

Ontario Report
GLAO Board Meeting – September 2022

OAO Board of Directors

The Ontario Association of Orthodontists held its annual election in May via electronic voting. The OAO continues to enjoy a good diversity among its dedicated and talented elected and appointed leaders. The current Board of Directors includes:

Dr. Girish Deshpande – President
Dr. Joel Schacher – Vice President
Dr. Eric Smith – Secretary
Dr. Maxwell Abraham – Treasurer
Dr. Natoosha Nargaski – Past President
Dr. Brenda Chekay – Director
Dr. Ashley Phuong – Director

OAO Meetings

The OAO Board continues to meet regularly via the Zoom platform. This past May, the OAO held its Biennial Scientific Session in Niagara on the Lake. This two-day event, organized by Dr. Richard Marcus, was a resounding success and represented the first time the OAO met in person since November 2019. Our next general meeting will be held this November in Toronto, in conjunction with the Toronto Orthodontic Club CE event.

Regulatory Issues

Our provincial regulatory body, the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario finally relaxed its COVID-19 restrictions in August, eliminating the need to observe fallow times and to perform AGP's in enclosed rooms. Prior to this, the OAO was preparing to send a letter to the RCDSO on behalf of its members requesting an explanation regarding the science behind their COVID-19 decision-making given that our restrictions were the most stringent in North America.

Future specialty licensing examinations will be conducted under the auspices of the National Dental Examining Board of Canada, rather than the Royal College of Dentists of Canada who previously oversaw the examination process.

National Dental Care Plan

Canada is in the midst of creating a national dental care plan to serve the oral health care needs of disadvantaged Canadians. The OAO is monitoring the development of this program closely with the Canadian Association of Orthodontists.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Drew Smith
GLAO Ontario Director