postdoctoral residents completing their formal training programs during the spring or early summer of 2002, or faculty members seeking private practice opportunities. Those who are interested in a private practice setting with an emphasis on quality control, technical excellence, and the delivery of superlative restorative and reconstructive care, please contact us at Prosthodontics Associates, P.A., a specialty practice in restorative, rehabilitative, implant, and cosmetic dentistry. The practice is located in an ever expanding metropolitan center in a state known for its natural beauty, uncongested expanses and varied outdoor activities which can be enjoyed during all seasons.

The position available presents professional challenge, unique technical opportunities, and a clinical environment staffed by seasoned professionals experienced in and dedicated to providing the highest quality of service and care to a very eclectic patient population. A nationally recognized in-house, custom laboratory staffed by an international group of technicians affords the right candidate a professional opportunity of a lifetime.

Interested candidates please contact and/or send resumes to Dr. Harold Shapiro, Prosthodontics Associates, P.A., 440 Western Avenue, South Portland, ME 04106, 207-775-6311, or e-mail at prostho@maine.rr.com. We look forward to hearing from those interested and qualified.

Sincerely,
Prosthodontics Associates, P.A.
Harold Shapiro, D.M.D.
Bruce J. Sahrbeck, D.D.S.
Luise S. Sarmiento, D.M.D.