

GLAO Ontario Report

July 31, 2018

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Association of Orthodontists and their volunteers have been quite busy over the past six months working on a number of files to maintain the strength of the specialty in our province.

Consumer Awareness Program

The successful OAO Consumer Awareness Program is scheduled to continue its run through 2019. Benefitting from AAO matching funds, the online campaign has driven over 35000 visitors to the OAO website, with over 6000 of these visitors utilizing the “Find an Orthodontist” locator tool, matching patients with OAO orthodontists.

Regulatory Issues

The OAO continues to communicate concerns regarding direct-to-consumer orthodontic options with the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario (RCDSO).

General dentists who misrepresent themselves as specialists in orthodontics are routinely reported to the RCDSO through the formal complaints system by the OAO Board of Directors.

An orthodontic education program for dental assistants is being coordinated by the OAO in conjunction with Ontario’s dental schools in preparation for expanded duties for dental assistants in Ontario.

The OAO will be formally responding to the RCDSO regarding the proposed infection control guidelines to raise questions and voice concerns from an orthodontic perspective.

Scientific Session

The OAO’s 3rd Biennial Scientific Session this past June 8 – 10 at the Queen’s Landing Diamond Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Orthodontists, staff and vendors descended upon the resort to enjoy multiple social, networking and educational opportunities, marking another successful

event for the OAO. The theme of the meeting was Digital Orthodontics in the Modern Age. The OAO Annual General Meeting was also held during the weekend. The next event is tentatively scheduled for early June, 2020.

Upcoming Meetings

The OAO Fall Business Meeting will be held in conjunction with the GLAO General Session in Toronto Ontario, at the Fairmont Royal York on September 14, 2018 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm. To register for the OAO Business Meeting, please visit the OAO website at www.oao.on.ca.

OAO Board of Directors

Dr. Emel Arat – President; emelarat@gmail.com

Dr. Mitchell Miller – Past-President; mitch@davisortho.ca

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Dr. Michael Goldstein – Director; michael@trueortho.com

Dr. Natoosha Nargaski – Director; natoosha@gmail.com

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding the GLAO. I hope to see many of you at the GLAO Annual Session September 13-16, 2018 in Toronto!

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Drew Smith; drdrew@smithorthodontics.ca

Ontario GLAO Director