



Newsletter Links

[Past Chair's Message](#)
[Message From The Registrar](#)
[Continuing Competence Focus Groups](#)
[Board Report](#)
[Inquiry Committee](#)
[Patient Relations Committee](#)
[Quality Assurance Committee](#)
[Registration Committee](#)
[News](#)
[Reminders](#)

2006/2007 Chair's Message

Dear Colleagues,

With pleasure and honor, I recently accepted the position of Chair of the College of Dietitians of British Columbia. For certain, I have very large shoes to fill! As the inaugural chair, Laura Cullen dedicated countless hours to moving the College from its infancy to where we are today.



Since inception, under Laura's direction, the College has moved from a working board with no home and no staff to a well respected organization with first-rate staff, hard working committees, and an office to call home.

What lies ahead now that the College is well past its infancy? The following are a few key activities as we continue to move forward. The Quality Assurance Committee continues to work diligently to develop a Continuing Competency Program. In conjunction with other members of The Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies, the national organization of provincial dietetic regulatory authorities, Fern Hubbard, Registrar, continues some very important work on the Competency Assessment Model (CAM) project. The primary outcome of CAM will be new entry-to-practice competencies for dietetic practice.

As an organization of over 900 registrants, we should be proud of our accomplishments to date! I look forward to supporting our College over the next year.

Glenn Kissmann RD, Board Chair

Past Chair's Message



As I finish my term as Board Chair, I wanted to share with you what a rewarding experience it has been, being involved with such a committed and capable team of people as the college has been transformed from an idea to a fully functioning organization.

As a college, we have made huge strides in a relatively short period of time – just over two years. In January 2004 we faced the challenge of establishing the organizational structure and functions that would serve as the foundation for CD BC well into the future.

Today, our Registrar Fern Hubbard and Executive Assistant Marilyn Elliott form a strong and capable team; the Board functions in an effective and efficient manner and committees are well underway to fulfilling their mandates under provision of the legislation.

I would like to acknowledge our public Board members – Joyce Statton, Carol Kline and Adrian Kershaw – who have each brought a broad range of experience, skills and objectivity to the decision making process. Joyce, in particular has been an exceptional mentor to myself and other members of the Board as we grew into our roles as board members.

I encourage each of you to consider getting involved in college activities by providing input to events such as the upcoming Continuing Competence Program focus groups, putting your name forward as a registrant member of one of the various committees, and ultimately holding a Board position for your region.

Recent graduates are the future of our profession and bring fresh and innovative ideas and perspectives to college

activities. The opportunity to meet and interact with other peers is truly a valuable experience.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you for the support (and sometimes patience) you have shown, as we as a college have continued to move forward with our mandate and as our Chair Glenn Kissmann and Vice-chair Heather Martin lead us in new directions.

Laura Cullen RD, Board Chair
2004-2006

Message From The Registrar



Dear Registrants:

One of the questions I'm regularly asked is "Why does the College need a Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice that are different from those used by Dietitians of Canada?" The implication is that the CDBC is duplicating work already done by Dietitians of Canada.

I like being asked this question because the answer addresses two fundamental differences between regulatory bodies like the CDBC and member services organizations, such as Dietitians of Canada.

First, under the BC Health Professions Act (HPA), the College is required to "establish, monitor and enforce standards of professional ethics" and "standards of practice to enhance the quality of practice and reduce incompetent, impaired or unethical practice amongst registrants."

These quality assurance measures directly relate to public protection and are considered so important by the provincial government they are included as separate sections in the College bylaws - Schedules A and B. The CDBC is not only required by provincial legislation to establish a Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, we are also required to monitor and enforce the standards.

Secondly, complaints against a registrant of the College can proceed only if the alleged conduct contravenes the Health Professions Act, Dietitians Regulation or the CDBC bylaws, which include the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice (Health Professions Act, s. 33(4)). In order to determine if a contravention has occurred, the registrant's conduct must be compared to measurable standards.

For example, the College's new Code of Ethics includes six ethical principles with a series of measurable standards supporting each principle. The standards begin with words such as "provide, use, maintain, obtain, refrain from, ensure and collect." The Dietitians of Canada Code of Ethics uses some of the same terms but also uses terms such as "strive for, promote and support". These terms are appropriate for a member services organization with a mandate to support dietitians and the dietetics profession. However, for regulatory purposes, standards must be measurable.

The College's new Code of Ethics developed by the Patient Relations Committee was approved by the Board during the March meeting. You can find it on the CDBC website under the Legislation Page as Schedule A.

The Quality Assurance Committee begins development of the CDBC Standards of Practice later this year with the goal of having Board approval by early 2007. This will enable us to incorporate the new standards into the new Continuing Competence Program which starts April 1, 2007.

CDBC's Standards of Practice will define, in measurable terms, minimum standards for safe, competent practice and will become part of the self-assessment phase of the Continuing Competence Program.

Quality assurance and public protection cover a broad spectrum. As the CDBC continues to evolve, we will develop additional documents and programs to meet our legislated requirements.

Fern Hubbard, DDH, BA, MEd
Registrar

Continuing Competence Focus Groups

By the time you read this you should have received an email invitation to a Continuing Competence Program Focus Group. If you didn't receive an invitation, please contact the CDBC so we can update your contact information. "We believe it's really important that Registered Dietitians from all types of practice tell us what they think about the tools CDBC is developing for the Continuing Competence Program," says Registrar Fern Hubbard. "We're organizing focus groups across the province so we can gather the input we need to make sure the documents are clear and reflect the realities of daily practice."

Focus Groups take place during April and May in eight communities. Each Focus Group is made up of about six dietitians and lasts about two hours. "If we find there's demand for more focus groups we'll definitely consider holding additional events," says Fern.

Facilitating the focus groups is one of only six BC Fellows of Dietitians of Canada, Dr. Catherine Morley, PhD, RD, FDC. A highly experienced research and consulting dietitian, Catherine is working closely with the Quality Assurance Committee to develop the Continuing Competence Program.

"Our goal is to provide a program that lets dietitians decide what they want to learn and how they want to learn it," says Fern. "The work of today's dietitians goes far beyond the public's general notion of 'nutrition'. Practice is broader, more complex and more focused. CDBC is committed to designing a program that truly meets dietitians' needs."

Based on CDBC's Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, the Continuing Competence Program enables dietitians to demonstrate that their knowledge and skills are current. The program tools are designed to give dietitians a systematic, time-efficient way to document how their learning impacts their practice.

Starting April 1, 2007, CDBC selects one-third of registrants, chosen at random, to take part in the first three-year program cycle. Participants conduct an annual self-assessment, prepare a personalized learning plan and document their learning activities. As part of the registration renewal process, participants submit an annual declaration of participation in the program.

During the third year of their cycle participants submit a completed Personal Professional Development Plan to CDBC for review. By the end of that year they receive confirmation of completion of the program. A new cycle starts the following April.

In April 2008 and 2009, CDBC repeats the random selection process so that all dietitians are taking part in the Continuing Competence Program within the next three years.

"We believe this approach provides a fair, transparent process," says Fern. The program values all types of learning, both formal and informal, and protects the public by making sure patients receive appropriate standards of dietetic care.

Continuing Competence Program Focus Groups

Kelowna: Mon. Apr. 24, 4:30 – 6:30 pm, Kelowna General Hospital, 2nd floor conference room.

Kamloops: Tues. May 2, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, Kamloops Health Unit auditorium.

Vancouver: Wed. May 3, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, CDBC office building.

Victoria: Wed. May 10, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Royal Jubilee Hospital, Woodward Room, Begbie Building.

Nanaimo: Thurs. May 11, 3:00 – 5:00 pm, Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, Diabetes Education Classroom.

Prince George: Mon. May 15, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Prince George Regional Hospital, 4th floor conference room.

Burnaby: Tues. May 16, 1:30 – 3:30 pm, Burnaby Health Unit, 3rd floor education room.

Castlegar: Thurs. May 25, 4:30 – 6:30 pm, Castlegar Community Health Centre, 2nd floor meeting room.

For more information, and to pre-register, please contact:

Evelyn Cornelissen, BSc, RD

CDBC Focus Group Planning Coordinator

Phone and fax: 250 860 3360

Email: ec@collegeofdietitiansbc.org

Board Report

Chair: Glenn Kissmann

Vice-chair: Heather Martin

Members: Laura Cullen, Marlyn Davis, Adrian Kershaw, Carol Kline, Peter Lam, Joyce Statton, Robin Watt

- Last met March 3-4, 2006
- Mandate
 - to serve and protect the public
 - to exercise its powers and discharge its responsibilities under all enactments in the public interest (Health Professions Act, section 16(1))

- Current activities include
 - Electing a new Chair and Vice-chair for one year terms
 - Appointing Board members Laura Cullen (Vancouver Coastal, 2nd term) and Robin Watt (Interior/North, 1st term)
 - Approving 2006/2007 budget
 - Approving Code of Ethics (Schedule A of the bylaws)
 - Approving bylaw amendments
 - Continuing development of the College's first Strategic Plan
 - Reviewing Board and committee policies
 - Approving CDBC Mission Statement
 - Appointing members to committees and committee Chairs and Vice-chairs

- Next Board meetings are scheduled for June 16- 17, November 3-4 and March 2-3, 2007
- The CDBC Annual General Meeting takes place during the November meeting

Inquiry Committee

Chair: Carol Kline

Vice-chair: Debbie Zibrik

Members: Carol Fawcett, Lesley Nicholls, Robin Watt

The Inquiry Committee met by teleconference on December 20, 2005 followed by several email discussions regarding the advertisement for investigators and their selection.

Our first active case (relating to competence) was initiated in the late fall and is progressing according to the Investigation Plan developed for the committee by the appointed investigators. We will continue to monitor the current case, review the Investigation Report once completed and then determine the case outcome.

After advertising for registrants interested in the two investigator positions, Noony Santos Paletta and Dianne Cunningham were appointed as CDBC Investigators. They participated in a three-day training course in Winnipeg, March 22-24. A small bank of non-dietitian trained inspectors will also be established.

A document is being prepared for registrants, other health professional and the public to explain our Inquiry Process under the Health Professions Act and will be available in the near future.

Teleconference meetings and email discussions are initiated as the need arises. An in-person meeting is planned for early Fall 2006.



Patient Relations Committee

Chair: Peter Lam

Vice-chair: Ingrid Verduyn

Members: Harry Caine, Carol Kline, Shemina Patni



- Last met January 24, 2006
- Mandate
 - Establish, monitor and enforce standards of professional ethics amongst registrants
 - Establish a patient relations program to prevent professional misconduct of a sexual nature
 - Require registrants to provide an individual access to the individual's health care records in appropriate circumstances
 - Inform individuals of their rights under the College's legislation and privacy legislation
- Current activities include
 - Finalizing the CDBC Code of Ethics; incorporating the feedback from Board members, PRC committee and registrants, and obtaining Board approval.
 - Developing the first draft of the Patient Relations Program to meet requirements in section 7 of the Dietitians Regulation
 - Ongoing development of a handbook on ethics and the law, based on the College of Dietitians of Ontario's Jurisprudence Handbook
 - Developing a document to inform individuals of their rights under the College's legislation and privacy legislation
 - Distribution of the 2005 edition of the pamphlet entitled "Your Assurance of Competent, Ethical Health Care" produced by the BC Health Regulatory Organization
 - Developing (future) documents needed to inform the public and registrants of College responsibilities
- Next meeting scheduled for April 25, 2006

Quality Assurance Committee

Chair: Adrian Kershaw

Vice-chair: Marlyn Davis

Members: Jacqueline Brown, Linda Lytle



- Last met March 28, 2006
 - Establish, monitor and enforce standards of practice to enhance the quality of practice and reduce incompetent, impaired or unethical practice amongst registrants
 - Establish and maintain a continuing competency program to promote high practice standards among registrants
- Current activities include
 - Establishing the general form of the Continuing Competence Program
 - Working with consultants to prepare Continuing Competence Program documents and tools for review and comment by focus groups through the summer and early fall
 - Preparing for roll out of the first cycle of the Continuing Competence Program in April, 2007
 - Monitoring Alliance development of national entry-to-practice competencies to assist with future development of College's Standards of Practice
- Activities completed
 - Obtained approvals for Standards for the Insertion of Feeding Tubes and forwarded to the Board for approval and implementation
- Next meeting scheduled for late June.

Registration Committee

Chair: Meredith Cushing

Vice-chair: Joyce Statton

Members: Theresa Cividin, Louise Malysh, Heather Martin

- Last met February 4th, 2006
- Registration statistics, as of April 1, 2006:
 - Full (Grandparented) Registration - 726
 - Full Registration - 133
 - Temporary Registration - 7

- Mandate
 - Establish standards of academic or technical achievement and the qualifications required for registration as a member of the college
 - Grant registration, including reinstatement, to every person who, in accordance with the requirements of the bylaws, applies for registration, satisfies the registration committee that he or she is qualified to be a registrant, and pays the required fees
 - Attach terms and conditions to the granting of registration
 - Refuse to grant registration or set limits or conditions on the practice of an applicant who presents a risk of physical or sexual abuse to children according to a criminal record check authorized under the *Criminal Records Review Act*

- Current activities include
 - Reviewing and approving new registration applications
 - Defining the Reserved Acts and developing competencies and criteria for proof of competence
 - Determining criteria for approval of academic upgrading courses and practical training upgrading programs
 - Reviewing two international applications for registration, one practical training upgrading program and re-examining two applications for registration under bylaw 44(2), "substantial equivalence" to Canadian dietetic education
 - Discussing substantial equivalence assessments
 - Drafting a late registration bylaw amendment
 - Drafting new policies pertaining to post-graduate route for registration and delegation of registration applications
 - Discussing committee membership

- Next meeting scheduled for May 27, 2006

News

New Board Chair/Vice-chair

Glenn Kissmann, previous Vice-chair, was elected by the Board as Chair and Heather Martin (pictured) as Vice-chair during the March meeting. Both terms are effective April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007. Congratulations!



New Board members

Laura Cullen, Vancouver Coastal electoral region, and Robin Watt, Interior/Northern electoral region, were elected by acclamation for two year terms effective April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2008. Laura is a continuing Board member and Robin is new to the Board. Welcome Robin, and congratulations to you both!

Code of Ethics

The Patient Relations Committee recently reviewed comments from registrants on the draft Code of Ethics. The Board approved the new Code during the March 3-4 Board meeting. It will soon be submitted to the provincial government for inclusion in our bylaws as Schedule A.

Investigators

Thank you to all who responded to the two Investigator positions advertised in December 2005 via CDBC email. After much discussion, the Inquiry Committee selected Noony Santos Paletta from Vancouver and Dianne Cunningham from

Victoria. The CDBC Investigators participated in a three-day training course offered by the Council on Legislation, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR) in Winnipeg March 20-22.

CAM project national validation survey

Registered Dietitians across Canada will soon be asked to participate in a national validation survey of entry-to-practice essential competencies. Funded by the Alliance of Canadian Dietetic Regulatory Bodies, the project is managed by an Alberta research firm and is designed to confirm current competencies that are essential for dietitians entering practice. These competencies will be used as the national regulatory standard to judge eligibility to register as a dietitian. Stay tuned - you will be notified of the survey by mail and given instructions and user ID to access the research company's website. Please participate – the Alliance needs and wants your experience and input.

Bylaw amendments

The Board approved several bylaw amendments during the March 3-4 meeting. We will submit these to the provincial government for approval and notify you of amended bylaws once they are approved.

New standards

New standards for the Insertion of Feeding Tubes have been approved by the CDBC Board as well as the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC, as required in the Dietitians Regulation. The new standards replace interim standards approved in November 2004. You can download the new standards from the CDBC website, under the Legislation page.

Practice issue

The Quality Assurance Committee is developing a practice guideline to outline the scope of practice for dietitians adjusting insulin levels. We will circulate the guideline once the project is completed and approved.

Practice Advisor

Thank you to all registrants who responded to the College's advertisement for a Practice Advisor staff position. Although we received excellent resumes, we did not find the desired combination of knowledge, skills and geographic location. Instead, we hired two of the applicants on contract to meet specific staffing needs.

Exam item writers and appraisers

Thirteen registrants responded to the College's request for item writers and appraisers for the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination. Thank you. The Chair of the Alliance's Examination Sub-committee will inform successful applicants in the near future.

Reminders

Toll-free line: 1-877-736-2016 within BC.

Grandparented Registration class closed December 10, 2005

As arranged by BCDNA when the association office closed March 31, 2004, past executive members culled and shredded member files stored at the CDBC office in January 2006. Special Collections at UBC's Main Library gladly accepted BCDNA historical documents.

Liability insurance

In accordance with CDBC bylaws (and as signed in your registration renewal Declaration), all practicing dietitians must carry liability insurance in the amount of at least one million dollars per occurrence.

Reserved Act 'A'

Do you:

- select enteral products and recommend the addition of water or protein powder **or**
- physically mix enteral products or supervise non-regulated staff who mix enteral products **or**
- fill a physician's order for enteral products or supervise a non-regulated staff member who distributes or delivers the physician's prescription?

If so, you must be registered with Reserved Act 'A'. Please call the office if you require further clarification.



CDBC Professional Pins

You can buy your CDBC pins for \$15 - to order, please contact the office.

Current contact information

Most College correspondence is by email. If you change jobs or move, please update your personal and workplace profiles through the website. This ensures you'll receive all CDBC communications.

Moving to another province?

To qualify for registration in your new province, you must ensure you have continuous registration since first registered in Canada (or since 1998, whichever is most recent). You may also be asked if you have remained current and may be asked to provide proof of continuing competence activities you have participated in over the last three years.

Registration Renewal 2006/07 Thank you to all registrants who renewed on time by midnight March 31. Two staff members worked full-time for three weeks to make the renewal process run smoothly and efficiently. The updated profile information makes it easy for the College to correspond with you.

If you missed the March 31, 2006 deadline, the bylaws allow for renewal until September 30, 2006, with the additional payment of a \$250 late fee, totaling \$750; contact the office if you have any questions.

Comments on the updated online renewal form and process:

- I just finished registering – what an easy process. Good job!
- Great personal service – office staff were great answering my questions.
- I like the reminder emails - thank-you! I would have forgotten.
- My workplace wasn't listed – it was missed when the old database was converted to the new one and was going to be added later but, when I insisted, it was added to the list. Thanks for being so accommodating.
- My paper copy worked just fine, thank you.

We appreciate your comments about the Newsletter. Please contact the office if you have any feedback or questions.

email: info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org

web: <http://www.collegeofdietitiansbc.org>