

FrontLine/PremièreLigne

THE ASSOCIATION OF PROSTHODONTISTS OF CANADA • L'ASSOCIATION DES PROSTHODONTISTES DU CANADA
Specialists in Implant, Esthetic and Reconstructive Dentistry

President's Message

APC: First Address as President



Izchak Barzilay

President,
Association of
Prosthodontists of
Canada

Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure for me to address you for the first time as the president of the APC. I look forward to the upcoming year and expect much to be accomplished over the next year. I know that I will be calling on many of you to contribute your time over the next 12 months.

You will find in this newsletter our annual membership application. You will notice some minor changes in the information portion as well as in the permission statement. This additional statement is present due to PIPEDA legislation and how it "may" affect our organization. There will be more information in this regard in upcoming newsletters. This *Frontline* is being sent to all prosthodontists in the country to increase awareness of those who are not currently members of our group. The application needs to be filled out and returned as soon as possible (no later than Jan 31, 2004 or late charges will be applied). No roster was printed in 2003 because of issues with membership payment. Our plan is to distribute our roster in March 2004. Your quick response is most appreciated.

As always *Frontline* will be used to disseminate information and email will be used for immediate notification. It is for this reason that it becomes vital that all membership information is current, especially email information.

My plan for the coming year is to hold two interim executive meetings. One of these meetings is scheduled for early May 2004 in Niagara Falls, ON in conjunction with the Academy of Prosthodontics. I invite all members of the APC to come out to this wonderful meeting. All who are interested should contact me so an invitation can be arranged.

Our annual meeting will be held in the fall in conjunction with the American College of Prosthodontists in Ottawa. Several APC members are on the program and this will be a great opportunity to show off our Canadian talent.

Some of the programs that we are currently investigating include a mentorship program for new graduates, a laboratory prescription program (Dr. Moscovitch) and establishment of a prosthodontic review program that would help prosthodontists and new graduates prepare for the fellowship exams.

I look forward to serving as your president and I invite all comments and controversies.

Best Regards
Izchak Barzilay DDS, MS
President
Association of Prosthodontists of Canada



President's Message

**2002/2003 APC
Executive Council**

Editor's Message

**2004 APC
Membership Drive**

**APC Will Be Joining The JPD
Sponsored Internet "Super Site"**

**What Do I Do When I
Graduate?**

**Past President Message:
The Challenge of
Leadership**

www.prosthodontics.ca

Editor's Message

by Dr. Effrat Habsha



Dr. Effrat Habsha
Editor, APC

It is that time of year again when the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada Officers move up the ranks! As of November 2003, our new APC President is Dr. Izchak Barzilay. I am confident that Dr. Barzilay will do an outstanding job as leader of our organization. He has an exciting agenda lined up for the upcoming year. Congratulations and thank you to Immediate Past President, Dr. Michael Moscovitch for his successful term as President of the APC. Dr. Bernie Legatto is now Recording Secretary. Three new councilors have joined the APC Executive Council. Drs. Bernie Linke and Cecilia Dong are the new councilors for Western Canada and Dr. Janice Wilson is the new councilor for the Atlantic Provinces.

The APC executive established a Committee on Website Maintenance at the last Executive meeting in Halifax. The committee chair, Dr. Paula Yliheikkila has been very busy over the last several months in her new role. In this issue of *Frontline*, Dr. Yliheikkila updates the status of the APC website.

Another topic of interest in this issue of *Frontline* relates to the professional decisions one is faced with upon graduation from a Prosthodontic program. Dr. Neena D'Souza addresses this issue in an article that I am sure new prosthodontic graduates will find truly informative.

Finally, as Dr. Barzilay mentioned in the President's message, this issue of *Frontline* is being distributed to all Canadian Prosthodontists to increase the awareness of the APC. For those of you who are not yet members, I urge you to consider this very active and vocal group that represents Canadian Prosthodontists. After all, membership has its privileges!

Please contact me at:
Telephone: 416-322-6862
Facsimile: 416-322-5282
e-mail: ehabsa@tdc.on.ca

Sincerely yours,
Dr. Effrat Habsha
Editor, Association of Prosthodontists of Canada

2003/2004 APC Executive Council

OFFICERS

President	Izchak Barzilay (Toronto – ibarzilay@tdc.on.ca)
Vice-President	Chris Wyatt (Vancouver – cwyatt@unixg.ubc.ca)
Secretary-Treasurer	Randy Mazurat (Winnipeg – rmazurat@ms.umanitoba.ca)
Recording Secretary	Bernie Legatto (Kelowna – legatto1@shaw.ca)
Past President	Michael Moscovitch (Westmount – mospros@videotron.ca)

COUNCILORS

West	Brent Beyak (Victoria – mbeyak@shaw.ca)
West	Bernie Linke (Kelowna – blinke8026@shaw.ca)
West	Cecilia Dong (Manitoba – dongcs@ms.umanitoba.ca)
Central	Ken Hebel (London – drhebel@hebelgajjar.com)
Central	Effrat Habsha (Toronto – ehabsa@tdc.on.ca)
Central	Karl Lederman (Toronto – drlederman@on.aibn.ca)
Québec	Pierre Boudrias (Montreal – boudriad@medent.umontreal.ca)
Québec	Lise Payant (Montreal – lise.payant@fmd.ulaval.ca)
Atlantic Provinces	Janice Wilson (Halifax – smylmkr@nbnet.nb.ca)

PROVINCIAL/REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

Alberta Academy of Prosthodontists	Cheryl Yacyshyn
Association des Prosthodontistes du Quebec	Pierre Boudrias
Association of Prosthodontists of Manitoba	Randy Mazurat
Association of Prosthodontists of Ontario	Dan Isakow
Association of Prosthodontists of Saskatchewan	Ken Sutherland
Atlantic Prosthodontists Society	Richard Price
BC Society of Prosthodontists	Lance Hazelton

APC PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Editor	Effrat Habsha
Editor, Journal of APC	Sebastian Saba
JPD Section Editor	Ken Sutherland

APC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

CDA Representation Committee James Taylor	Committee on Specialist Affairs (COSA) James Taylor
CDAC Accreditation Requirements for Prosthodontic Programs James Taylor	Communications Committee Peter Stutman
Committee on Prosthodontist/GP Inter-Relationships Izchak Barzilay	Universal Standard of Codes and List of Services Committee (USC and LS) Henry Levant
Committee on Name Change, Definition and Scope of Practice Henry Levant	Committee on Website Maintenance Paula Yliheikkila

Published by
APC

National Office:
c/o Canadian Dental Assoc.
1815 Alta Vista
Ottawa, Ontario
K1G 3Y6
Tel.: (416) 750-1752
Fax: (416) 759-7176
email:
administrator@prosthodontics.ca
website: www.prosthodontics.ca

Editor
Effrat Habsha

Editor, Journal of APC
Sebastian Saba

APC EXECUTIVE

President
Izchak Barzilay

Past President
Michael Moscovitch

Vice President
Chris Wyatt

Secretary-Treasurer
Randy Mazurat

Recording Secretary
Bernie Legatto

Administrator
Celeste Poon

Volume 8, Issue 2
Winter 2003



2004 APC Membership Drive

by Dr. Chris Wyatt



Dr. Chris Wyatt
Vice President, APC

I would strongly encourage all Canadian prosthodontists to join The Association of Prosthodontists of Canada in 2004. The number of prosthodontists in Canada and the United States is declining and we need national specialty associations to protect our best interests.

In the past APC has been actively involved in representing our specialty concerns about labor mobility, scope of practice, procedure codes, and standards of care with the Canadian Dental Association. APC members have also been asked to review prosthodontic specialty programs in Canada.

As an individual member, the benefit include this newsletter, roster of members, and listing of your office address, telephone number, e-mail, and web site on the APC

web site. The annual general meeting allows members to interact with fellow prosthodontists from across the country. The AGM is usually associated with an international prosthodontic meeting in North America for which we have negotiated a discounted attendance rate. Our members have the opportunity to write articles for the Journal of APC, published annually with the *Journal of the Canadian Dental Association*.

Our membership includes prosthodontists with varying roles of clinicians, educators, researchers, and administrators. For APC to have a voice that is heard on a national level, all Canadian prosthodontists should support our national specialty organization by becoming members in 2004.

We look forward to welcoming new members!

APC Will Be Joining The JPD Sponsored Internet "Super Site"

by Dr. Paula Yliheikkilä

The Council of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry* has invested in the development of an internet "Super site" in order to explore the opportunities for enhancing communication between prosthodontists to the extent of US \$46,000. One of our APC members, Dr. Peter Stevenson-Moore, is the Chair of this Internet Committee of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*. A team in Vancouver has developed the site building engines! Christine Wyatt, the wife of our APC member Dr. Chris Wyatt, has led the activity. Christine and her business partner run a company, TOC Media, who have training and experience in building web-sites. Their company has an affinity for the profession of dentistry. TOC Media have led this massive development project with the help of other Vancouver based software firms. As a result, all sponsoring organizations of the *Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*, including APC, have the opportunity to build their own distinctive sites using the engines that have been developed for this purpose. During our annual meeting APC decided to begin to explore the possibilities that this super site represents for us and to join the "super site" instead of continuing our independent website www.prosthodontics.ca (which is currently our site).

The sites are organized with the opportunity to control public and private access to specific pages; to allow the on-line management of databases including the updating of rosters, and the collection of dues; to facilitate Committee work; to promote online Newsletter communication; and in a later phase, to run annual meetings including the collec-

tion registration fees and event fees. The information accumulated on these sites can be held on the host servers in Vancouver, or can be operated remotely. The advantage of using the Vancouver based servers is significant. The installation is backed up (mirrored) automatically on remote servers to which anyone with appropriate privilege can have access at any time. This avoids the problem of having to change servers every time that an executive changes. Gone are the days when a large box of material has to be moved between officers at the Annual General Meeting! All of this is possible at low price because of the investment made by the JPD Council.

If the basic site constructions can be completed for each of the Sponsoring Organizations involved, there will be the opportunity to get into the more dynamic aspects of site operation. We hope that that in the future there can be a far more vibrant level of communication between prosthodontists at large, and with our public, due to this "super site". I will keep you updated on the progress of getting the APC integrated into this new and exciting avenue of information and communication.

Paula K. Yliheikkilä L.D.S., M.S., D.D.S.
5880 Spring Garden Road, Suite 404
Halifax, N.S. B3H 1Y1
Tel: (902) 423-8801, Fax: (902) 423-5001
E-mail: p.yliheikkila@ns.sympatico.ca

What do I do when I Graduate?

by Dr. Neena L. D'Souza



Dr. Neena L. D'Souza

The perplexing question that haunts every prosthodontic graduate student during the latter part of their training is "What do I do when I graduate?". Towards the end of the graduate program, time is spent on fellowship preparation and thesis defense. It is at this time that one also starts to wonder "what is next?"

The three options open to most new graduates is "Do I Associate?", "Do I open my own Prosthodontic Practice?" or "Do I go into academics?"

There are several advantages and disadvantages to these options. The average age of a graduating prosthodontist today is between 29-33 years. Most of these young people are already in debt from the burden of dental school, they have young families or intend to start a family in the near future. Working as an associate in a Prosthodontic Practice often seems to provide the best immediate solution. There is no additional financial burden incurred, no start up complexities and the lure of a pay cheque at the end of the month without the hassle of running a business. However, there may not be many associate positions available. Finding an associate position with an established prosthodontist, who has a surplus of patients that can be shared with the new associate may be challenging. It takes a malleable and adaptive personality to be able to comply with the set up existing in the office and gradually find acceptance with the administrative staff.

One can also associate in an established General Practice. It is more difficult in this instance to maintain prosthodontic exclusivity within such a practice. More importantly, the presence of a large number of General Practitioners within the practice may be looked at with skepticism from the referring dentists in the surrounding practices. There is the 'nonverbal threat' that the patients referred to this kind of specialty practice will not return to the referring dentist. To circumvent this, one must make it very clear that the ethical standing of the specialist forbids such kidnapping. In areas where prosthodontic needs are in high demand and services are in short supply, this arrangement may prove quite fruitful. A set up contract, mediated by a lawyer is mandatory to clearly define the lines and the scope of practice for the specialist.

The prospect of starting out on one's own Prosthodontic practice can be daunting and often intimidating. Starting a new specialty practice is quite different from starting a General Practice. In an exclusive prosthodontic practice, the specialist is reliant on referrals, unlike a GP who has the advantage of 'walk in patients' from the surrounding areas. However, the location for a GP practice needs to be in a highly visible and populous area with the cliché 'the fewer dentists around the better'. For a prosthodontist, the presence of a large number of dentists is advantageous, and one can, over a period of time, establish an exclusive niche. The start up however is generally slow and the financial

burden can be overwhelming. However, visibility is not a key factor, and therefore, negotiable lease rates are lower than stipulated for prime locations. The business of opening up a dental practice is quite challenging, but the hiring of capable professionals can alleviate a major portion of the grief. Furthermore, the major dental companies are a valuable source of information for such a venture. If the set up is helped by capable professionals, one has the time to do a little marketing of one's self, in the form of personal visits to dentists in the locality, a mail out of introductory information or the invitation of dentists to an open house. It is as important to meet with other specialists, who can provide a source of cross referrals. This is often a slow but steady route to the establishment of oneself in the business.

The third option is to go into academics and not practice on a full time basis. One may also combine the academic pursuit on a part-time basis with a private practice situation. The academic environment allows one to establish relationships with graduating students and makes for a great break in the week where the high stress of private practice is exchanged for the academic exercises of teaching.

The options therefore have to be weighed carefully but can work well. The experience of our senior colleagues goes a long way. Among them they possess a wealth of experience and invaluable knowledge not only on the set up, but the running of a practice. The APC is establishing a 'mentorship' program for graduating prosthodontists. Established prosthodontists have encountered every possible scenario in practice. The issues are endless and range from how do I justify my fees to my patients, am I paying too much tax, and even how do I deal with this difficult patient? The only way we can accomplish this is by being more open in our communication with each other and letting our reservations rest aside.

As prosthodontists, we are unique in that our establishment within the dental community is more challenging as compared to other specialties. Much of what we do overlaps with treatment provided by general dentists. These dentists need to understand by way of communication and information, what kind of unique services we can provide for their patients. As prosthodontists, we can exhibit a truly united front and stand up as a whole body in providing this education to the dentists around us. This exposure will only serve to make us more visible and help us tremendously in the long run.

I would like to thank several mentors among our colleagues who helped me make my decision, and get started. These people, provided support and encouragement and were available when I needed help. I am indebted especially to Drs. Izchak Barzilay, Vali Khadivi, Frank Csik and Hank Levant.

APC: The Challenge of Leadership

by Dr. Michael Moscovitch



Dr. Michael S.
Moscovitch

Immediate Past
President
Association of
Prosthodontists of
Canada

The Fall Season usually brings many of us back to busy agendas involving family, practices, teaching commitments and meeting schedules.

This time of the year it is important to consider making an extra effort to be involved in an activity that will help raise the profile of our main professional interest: Prosthodontics.

Whether it is publishing an article for our Journal, teaching at a Dental School, lecturing at local or international meetings, starting a Study Club or getting actively

involved in our Organization, it is essential for as many as possible of our members to take an active role in promoting Prosthodontics.

Although my term as President has passed, I look forward to serving APC as immediate Past-President and committee member.

In closing, I would like to thank my executive, committee members and their leaders, our support staff for their tireless efforts in maintaining the activities and vitality of our organization. A special thanks to Dr. Izchak Barzilay for his guidance during my term as President and look forward to his leadership as your new President in the upcoming year. Thank you as well to our membership for the opportunity to serve you this past year.

Request for Articles

For the past three years, the *Journal of the Canadian Dental Association* has partnered with the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada to produce an APC special issue. This edition of the JCDA is committed yearly to the communication and recognition of APC, combined with articles written by APC members. We need the support of our members. Please submit your articles directly to Dr. Sebastian Saba at saba@qc.aira.com or to the Editor in chief of the JCDA, Dr. John O'Keefe at jokeefe@cda-adc.ca.

Thank you
Dr. Sebastian Saba
Associate Editor,
The Journal of the Canadian Dental Association

APC Classifieds

In future Issues of *APC FrontLine/Première-Ligne*, we shall be including an APC Classifieds section, in which Members are invited to announce such items as practice opportunities, journal sets for sale, etc. Please make submissions directly to the Editor by e-mail, facsimile or mail for inclusion in the next Issue.