



Ontario Association of Orthodontists Report
Dr. Girish Deshpande

February 2026

- OAO is excited to announce its popular biennial scientific session, which will be held this summer in the beautiful town of Niagara on the Lake at the historic Queen's Landing hotel from June 5-7, 2026. This is a very popular event as it is in the midst of Niagara's winery region so it is a must for all the wine lovers! GLAO members are welcome to attend. Here is the link to register [OAO Scientific Meeting](#).
- OAO is still in talks with the regulatory body (RCDSO) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) to get the work duties further expanded for Dental Assistants in Ontario. Several meetings have taken place between the OAO team and RCDSO staff. OAO continues to negotiate with the college on this matter. AAO is further supporting this cause with more financial aid through legal funds. We are expecting our efforts to come to fruition by this summer.
- Canada has introduced a national dental care plan (CDCP) to serve the oral health care needs of low-income Canadians. Orthodontic benefits were unveiled in July 2025. Only limited benefits under medically necessary umbrella will be approved with prior predetermination. OAO along with ODA are trying to improve the benefits and also asking for increased remuneration for orthodontic specialists.
- TOC (Toronto Orthodontic Club) offers 2 exceptional whole day CE programs twice year, (Spring and fall). This spring session is titled "Made in Canada" as 4 eminent speakers from the region will be presenting on various topics. It will be held at Four Seasons Hotel, downtown Toronto on Friday April 17, 2026. You will be awarded 6 Category 2 CE points. OAO will conduct its in-person Annual spring meeting the night before on Thursday April 16, 2026. All the GLAO members are welcome to attend. For more information and to register please visit the following link: <https://www.toclub.ca/>.
- OAO conducts its bimonthly executive board meeting via zoom platform. Various issues of importance such CDCP, expanded work duties for the level 2 dental assistants in Ontario, and other important issues affecting Ontario orthodontists are discussed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Girish Deshpande
GLAO Ontario Director

The Great Lakes Association of Orthodontists
400 W. Wilson Bridge Road, Suite 120
Worthington, Ohio 43085
(877) 274-6420
glao@assnoffices.com
www.glao.org/