

Ontario Report – November, 2022

The Ontario Association of Orthodontists has been working diligently on behalf of our members on a number of issues that affect orthodontists across Ontario.

The OAO Board continues to meet regularly via virtual executive meetings and convened twice over the past three months to discuss the issues, keeping the best interests of Ontario orthodontists front and centre. One such project is a revamp of the website, with an improved member's section highlighting mentorship opportunities and job postings. The OAO is looking to institute a mentorship program and increase our presence in the orthodontic resident's minds by meeting with them to review the benefits of membership in our professional orthodontic associations. Another project the OAO is beginning work on is a recycling program for clear aligners.

Our Spring AGM coupled with the OAO Scientific Session (cancelled twice previously due to COVID lockdowns) was held on June 3-5, 2022 in beautiful Niagara-on-the-Lake. Dr. Richard Marcus organized a spectacular event, which was very well attended by orthodontists from across the province. More recently, the OAO held its Fall business meeting in downtown Toronto at the Westin Harbour Castle on November 3, 2022. The event was followed the next day by the biannual Toronto Orthodontic Club CE event. Dr. Girish Deshpande, serving as president of both the OAO and TOC did a wonderful job convening both events. Dr. Michael Sherman, our AAO Trustee was on hand at the OAO meeting and gave an informative presentation on the benefits of AAO membership for Canadian orthodontists. The OAO also continues to sponsor online continuing education events for the membership.

Never before has the value of our professional associations been more evident. The AAO/GLAO, CAO and OAO have represented the interests of Ontario orthodontists commendably over the course of the pandemic, providing leadership, resources and a pathway forward for our specialty. I encourage you to continue to support all of our orthodontic associations so that you may continue to enjoy the benefits that membership brings with it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (drdrew@smithorthodontics.ca) if you have any questions regarding the Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists and/or orthodontics in Ontario. It is my pleasure to serve with the OAO Board as Ontario's link to the GLAO.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Drew Smith
Ontario Component Director, GLAO