Ontario Component Report

September 10, 2026

Dr. Girish Deshpande

• OAO recently had its popular biennial scientific session, which was held in the beautiful town of Niagara on the Lake at the historic Queen's Landing hotel from June 5-7, 2026. This very popular event was well attended by over 120 Ontario orthodontists, along with a large trade show with over 20 companies participating in the 3 days of scientific sessions. The theme this year was AI in Orthodontics. Here is the link for further details. 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 renumeration for orthodontic specialists.

• TOC (Toronto Orthodontic Club) offers 2 exceptional whole day CE programs twice year, (Spring and fall). This fall session is about interdisciplinary collaboration: An approach to optimize treatment outcomes for the complex orthodontic patient delivered by well-known clinician in the field Dr. Vince Kokich Jr. It will be held at Four Seasons Hotel, in downtown Toronto on Friday November 13, 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 recently conducted an important survey amongst its members about the interesting and controversial topics of Obstructive Sleep Apnea and Tongue Tie release. Members were asked about their view on the topic. Results will be evaluated and will be used to provide guidance to its members as well co-ordinate efforts with the RCDSO to come up with a formal position statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Girish Deshpande
GLAO Ontario Director.

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