

Message from the President

Greetings all members of MSDS! I hope you've all had a fabulous summer and are now recharged with interest to attend some of the events we have lined up! As your new president, my mandate is to deliver quality educational courses at a minimal fee. To that effect, we have 2 all day courses (a Cat 1 course and cosmetic dentistry course) lined up with top notch speakers. Similarly, our evening presentations should prove of interest.

I am also one of your three ODA Council representatives. In this capacity I continue to address the President, CFO, and Board regarding financial transparency. Where does the money go? How much do events such as the Council meetings and Presidential Ball cost? Is the current level of representation at Council necessary? Could our fees be reduced, or free educational events be considered, in light of the current surplus of funds?

Similarly, I have been in contact with Kim Hansen, the current ODA president, regarding having our association lobby government to impose a tax on sugary drinks. This has already been implemented in several countries to mitigate the deleterious health consequences of these products, including dental decay.

I have also spoken to Kim about what the ODA, and indeed CDA can do to open a discussion with dental product manufacturers regarding the practice of overpackaging of supplies. Our children have one world to inherit. In light of the egregious amount of waste all our offices now create to conform to IPAC standards, surely anything we can do to attenuate any further assault on the environment should be considered.

Dr. Louise Hill and Dr. Tanya Farooq, our other two ODA councilors, have included short articles herein as a follow up to the round table discussions last May at Council regarding Ethics and Professionalism. (I have included a link to two short articles written by Dr. Carlos Quiñonez, courtesy of Ontario Dentist, for review as well. His findings regarding our professionalism as perceived by the public, and our actual ethical practices are very telling.) View link [*Public Trust and Dentistry](#) | [*Dentists Are Human, But That May Not Be Enough](#). Are we healers or business people? Can we be both?

Dr. Eric Smith, our new Vice President and Oral Health Chair has included his article concerning his initiative to have fluoridation introduced into the water supply of the city of Barrie. There is a long history of dentists advocating for the implementation of therapeutic levels of fluoridation; the science supports this practice. Eric is passionate!

On a personal note, I continue to lead several small dental/medical teams to various countries to provide quality First World dental and other health services, with proper infection control, to populations that would otherwise have no, or very limited access to care. This is my passion. Past ODA President LouAnn Visconti has kindly offered to join me on the upcoming project to Guatemala for early 2020! LouAnn is inspirational and will be great fun to work with.

I look forward to meeting you at future events. Your input, and indeed participation, are both critical for our dental society to remain a thriving entity. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact either me, or one of the other executive members.

Cheers,

Dr. Laurie Houston
MSDS President 2019-2020

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Dr. Laurie Houston with local volunteer Ramon, in Jiquilillo, Nicaragua.

MUSKOKA-SIMCOE EXECUTIVE 2019-2020

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------|
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| Past President: | Dr. Herminio Fernandes | herminiof@hotmail.com | 705-721-4119 |
| ODA Council Members: | Dr. Louise Hill | dlouisehill@gmail.com | 705-330-1812 |
| | Dr. Tanya Farooq | tanyamethiwalla@hotmail.com | |
| | Dr. Laurie Houston | (see above) | |
| Oral Health Chair: | Dr. Eric Smith | (see above) | |
| Mediation Chair: | TBA | | |
| Political Contact Dentists: | Dr. Jerry Collins | Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte (Doug Downie) | |
| | Dr. Louise Hill | Simcoe North (Jill Dunlop) | |
| | Dr. Laurie Houston | Parry Sound-Muskoka (Norm Miller) | |
| | Dr. Eric Smith | Barrie-Innisfil (Andrea Khanjin) | |
| | Dr. Brenda Thomson | Simcoe-Grey (Jim Wilson) | |

Events List

Clinical Oral Pathology Review & The Mind and the Mouth: Impact of Psychiatric Illness on the Individual and Dental Management Considerations

Category 1 - 6 CE Credits (2 Category 1 courses, 3 credits each)

September 20, 2019 - Image Dental Lab, Barrie

Attendance for this full-day lecture (8 am-4 pm) is limited to 60 registrants.

Presenter: Dr. David Clark

[View](#) the speaker biography and course synopsis.

Opioids and Dental Pain Management

Category 2 - 2 CE Credits

September 26, 2019 - Casino Rama

This evening lecture will discuss dental pain management. Additionally, a local OPP officer will be providing her perspective as a first responder during an opioid incident.

Presenter: Dr. David Mock

[View](#) the speaker biography.

Myths and Mysteries, Fads and Facts in Orthodontics

Category 2 - 2 CE Credits

November 26, 2019 - Hawkridge G & C Club, Orillia

Description TBA.

Presenter: Dr. Eric Smith

[View](#) the speaker biography.

Listen To Public Health Experts About Fluoridation

Dr. Juliet Guichon, Associate Professor, the Cummings School of Medicine, University of Calgary notes that public health specialists, rather than unqualified opponents, are the experts when it comes to the safety and benefits of water fluoridation.

[Article](#) courtesy of *Impact Ethics*.

Fluoride



When I moved to Barrie in October 2018, I was shocked to discover that our rapidly-growing city does not fluoridate its drinking water. Nor has it ever. Barrie's failure to fluoridate its water stems from the results of a referendum held in 1960. It's surely time to revisit this issue.

The public tends to regard dentistry as a reactive health profession. Have a toothache? Go to the dentist to get an extraction. Too many extractions? Implants. Dentists, however, have both a collective and individual duty to educate patients and the general public on how to prevent oral health problems. This preventative role is especially acute when we are dealing with families with the lowest socio-economic status who often cannot afford dental services to fix problems after they emerge. For these reasons, I hope that all dentists who believe in community water fluoridation will vocalize their support and unite in educating the public on this important initiative.

Many dentists are justifiably appalled when communities remove fluoride from their drinking water, particularly after seventy years of scientific studies and on-the-ground experience have shown fluoridation to be both efficacious and unequivocally safe. However, there is reason to hope that if dentists form a united front supporting this initiative, we will prevail: I am happy to report the cities of both Windsor and Tecumseh have recently voted to reintroduce community water fluoridation.

Sound science supports the efficacy of water fluoridation. It is a proven public health measure that provides outsized benefits for its low cost. I hope to eventually raise a family in the Barrie area. I aspire to see fluoridation in the community water supply by that time. As the new vice president of MSDS, I plan to advocate strongly for community water fluoridation, and ask for your support in doing so.

Dr. Eric Smith

Ethics and Professionalism



The Ontario Dental Association has two council meetings each year. This past May, in addition to regular council business, there was a workshop, entitled “Ethics and Professionalism: What can we do?”, where all councillors participated in round table discussions.

The session was chaired by Dr. Carlos Quiñonez who had written several editorials concerning this topic in Ontario Dentist, the journal of the Ontario Dental Association. Our aim with the roundtable discussion groups was to search for ideas to help boost the profession and to combat the trend of the public’s and professions concern with the visible trends. Is the public losing trust in dentists?

Dr. Quiñonez states that our profession is grappling with rapid changes and expectations from many fronts including public health, education and practice debt, the weakening dental market, increased competition and the practice model continuum that is changing from primarily health professionals to business people.

Our role has traditionally been that of health professionals but with a smart business sense. With many dentists practising in solo practices, often engaging primarily in online courses and finding it harder to connect with others in the profession, there is a concern that we are more alone and lacking support than ever before.

Results from the workshop included suggestions of mentoring, having different generations engaging in more collegial activities particularly involving the component society, volunteering in any form for the profession, having a scientific officer establish what is evidence based science especially for the public health practices, continuing to try to engage political powers to consult with the dental profession as programs are developed and to have appropriate compensation for services that are provided, cooperation with all dental, including dental hygiene and assistants, regulatory bodies to provide a united front, and to encourage the ideals of practice. Engaging the new graduates will help to support them in making good choices in all aspects of their life. Some concerns were raised that in very competitive areas, some practitioners may not be so willing to help others who are perceived as encroaching on their livelihood. As the economy changes and as the numbers of registered dentists in Ontario continues to increase disproportionately, this trend may spread well beyond the borders of the large metropolitan areas. We are health professionals and should espouse the morals and ethics of our chosen profession.

ODA council [highlights](#)

Dr. Louise Hill



Dr. Tanya Farooq, volunteering at a remote village in Haiti.

I had the privilege of representing our society at general council this May. One of the highlights of this meeting is the workshops that we attend, where representatives from the various Ontario dental associations are able to discuss a specific topic of interest. One major theme that kept on recurring during the professionalism and ethics workshop is how we can

as a profession raise not only our own standards but also the public opinion of our profession. It saddened me to hear some of the statistics that have come from surveys taken. For example, in a 2009 study it was found that more dentists are considered to be business people than doctors. During the workshop we discussed ways that we can help the public recognize our profession to be trustworthy, caring and healthcare based. Some of the brainstorming ideas included trying to be more environmentally friendly and creating less waste, more community based involvement, but one specific idea that spoke to many of us attending the workshop is the idea of altruism and helping others with the skills we possess. This is a great way to help improve our perception and opinion in the eyes of the public. Recently, the office I associate in had a community dental day. Thanks to Dr Gomes, Our team at dentistry by the Bay and Dr Laurie Houston who generously volunteered their time, it was a wonderful day where we could give back to our community. It was a win win for us all. Deserving people got the care they needed and we were rewarded with their thanks and smiles and the feeling that we can help in a small way. Many of the offices in our society already do things that help our community and provide care to their patients as well as do pro bono cases and I am sure they can feel the satisfaction in doing so. With all of us continuing to volunteer our time and being active in our community, we can be one step closer to changing the statistics of our profession to numbers we can all be proud of.

Dr. Tanya Farooq

MSDS Calendar Sept 2019 - June 2020

| DATE | EVENT/TOPIC | LOCATION |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| September 12, 2019, 6:30 pm | Executive Meeting , Officers only and RCDS rep. | Era 67, Orillia |
| September 20, 2019, 8 am-4 pm | Full Day Category 1 (Core) course: Clinical Oral Pathology Review and The Mind and the Mouth: Impact of Psychiatric Illness on the Individual and Dental Management Considerations, with Dr. David Clark | Image Dental Lab, Barrie |
| September 26, 2019, 6:00 pm | MSDS General Meeting with speaker Dr. David Mock re: Opioids and Dental Pain Management. (Our region has an opioid crisis; what, as professionals, can we do to attenuate this situation?) | Casino Rama, Orillia |
| October 23, 2019 | ODA Council Credentials Deadline | N/A |
| October 24-25, 2019 | Leadership Summit (Laurie Houston and Eric Smith to attend) | Hotel X Toronto |
| November 12, 2019, 6:30 pm | Executive Meeting Report by Louise Hill regarding her ODA Council Committee work. Possible report by Political Contact Dentist re ODA PARC initiatives. ODA Board member Lisa Bentley to attend. | Era 67, Orillia |
| November 22-23, 2019 | ODA Council Meeting | Marriott Toronto Eaton Centre Bay Street, Toronto |
| November 26, 2019, 6:00 pm | General Meeting with speaker Dr. Eric Smith re: Myths and Mysteries, Fads and Facts in Orthodontics | Hawkridge G and C Club, Orillia |
| January 14, 2020, 6:30 pm | Executive Meeting , Officers only | Era 67, Orillia |
| April 1, 2020 | ODA Council Credentials Deadline | N/A |
| April 2020 | Oral Health Month Dr. Eric Smith is our new Oral Health Chair and will be promoting fluoridation in the city of Barrie. | Barrie |
| April 16, 2020, 6:30 pm | Executive Meeting | Era 67, Orillia |
| April 17, 2020 | Full Day course: "Evolution and Revolution: Tackling a new dental world in 2020" (Category 2) with Dr. Peter Auster of Catapult Education (was on the cover of Dentistry Today) | Image Dental Lab, Barrie |
| May 1-2, 2020 | ODA Council Meeting | Marriott Toronto Eaton Centre Bay Street, Toronto |
| May 7-9, 2020 | ODA Annual Spring Meeting | Metro Toronto Convention Centre South Building, Toronto |
| May 21, 2020, 6:00 pm | General Meeting with speaker Lesli Hapak, ODA President Elect | Barrie G and C Club |

ODA Council

Muskoka-Simcoe Dental Society is one of 39 component societies, or regional arms, that the ODA is divided into. Each society has representation at the biannual General Council meetings held in Toronto. Our district society has three councillors who can represent MSDS at each meeting. The three councillors at present are: Dr. Laurie Houston, Dr. Tanya Farooq and Dr. Louise Hill. Dr. Louise Hill has finished her second term and will be applying to complete two more years starting this autumn. However, should you wish to put your name forward for this term, there will be an election at the next MSDS general meeting to choose or ratify the next representative for the next two-year term. The councillors are accountable to our Muskoka-Simcoe society by providing Council information to our members and representing the members of our society at the General meeting.

Should you wish to put your name forward, and you are able to commit to the meeting times, please contact Dr. L. Houston and we would like you to introduce yourself at the fall MSDS meeting. It is ODA policy to have an election or to have members ratify any nominee should an election not be necessary. Look in the Volunteer Section of the ODA website and you can access the General Council Highlights and Stewardship Reports.

The dates of the ODA council meetings for the next two years are as follows:

2019/20

Nov 22, 23, 2019
May 1, 2, 2020

2020/21

Nov 20, 21, 2020
May 7, 8, 2021 (tentative)

Additionally, you can contribute to the ODA and your colleagues by serving on one of the many committees that provide input and guidance in all aspects: advocacy task force, education, benevolence, community services, component society, economics, education, health policy and government relations, honours and awards, hospital services, indigenous oral health, insurance, membership services, political action, and student services. Some positions are mentored and so it is a great way to introduce yourself to the work that is involved and see if this is something that fits you well.

Get your curriculum vitae in order and fill out a nomination form when the call for volunteers comes late this autumn! Remember, the ODA is all of us and it is only with input from each and every one of us that our organisation, and us as individuals, will thrive.

Issues and concerns discussed at ODA council that seem to be ever present throughout time:

- ethics and professionalism, competition, decrease in collegiality
- public health, sterilisation, waste generation, evidence-based procedures, associated costs
- corporate dentistry, delivery of dentistry and dental products by alternate means circumventing the 'typical dental office'

There are no easy answers for so many of the difficulties that the dental profession and the health care sector is encountering at the moment. As individuals this can be daunting, but, by being a part of your component society, the ODA and the dental profession can only improve! Come out, engage, discuss and enjoy the company of your colleagues!

Other Contact Numbers and Reference Materials:

- **ODA** www.youroralhealth.ca
Tel: 416-922-3900, toll-free 1-800-387-1393
Fax: 416-922-9005
Email: info@oda.ca or webmaster@oda.ca
- **Your Oral Health Magazine** <https://www.youroralhealth.ca/yoh-magazines>
- **HIV-positive Oropharyngeal Cancer**
https://www.youroralhealth.ca/images/patient_resources/oral_cancer/ODA_OHS_PatientInfoSheet_2014_CommonQuestions_HPVO SCC_v5.pdf
- **Premalignant Oral Lesion**
https://www.youroralhealth.ca/images/patient_resources/oral_cancer/ODA_PatientInfo_PremalignantOralLesions.pdf
- **Don't let it all go to your head....or Mouth**
<https://www.youroralhealth.ca/docman-categories/documents/122-cannabis-fact-sheet>
- **Cannabis and Dental Procedures**
<https://www.youroralhealth.ca/docman-categories/documents/123-cannabis-tip-sheet-from-bcda>
- **CDA**
Practice Support Services Help Desk: 1-866-788-1212
Monday – Friday from 7:30 AM to 8:00 PM Eastern Standard Time
Email: cdanet@cda-adc.ca
- **RCDSO**
Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario 6 Crescent Rd, Toronto, ON M4W 1T1
T: 416-961-6555 | **T:** 1-800-565-4591 | **F:** 416-961-5814 **E:** info@rcdso.org
- **PLP**
<http://plp.rcdso.org/>
- **CDSPI**
www.cdspi.com
1.800.561.9401 or 416.296.9401
- **ADA** ada.org
American Dental Association
211 East Chicago Ave.
Chicago, IL 60611-2678
312.440.2500
- **Oral Health** www.oralhealthgroup.com
- **CPSO** www.cpsso.on.ca
80 College St., Toronto, ON M5G 2E2
1 800-268-7096
- **Poison Control:** www.ontariopoisoncentre.ca
555 University Ave, Toronto, ON M5G 1X8 416 813-5900
- **ODA Board Liaison:** Dr. Lisa Bentley **Email:** lisa_bentley@msn.com
- **Government of Ontario**
Employment Standards (working conditions)
1 800 531 5551
www.gov.on.ca