

Section 1

Introduction

This section contains a brief introduction to the College of Denturists, including a message from the Chair of the Board as well as the role, mandate and mission of the College.

Message from the Chair of the Board

The College of Denturists of British Columbia was established under the Health Professions Act on December 7, 1995, to regulate the practice of denturism in British Columbia. The College derives its authority from the Health Professions Act. This legislation establishes a social contract between the College and the public who seek services from denturists in British Columbia. The social contract obligates the College to serve and protect the public.

This handbook is provided to all registrants of the College to facilitate an understanding of the legal framework through which the College operates its stewardship of the practice of denturists in British Columbia. The handbook is inclusive of current Board administrative policy and is designed to enable registrants to understand both their professional responsibilities and how our College relates to you in these key areas of administration.

Each registrant is professionally responsible to become familiar with the information contained within this document and to review it when needed as a reference source. The College revises its policy, bylaws and administrative framework on an ongoing basis. These changes will be forwarded to you for inclusion in your handbook as they become operational.

The importance of this handbook to you, as a registrant, cannot be overstated. Although the Board has strived to present the handbook in an easy-to-read, easy-to-follow format, we ask that you call or write your College for clarification on any information contained within.

Registrants requiring any information, including any documentation, may directly contact or write to the Registrar of the College.

Role

The College of Denturists of B.C. licenses and regulates denturists and the practice of denturism within British Columbia*. Membership of the College includes all classes of denturists registered in British Columbia.

Mandate

The College derives its authority from the *Health Professions Act*. This legislation establishes a social contract between the College and the public who seek services from denturists in British Columbia. The social contract obligates the College to serve and protect the public.

Mission

The mission of the College is to ensure that:

- Registrants are competent in their practice and ethical in their behaviour.
- Registrants do not misrepresent themselves to the public.
- The public has reasonable access to denturist services.
- Public policy which affects the practice of denturism is appropriate.

** A denturist is a person trained to make and fit dentures or appliances by prescription from a dentist directly to the public.*