

# TECH TALK

*Tech Talk keeps you up to date on College activities. Please keep on file for reference.*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Chair's Message . . . . .	1
Registrar's Report. . . . .	2
Bylaw Update . . . . .	2
Board Election Results . . . . .	2
Current Board Members. . . . .	2
Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Project . . . . .	3
Continuing Education Update . . . . .	3
CE Opportunities . . . . .	3
Election Notice. . . . .	4
2006-07 Registration Renewal . . . . .	4
Practical Examinations Update . . . . .	4
CDTBC/Knowledge Network Video Project . . . . .	5
College Office Staff Changes . . . . .	5
New Application Forms . . . . .	5
Change of Address Reminder . . . . .	5
Fee Changes . . . . .	5
Recognition Awards . . . . .	6
Annual General Meeting . . . . .	6
31st Annual International Dental Show . . . . .	7
Change of Information Form . . . . .	7
Dental Technology Artifacts . . . . .	8
2005-06 Calendar of Events . . . . .	8

## ENCLOSURES

- Call for Nominations
- Nomination Forms
- The History of Dental Technology
- Continuing Education Record
- Pacific Dental Conference 2006
- CDA CE Materials Order Form

## MANDATE

*It is the duty of the College at all times to serve and protect the public, and to exercise its powers and discharge its responsibilities under all enactments in the public interest.*

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Better late than never, Tech Talk is fresh off the presses! Let me begin by thanking all of you RDTs who were so kind to re-elect me for my second term. There were two RDT Board positions to be filled and registrants had nominated four candidates for those positions, which indicates to me that more RDTs are interested in getting involved in supporting the College.

These last several months have been both rapid and interesting. As some of you know, our Registrar, Rosemary Ishkanian, has taken a one-year leave of absence. After 14 years of dedication to the College and its registrants, it is definitely a well-deserved rest. The Board is fortunate in having Ron Revell, RDT, acting as the interim Registrar for the remaining time of Rosemary's leave of absence.

As Chair, I have had the opportunity to spend a few Fridays in the office to tend to some College issues and to answer some telephone calls from registrants. I found these conversations interesting, learning the issues affecting registrants in different areas of the province. Although some of the issues discussed were of the nature that the College could address them, most were issues for an Association.

Now that we officially have the Dental Technicians Association of BC, it will not be long before these issues can be dealt with through the appropriate channels.

By now, most of you have either seen or at least heard of the Knowledge Network video, which has been airing regularly. The two "vignettes" are getting more attention than I had anticipated, which is proving to be an effective way to both educate the public about dental technology and to offer information to anyone thinking of entering the profession. A special thank you from me to those involved in making these superb videos!

On behalf of all the Board Members, the College staff, and myself, I would like to wish all of you happy holidays!

*John Eggeeling, RDT*  
Board Chair

## COLLEGE OFFICE CLOSURE CHRISTMAS - NEW YEAR

The College office will close  
from the afternoon of  
December 23 to December 30, 2005  
for Christmas and New Year,  
and will reopen on  
January 2, 2006.

## REGISTRAR'S REPORT

This has been a very busy year for the College that saw a number of new challenges and changes for both the Board and the office staff. Due to the Registrar taking a leave of absence that began in July, each of the office staff as well as the members of the Board have been taking on additional duties and assumed greater responsibility in attending to the business of the College on a daily basis. Each one deserves our gratitude for a job well done!

The College has been well represented by Board members and staff at a number of important meetings, including the provincial Health Regulators Organization, the BC Dental Practitioners Forum, Regulators for Access, the VCC Program Advisory Council, the Canadian Alliance of Dental Technology Regulators, and the Consortium of Dental Technicians/Technologists. Participation in each of these organizations provides an opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss issues that affect dental technology both on a provincial and a national level.

### Bylaw Update

The College has submitted several Bylaw amendments to the Ministry for approval, one of which, when approved, will require that all Dental Technician registrants obtain and maintain professional liability insurance. This is an issue that has been discussed for a number of years and liability insurance is required by most other health professions in BC as well as by regulatory Colleges for dental technicians in a number of other Canadian jurisdictions.

The College has also submitted Bylaw amendments that will allow for the implementation of the PLAR program and the provision of the annual report electronically on the website.

Bylaw amendments have been approved for a slight increase in examination and application fees and a minimal cost of living increase in Registration and Renewal fees for technicians and assistants that will be effective at the next renewal period.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you the best during this Christmas season!

*Ronald Revell, RDT*  
Interim Registrar



## BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The College received four nominations for the two RDT vacancies and five nominations for the one Assistant vacancy on the Board this year. Respective election ballots were sent to Dental Technicians and Assistants in March 2005. Registrants returned their voted ballots to the College in sealed envelopes within the designated period and the ballots were independently tabulated by an officer from Manning Elliot, Chartered Accountants.

Mr. John Eggeling, RDT and Ms. Hege Jahr, RDT received the most votes for the Dental Technician vacancies and were re-elected to the Board for a three-year term. Mr. Dong Hee Park received the most votes for the Assistant vacancy and was elected to the Board for a three-year term. Thank you to registrants who let their names stand for election and welcome to the newly elected Board.

### Current CDTBC Board Members are:

- John Eggeling, RDT, Board Chair
- Ken Izumi, RDT, Board Vice-Chair
- Hege Jahr, RDT
- Bikkar Lalli, Ph.D.
- Barbara Lee
- Bernie Leong
- Dong Hee Park, Assistant
- Andrew Pritchard, RDT
- Gordon Robertshaw, RDT



Mohammad Sarwari (left), who retired from the Board this spring after serving for 3 years, being thanked by John Eggeling, Chair.

## PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) PROJECT

Often people applying to be Dental Technician Assistants or RDTs already have an array of relevant skills and knowledge gained through previous training or experience but can't get official recognition for them. This spring the College conducted a pilot study to explore the best way to introduce prior learning assessment opportunities to dental technician applicants. Our project is funded by the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and by the Ministry of Advanced Education.

This PLA pilot study consists of several phases including:

- identifying Critical Indicative Competencies;
- developing a suitable
  - Application Form
  - Self-Assessment Tool
  - Letter of Validation Form, and
  - Pilot Project Applicant Feedback Form;
- identifying and requesting participation of Dental Technician Assistants with a variety of backgrounds and skills;
- compiling information and reviewing the results of the pilot project; and
- revising some of the forms and procedures.

The experience and feedback of the Dental Technician Assistants who participated in the initial phase were essential in helping us fine-tune the Self-Assessment Tool and other aspects of this project. We are grateful for their willingness to help. In August we provided an interim report on our project to the Labour Market Partnership Branch (LMPB) of the provincial government. Work continues on this important PLA project – the next phase is the development of an eligibility examination.



Rosemary Ishkanian (left), CDTBC Registrar signing PLA funding agreement with Siveem El-Nashar, LMPB Consultant.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION UPDATE

The new continuing education (CE) cycle commenced on March 1, 2005 and will end on February 29, 2008. Each RDT must obtain 30 CE credits over this three-year cycle, including a minimum of 3 technical hours in courses related to infection control. The maximum number of non-technical credits allowed for each cycle is six.

In order to receive CE credits, the College must receive verification of your attendance at an approved course. This can be done by means of a copy of your certificate of completion, a letter of attendance, or by signing your name on the course collective sign-in/out sheet. Please refer to the Continuing Education Guide in the Blue Binder for additional details of the CE requirements, course approval and claim process. Avoid the rush - instead of waiting till the end of the 3-year cycle, why not start taking your CE credits now.

RDTs will find their up-to-date CE records for the 2005-08 cycle attached to this newsletter. Any errors or omissions on the record should be reported to the College office immediately. Please call me at 604-734-4776 or e-mail me at [assistant\\_cdtbc@telus.net](mailto:assistant_cdtbc@telus.net) for any questions about your CE records.

### CE Opportunities

The 2006 Pacific Dental Conference will be held during March 9 - 11, 2006 in Vancouver, with the second annual Spectrum Pacific Techno-Clinical Day scheduled for March 10. A brochure about this conference including course and registration information is enclosed with this newsletter.

The Canadian Dental Assistants' Association (CDAA) has restructured its continuing education library and process. Enclosed with this newsletter is a new order form to access current Home Study Manuals and Video Cassettes from CDAA. RDTs may continue to purchase and/or borrow the materials directly from CDAA by completing the order form and pay an additional \$10 per title. All manuals and videos have been pre-approved by the College, and the credits value noted on the order form will apply. RDTs should refer to the College's Approved CDAA's Continuing Education Materials (Credit Hours and Types) information sheet enclosed to determine the type of credits designated for each title, technical, non-technical or infection control, before placing an order with CDAA. To obtain CE credits, RDTs must submit to the College the verification notice received from CDAA after successfully completing the course and the post-test.

To access the latest list of upcoming CE courses approved by the College, visit the College's website:

- Go to [www.cdt.bc.ca](http://www.cdt.bc.ca)
- Click "Registrants of the College"
- Click "CE"
- Click "List of Approved Courses"

*Doris Chan*

Executive Assistant

## ELECTION NOTICE

A Call for Nominations and 2 Dental Technician Nomination Forms are enclosed in this newsletter regarding the three pending vacancies for elected members of the Board with new terms of office begin on May 2, 2006.

- three Dental Technicians vacancies are available
- only Dental Technicians may nominate a Dental Technician
- a Dental Technician may nominate up to two eligible Dental Technicians
- all Dental Technicians in good standing are eligible for election
- a nomination must be signed by the nominating registrant and three other Dental Technicians and must be endorsed with the acceptance of the nominated Dental Technician.
- nominations must be mailed and received by the Registrar between February 1st and March 3rd, 2006.

## 2006-07 REGISTRATION RENEWALS

Registrants will receive the registration renewal application and invoice in mid-January. The completed renewal application and the required renewal fees must be received at the College office before March 1, 2006 to avoid any penalty fee.

## COLLEGE OFFICE HOURS

Open: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Voice Response: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

24-hour voice-mail

Telephone: 604-734-4776 (Lower Mainland)

Telephone: 1-877-666-8324 (Toll Free)

## PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS UPDATE

The College's Practical Examinations for this year have now concluded. It was an extremely busy exam period for the office, with twenty-three Candidates challenging the exam in 2005. This number represents an increase in Candidates of over 50% from last year! Also, for the first time since I have been with the College, at least one Candidate was attempting the exam in each of the five Competency areas offered in the Individual Category Exam format.

A majority of my time during this period was spent in preparing the models for the examination, arranging the rental of the laboratory facilities at Vancouver Community College (VCC), assigning various pieces of equipment, providing instructions and notices to each candidate, scheduling the candidates for each of the examination weeks, and answering a number of questions that invariably arise as the scheduled exam date for each candidate approaches.

I would again like to thank Mr. Karol Hoffmann, RDT (Adam Dental Laboratory) for his support and assistance with the administration of the College's examination process. Mr. Hoffmann allows us to use his laboratory facilities in order to prepare the exam models and also assists both with the model preparation and in invigilating the exams on site at VCC.

On scheduled Saturdays during August, September and October, the College's Examiners completed marking each of the 65 assignments submitted by candidates. The results of the practical examinations were mailed to candidates in November. Also in November, Competency and Jurisprudence Theory exams were held at the College office and examinations results mailed to candidates.

If you are interested in becoming an Examiner for the College, please contact me at the office and I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have or provide you with an Examiner Information and Application package.

*Ron Revell, RDT*

Assessments Administrator





## CDTBC/KNOWLEDGE NETWORK VIDEO PROJECT

A Career Choices video created through a CDTBC and Knowledge Network (KN) partnership project has been completed. The College undertook this initiative with KN, an educational television station that reaches a wide viewing audience throughout BC. KN staff worked closely with us to fine-tune our presentation of various aspects of a professional career in dental technology. The KN television producer we met with in May conducted interviews and research, then made film shoot selections in June for inclusion in the video, and in July gave us the two proposed vignettes for review. During this period as well, several organizations and laboratories contributed funding towards the cost of this important project. The names of contributors are identified on the video credits. Based on input from College Board members, staff and others, more revisions to the video were made and in October the final edition was approved for broadcast.

These career-focus videos help to address the lack of visibility of the profession by informing young people about dental technology and encouraging them to enter this field. One career vignette features Orthodontics and the other features Ceramics. These two 5-minute vignettes will be aired at least 80 times over the year - with a major concentration during Dental Health Month in 2006. We believe this video, and other programs of this type, will attract people to choose dental technology as a career.

These specially created, dental technology vignettes have been shown on KN several times already and several interested viewers have called to compliment us on the video and to seek further information about becoming a Dental Technician.

If you haven't yet had an opportunity to see the video, please phone the College office or Knowledge Network to learn when our Career Choices videos will next be shown so you can watch them. The DVD is also available for purchase (at cost) from the College.

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## COLLEGE OFFICE STAFF CHANGES

After 6 years as CDTBC's Receptionist-Secretary, Alice Ng took a well-earned, early retirement this spring. Our new voice on the phone and smile in the office is Donna Kwinlaug, who joined us in May as the College's Receptionist-Office Assistant.

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## NEW APPLICATION FORMS

We have slightly revised the Registered Dental Technician and Dental Technician Assistant application forms. Please contact the office at 604-734-4776 to obtain these new forms. Also, we have added an Assistant Application Open Book Oral Quiz, which is to be completed as part of the Assistant application process either by phoning or by visiting the College office. The purpose of the quiz is to ensure that Assistants review and understand the legislation that governs the profession of Dental Technology: *Health Professionals Act*, Dental Technicians Regulation and Bylaws. Feel free to call Doris Chan for more information or to complete the Quiz.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS REMINDER

Remember that, per Section 38 of the CDTBC Bylaws, you are required to provide the College with any change of address information, change of name, or any other information previously provided for College records.

Section 38 of the College of Dental Technicians Bylaws states:

*"A Registrant must immediately notify the Registrar of any change of address, name or any other information previously provided to the Registrar."*

It is essential that the College's Registrant information is accurate and current in order to fulfill our regulatory obligations. It also helps to ensure that we are sending College mail to your correct address. You can send your change of information to us by letter or, if you wish to use our Change of Information form, just call the office and we'll mail or fax this form to you.

Failure to comply with Section 38 is a breach of the CDTBC Bylaws and may be subject to investigation and penalty. Thank you for your cooperation in making sure our College records are current.

## FEE CHANGES

In August 2005 a number of fee changes came into effect. These include:

- RDT Application Fee: \$50
- Assistant Application Fee: \$35
- RDT (initial) Registration Fee: \$660
- Assistant (initial) Registration Fee: \$220
- RDT Registration Renewal Fee: \$527
- Assistant Registration Renewal Fee: \$180
- Jurisprudence Exam Fee: \$100
- Competency Exam Fee: \$200
- Practical Exam Fee: \$850



## RECOGNITION & AWARDS

### COLLEGE OF DENTAL TECHNICIANS OF BC AWARD

This award is presented to the most outstanding student completing the first year of the Dental Technology Program at Vancouver Community College (VCC). The 2005 award was presented to Ms. Janine Penner by CDTBC Registrar Rosemary Ishkanian on May 27, 2005 at the VCC Foundation awards ceremony.

### CDS CERTIFICATION OF APPRECIATION

On March 10, 2005 at the College of Dental Surgeons (CDS) Recognition Event, Neal Russell, RDT and General Manager of Protec Dental Laboratories, received a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of valuable contributions to the CDS. Mr. Russell is a strong advocate of continuing education in the dental industry.



Mr. Neal Russell (left), RDT receiving Certificate from Ms. Heather Laing, CDS Registrar.

### CDTBC ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP

Julia Izumi received the 2005 College of Dental Technicians of British Columbia Entrance Scholarship presented by Vancouver Community College Foundation in November.

### BC DENTAL ASSOCIATION RECOGNITION



Mr. Douglas Turner, RDT was honoured by the BC Dental Association for his work throughout the year to ensure that emergency, acute dental services are available at all times for people in Greater Victoria. Mr. Turner has been actively involved in supporting his dental

community for many years and has provided pro bono work during the Christmas season with dentists who offer dental services to street people and others in need.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The College of Dental Technicians of BC 2005 Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday September 22 at the Holiday Inn, Vancouver Centre. Mr. John Eggeling, RDT, Chair of the Board, presented the Annual Report to those in attendance. The auditor for the College, Mr. Mike Corney, CA, of Manning Elliott Chartered Accountants, presented the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005. The Practical Exam Award for the highest average mark in the 2004 Practical Examinations was presented to Ms. Jane Chung. In her absence, her father, Mr. Nyun-Seung Chung, RDT accepted the award on her behalf.



Mr. John Eggeling presented the 2004 Practical Exam award to Mr. Nyun-Seung Chung, RDT, father of Ms. Jane Chung who was not available to attend the meeting.

Mr. Ronald Revell, RDT, the Inspector for the College, provided registrants with a brief lecture on the new College policy regarding Infection Control and Contact with the Public and advised that the Inquiry Committee had decided to increase registrant's awareness of that policy through the routine inspection program.



Mr. Ronald Revell presented a lecture for the College's Education Forum at the AGM.

### 31ST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DENTAL SHOW

Every two years, a five-day International Dental Convention is held. Representatives from some 1500 companies and 50 countries present new products and information in the areas of dental medicine, technology, infection prevention, and related systems and equipment. One of our registrants, Thomas Uni, RDT attended this year's event, which was held at the Cologne exhibition grounds in Germany in April. He provided this report of his trip:

Having heard a lot about this largest international (dental) convention, held in Cologne, Germany, I thought I have to visit it at least once during my career!

The check-in alone was impressive, with hostesses greeting you and about 20 check-in stations, all with computers, like an airport. The Koelnmesse is large! Escalators take you from floor to floor (3 levels). Booths are everywhere; companies from all over the world are represented. Indeed, surgeons, dentists, suppliers, dental assistants and dental technicians from all over the world visit this convention.

There are many things to see. There was even an actual implant case done, in a glass-sterile dental office, with a TV monitor outside so that visitors could follow this procedure. All and all worth seeing and visiting such a convention, but a word of advice: make sure you have arranged your accommodation before you go and well in advance because there are hardly any hotel rooms available during this event.

*Thomas Uni, RDT*

**CLASSIFIEDS**

The College website offers a (free) Classified section where dental laboratories can post job opportunities and registrants can look for positions or post their own availability. For more information, go to:

**www.cdt.bc.ca**

then click **“Registrants”**

then **“What’s New”**

then **“Classifieds”**

### CHANGE OF INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Classification: \_\_\_\_\_

***New Home Information***

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

New Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

New Fax \_\_\_\_\_

New Email \_\_\_\_\_

***New Work Information***

Lab Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lab Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

New Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

New Work Fax \_\_\_\_\_

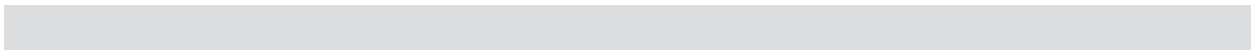
New Email \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date of Change \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Would like College mail sent to:  Home  Work

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE:**

The work address you provide forms the Register which is a public document and may be distributed to the public from time to time. You may elect to have the regular mail from the College delivered to your place of work or your home. Your home address is not available to the public UNLESS it is also your place of work.



## DENTAL TECHNOLOGY ARTIFACTS

If you've visited the College in the past year, you'll know that we have an interesting collection of historical dental artifacts on display in our office. These items were provided to us by Ralph Crawford, BC, DMD. This summer Dr. Crawford gave us an additional and fascinating selection of dental appliance artifacts, which are also on display in the College's reception area. Along with Bill Wallace, Mr. Crawford provided even more items this fall along with descriptions to help visitors identify each artifact. We invite you to come to the College office to look at these interesting historical items. They show the progress that has been made in the creation of dental devices and in the equipment used by dental professionals through the years. One of Dr. Crawford's articles entitled, *The History of Dental Technology, Part I, The Ancients* is enclosed.

## 2005-06 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, events listed occur at the CDTBC office. The complete 2005-06 event calendar can be found on the CDTBC web site.

Note: Board meetings take place at the CDTBC Office and registrants are welcome to attend. Please call Ron or Doris for more information.

### Friday, December 2:

- College Christmas Event

### Friday, December 9:

- VCC Dental Technology Program Students visit with Registrar at College office

### December 26-30:

- College closed for Christmas and New Year

### Tuesday, January 10:

- Continuing Education Committee

### Wednesday, February 1:

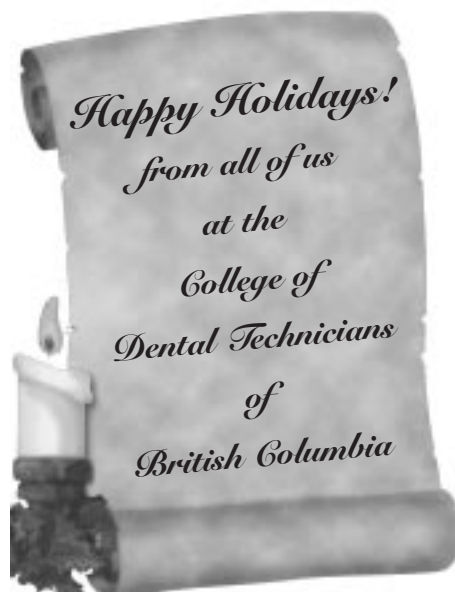
- Registration Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, February 15:

- Inquiry Committee Meeting

### Saturday March 18:

- Board meeting



## TECH TALK

is published by the:

### COLLEGE OF DENTAL TECHNICIANS OF BC

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