

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

June 30, 2021

The Honourable Minister Dr. John Haggie  
Minister of Health & Community Services  
Government of Newfoundland & Labrador  
P.O. Box 8700, West Block, Confederation Building  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister Haggie:

Please find enclosed the 2020 Annual Report of the Newfoundland and Labrador Dental Board and a copy of the 2020 Financial Statements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. O'Brien".

 Dr. Paul O'Brien, D.D.S.  
Secretary - Registrar

Attach.



## NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

### **Board Meetings**

In 2020 the Board held meetings on April 8, April 20, May 1, May 8, May 15, June 10, June 16, July 16 October 1, and AGM – November 30, 2020.

### **Dental Board Membership:**

Dr. Harry Simms	Chair
Dr. Jerome Johnson	Vice Chair
Dr. Tony Bloom	Dentist
Dr. Robert Sexton	Dentist
Dr. Marina Sexton	Dentist
Mrs. Paula Parsons	Registered Dental Assistant
Mr. Craig Finch	Registered Dental Technician
Mrs. Joan Lamswood	Public Representative
Mr. Martin Harty	Public Representative

### **Registration and Licensing as of January of 2019 and 2020**

	2019	2020
General Dentists	196	206
Specialists	30	31
Dental Assistants	265	278
Dental Technicians	31	26

### **Financial Report**

The year 2019 saw a healthy surplus going into the year 2020. With the shadow of the pandemic reducing overall travel costs when business was conducted virtually costs were again kept very reasonable. Subsequently, the Board made the decision to reduce re-licence fees by 25% for 2021. The website was given an upgrade which did cost a modest amount and going forward effort will be made to keep it as up to date as possible.

### **Election**

Due to the pandemic and the uncertainty moving forward the election of the Board was moved to 2021 with calmer times ahead. Three of the five seats on the Board open to election.

### **Prescription Monitoring Program**

Again, this year there has been no word on activity in that program either for the Advisory or Consultants Committee with regards to dentistry.

### **Standards of Practice**

The standard "Clinic Facilities" has received Board approval and is listed on the website along with a standard on "Tele-dentistry". The review of Infection Prevention and Control continues, and the Board will look also at the necessary implementation of the Pandemic Plan as part of an enhanced IPAC. A problem all too familiar to the CAC is the professional communication and informed consent. That is the subject of the next Standard.

### **Registered Dental Assistants and Technicians**

In 2020 there was a slight reduction in the numbers of Registered Technicians. There had been a reduction in 2019 of the numbers of Registered Dental Assistants but those numbers have recovered and have shown a slight increase. There appears to be some accounting of the numbers for Registered Assistants as the numbers of dentists has shown steady increases the last two years and is at an all-time high going into 2021. The decrease in the number of Technicians may be reflected by several factors in particular the greater presence of corporate dentistry wherein more work may be shuttled to out-of-province firms.

### **Office inspections and Radiation Surveys**

Late in 2019 14 offices were visited but since then visits have been limited by the pandemic. With the direction from OHS a yet questionable biennial radiation survey year was started. By year end almost 300 units had been surveyed and again no scatter radiation issues detected making it close to 1500 operatories in the province without cause for concern. There was one unit in the batch that was not performing well. The Board has passed a motion to cover the cost of keeping each and every unit properly functioning if advised of a problem. Despite the glaring inconsistencies associated with these surveys, OHS, and the archaic legislation, the Board will be forced to find a way to rationally address what appears to be a costly waste of resources. The Board will in 2021 be again starting up the office visit program some of which may mean re-visiting recent offices for up-dates.

### **Mandatory Continuing Education**

Because of the pandemic and the access to recognized continuing education programs that meet the requirements of the Board the audit of portfolios was postponed to 2021. Some questions arose again about bringing credits forward, but this was not accepted because mainly it would be a nightmare to manage. It is rare that anyone has been disciplined in this category so creating such a nightmare made little sense and was denied.

## **Canadian Dental Regulatory Authority Federation**

2020 has been a tough year for this organization. Too many virtual meetings to count including weekly then bi-weekly meetings throughout 2020. Subjects of concern of course were the diverse scenarios across the country surrounding the pandemic. Management of graduating classes, postponement of national examinations and accreditation surveys, and the over-reaching dilemma of transferring specialty exams from the Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) to the National Examining Board of Canada (NDEB) in the middle of the pandemic. The latter situation causing great turmoil for specialists seeking certification. Some generalists too were seeking re-writes of the NDEB but having to wait till years end before their re-write if unable to successfully challenge the March exam either through failing the exam or unable to finish their training in time for the exam. In all, the situation was not very good. Also, during this period several provincial regulators were not happy with either the position of the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada and many meetings geared towards that body becoming completely independent of CDA was at the core of their concerns. Another regulator was concerned with the process of moving away from RCDC in favour of NDEB. These issues will carry into 2021 and beyond before hopefully solutions are found satisfactory to all parties.

Eventually NDEB did provide exams for specialists in September 2020 having first tried to do so in June 2020 but curtailed by the pandemic. RCDC put off any exam to 2021 and was willing to provide a provisional fellowship to graduates of accredited programs conditional to successfully challenging their exam in 2021. The uncertainty of these decisions as a process going forward has brought up the question of the validity of any examination of graduates of accredited programs. Fairness Commissioners in one province asks that question and why it has to be so expensive. Unfortunately, psychometrically designed examinations for a very small number of candidates are expensive. 2021 should be an interesting year. In our province the Board has previously agreed to require the National Dental Specialty Examination for certification although the legislation allows this as a matter of choice. Subsequently, unlike some of our existing legislation the Board does have an option it can use, if necessary, for certification.

## **COMPLAINTS AUTHORIZATION COMMITTEE**

### **UNRESOLVED FILE**

CASE FILE 1. This file is an open file from 2019 and was designated to remain open as the Respondent is under supervision in another province. At present the Board has no oversight of the Respondent and records being poorly maintained, the Committee has very little to work on but will continue to keep the file open, particularly if the Respondent should return to the province.

### **RESOLVED FILES**

CASE FILE 2. The Registrar received an allegation that the Respondent failed to obtain informed consent for the treatment of the Complainant's child. The Complainant had signed a document that they accepted responsibility for payment, but the actual costs were not discussed at the business office. The dentist maintained that they usually discussed the matter of costs with the person responsible as a rule because the business practices of the clinic were determined solely by the clinic not the dentist themselves. The dentist apologized for the upset and confusion which was reported by the Committee in its report. The dentist of their own accord had voluntarily done a continuing education course on

Informed Consent. The CAC decided there was insufficient cause to believe the Respondent was guilty of professional misconduct and took no further action.

CASE FILE 3. The Registrar received an allegation from a parent saying that the owners of a clinic acted in a discriminatory manner in dismissing her from their practice. The clinic agreed to see the parent's child under certain circumstances but barred the parent because of their disruptive and unacceptable behavior towards staff. The clinic did write a letter to the patient but should have elaborated more as to the reasons for the dismissal. The reasons were significant for failing to follow the clinic safety rules regarding mask wearing and social distancing as well as the language used. Pointing this out in the dismissal from the clinic would have closed the door to another interpretation being that they were unwelcome because of their financial status. The Registrar, on investigation of the clinic, found just cause for the dismissal; the reluctance to properly follow public health measures but also confirmed abusive language from the Complainant which was recorded.

CASE FILE 4. The Registrar received an allegation that the dentist failed to provide a reasonable response to an emergent condition that occurred following a difficult extraction. It was determined that the patient was suffering from post-operative discomfort, potentially alveolar osteitis, and should have been treated much earlier than proposed by the dentist (4 days later). The patient eventually found help from another source despite having made contact with the original dentist. Given the circumstances presented the CAC considered the allegation a complaint deserving sanction and gave the dentist a CAUTION and COUNSELLED the dentist to review and heed the literature on case management related to alveolar osteitis (dry socket).

CASE FILE 5. The Registrar received an email from the office of a district MHA on behalf of the mother of a young patient with special needs. The allegation was related to the failure of her son to receive treatment under general anesthesia as she hoped. The patient was on a lengthy waiting list that was further delayed by the pandemic and the lack of hospital time and lack of PPE. Eventually the parent found another provider but at a much later date when circumstances had altered. The patient was offered an appointment at around the same time from the Respondent, but the Complainant opted for the second option. The CAC found no reason to believe the Respondent was deserving of sanction and dismissed the allegation.

CASE FILE 6. The Registrar received allegation against two dentists based on the responsibility for the actions of a third dentist who was involved in an incident involving the Complainant. The matter was referred to the CAC who on reviewing the complaint and the response from the Respondents found no evidence to support the allegation of commonality between the three dentists involved and dismissed the allegation as without merit.

#### **UNRESOLVED FILE**

CASE FILE 7. The Registrar received an allegation from a patient who under sedation had a full mouth clearance. During the appointment, an incident occurred that became the basis of the allegation of professional misconduct. The allegation was forwarded to the Respondent for comments and with the response an allegation was filed with the CAC by the Registrar. This file was forwarded to 2021 and the Registrar was directed to investigate the matter on behalf of the CAC before its disposition.

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD**

**Financial Statements**

**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

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	Page
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1 - 2
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Statement of Financial Position	3
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures	4
Statement of Changes in Net Assets	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to Financial Statements	7 - 9

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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To the Directors of Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Board

### *Opinion*

I have audited the financial statements of Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Board (the Organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### *Basis for Opinion*

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### *Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

### *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Directors of Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Board *(continued)*

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

St. John's, NL  
June 29, 2021



Brian T. Scammell Professional Corporation  
Chartered Professional Accountant

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 218,576	\$ 372,285
Marketable securities ( <i>Market value : \$1,164,725; 2019 \$1,064,921</i> )	1,164,725	1,064,921
Accounts receivable	16,793	12,058
Interest receivable	9,766	13,110
Prepaid expenses	4,366	-
	<b>\$ 1,414,226</b>	<b>\$ 1,462,374</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 12,017	\$ 12,081
Deferred income	238,070	324,371
	<b>250,087</b>	<b>336,452</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1,164,139</b>	<b>1,125,922</b>
	<b>\$ 1,414,226</b>	<b>\$ 1,462,374</b>

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Director*

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*Director*

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD****Statement of Revenues and Expenditures****Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Licensing fees and penalties	\$ 355,155	\$ 354,793
Radiation surveys	32,210	21,032
Investments	16,460	34,262
2020 PDC	8,500	7,100
	<b>412,325</b>	<b>417,187</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Salaries, wages and benefits	153,011	123,622
Radiation inspections	61,580	32,121
Rent	54,770	54,525
Equipment purchases	26,395	50
Computer consulting fees	15,765	6,014
Insurance	13,705	13,809
Grants	12,503	12,065
Travel and meeting - local	10,020	16,184
Professional fees	10,006	5,386
Courier	4,268	958
Telephone	3,426	3,689
Miscellaneous	2,838	931
Office supplies and postage	2,035	5,776
Travel and meeting - out of province	2,028	14,521
Equipment rentals	1,338	1,938
Interest and bank charges	269	318
Printing	151	1,031
Advertising and promotion	-	47
	<b>374,108</b>	<b>292,985</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 38,217</b>	<b>\$ 124,202</b>

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD**

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets**

**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 1,125,922</b>	<b>\$ 1,001,720</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>38,217</b>	<b>124,202</b>
<b>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 1,164,139</b>	<b>\$ 1,125,922</b>

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD****Statement of Cash Flows****Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 38,217	\$ 124,202
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(4,735)	61,851
Interest receivable	3,344	(13,110)
Accounts payable	(64)	(30,164)
Deferred income	(86,301)	15,188
Prepaid expenses	(4,366)	-
	(92,122)	33,765
Cash flow from (used by) operating activities	(53,905)	157,967
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of marketable securities	(796,074)	(778,890)
Redemption of marketable securities	696,270	689,000
Cash flow used by investing activities	(99,804)	(89,890)
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW</b>	<b>(153,709)</b>	<b>68,077</b>
Cash - beginning of year	372,285	304,208
<b>CASH - END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 218,576</b>	<b>\$ 372,285</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION</b>		
Interest received	\$ (3,343)	\$ 13,110
Interest paid	\$ 269	\$ 318

# NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2020

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### 1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Board (the "Organization") is incorporated under the Corporations Act as a corporation without share capital that operates to protect the public and to administer the licensing of dental professionals in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Board is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act due to its not-for-profit nature.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### *Basis of presentation*

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPO).

#### *Cash and cash equivalents*

The Board's policy is to present bank balances and investments with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition under cash and cash equivalents.

#### *Financial instruments policy*

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

#### *Capital assets*

Capital assets are recorded as expenses in the year they are acquired.

#### *Revenue recognition*

Newfoundland & Labrador Dental Board follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Licensing fees and penalties and interest revenue are recognized as earned and when collection is reasonably assured.

#### *Contributed services*

Volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time each year. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

#### *Leases*

Leases are classified as either capital or operating leases. Rental payments under operating leases are expensed as incurred.

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# NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2020

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### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

#### *Measurement uncertainty*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

### 3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Board is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Board's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2020.

#### *(a) Credit risk*

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Board is exposed to credit risk. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The Board has a significant number of parties whom they bill which minimizes concentration of credit risk.

#### *(b) Market risk*

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency rate risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Board is mainly exposed to interest risk.

#### *(c) Interest rate risk*

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the Board manages exposure through its normal operating and financing activities. The Board is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its investments.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant other price risks arising from these financial instruments.

### 4. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The Board has been named as a defendant in a legal claim. Neither the possible outcome nor the amount of loss, if any, can be reasonably estimated as at December 31, 2020. No provision with respect to this claim has been made in these financial statements.

**NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR DENTAL BOARD**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended December 31, 2020**

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**5. LEASE COMMITMENTS**

The Board entered into a lease for office space on September 9, 2016. The approximate annual rent to the end of the lease term is as follows:

2021 \$39,303