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### News Items

#### ***Registration Renewal***

Thank you registrants! Over 95% of registrants renewed their registration online and most took advantage of the online credit card payment process. As of April 1, there were 932 CDBC registrants in the following classes:

- 920 Full registrants (including Grandparented) and
- 12 Temporary registrants.

Reserved Act registration included:

- RA "A" - 491
- RA "B" - 237
- RA "C" - 185

### Chair's Message

The December Newsletter outlined the continuing development of our College's infrastructure and activities that ensure CDBC meets its legislated mandate of 'Public Protection'. The mandate encompassed by the *Health Professions Act* (HPA) is very specific and the CDBC must meet the requirements in a timely manner. The College continues to work toward meeting objectives specified in the HPA.



Section 16(2)(c) of the HPA, requires us "to establish standards of academic or technical achievement and the qualifications required for registration as a member of the college". The CDBC, along with other provincial dietetic regulatory bodies, is starting to actively address this objective. The CDBC Board of Directors recently adopted the Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice which resulted from a two-year national regulatory project funded by the Alliance. Current Essential Competencies is the first step in establishing CDBC's standards for academic and technical achievement.

Fully achieving this objective is a large undertaking; however, it is an objective I feel is a vital component in ensuring future registrants have the academic and practical training qualifications required to safely provide dietetic services. This, in turn, meets our legislated mandate of public protection. CDBC will continue to work with educators, registrants, dietetic regulatory colleges across Canada and external partners as this initiative continues to evolve.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Glenn Kissmann, RD, CDE, MHS  
Board Chair

· RA "D" - 2.

In addition, 25 registrants were removed from the register in good standing. All suggestions received to improve the renewal process are being reviewed with our database provider. Thank you to those who took the time to provide feedback.

### ***Reserved Act Proof of Competence***

If you hadn't submitted your proof of competence signature form by April 1 you were not legally allowed to practice the Reserved Acts until the form was received, reviewed and your Reserved Acts were posted to the website. Please check the Public Register on the website to ensure your Reserved Act registration is accurate.

### ***Did you Miss the March 31, 2007 Renewal Deadline?***

If so, you have been removed from the College register and must not be practicing dietetics or using the protected title "dietitian."

Registration may be renewed late through the online Registration Renewal Form and payment process by paying the penalty fee. Late registration is currently available until September 30, 2007 although a bylaw amendment is being proposed to reduce this period from six months to two months. The late registration penalty fee results in your "effective registration date" being backdated to April 1, 2007 which gives you a seamless registration history between the 2006/07 and 2007/08 years. This is important if you plan on moving to another province.

### ***Changes to Reinstatement Requirements***

Former CDBC registrants who apply for reinstatement to the register must now comply with the continuing competence requirements in section 53(1)(a) of the bylaws. An information guide is currently being developed and will be posted to the website on the Registration Page as soon as it is available.

## **Registrar's Message**

This column builds on Glenn Kissmann's Chair's Message as well as on my column in the December Newsletter. The Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice are current news and they impact all present and future College registrants. These competencies served as the foundation for development of CDBC's Standards for Practice which in turn have been incorporated into our new Continuing Competence Program. In the future the Essential Competencies will be used as the benchmark to determine eligibility for registration with the College.



The Alliance has recently published two complementary documents related to the Essential Competencies. The "Introduction to Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice" and the "Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice" are now available on our website on the News Page. I urge you to take the time to read these two documents as they affect dietetic practice in BC.

Review the Introduction document first as it contains valuable information about the four development phases of the project, the broad application of the Essential Competencies, and national validation of the Competencies by Howard Research and Management Consultants (Appendix A). It also compares the new competencies to two older comparable documents - Dietitian of Canada's Canada's Professional Standards and Competencies for the Entry-Level Dietitian (Appendix B). The Essential Competencies document states Competencies and Performance Indicators for safe practice that are further grouped into seven practice Dimensions. The new Essential Competencies reflect current practice (as validated nationally by practicing dietitians) and are measurable - two criteria required by regulators to assess competence for the public's protection.

In the future, the Essential Competencies will be used as the benchmark to determine eligibility of applicants to register with the CDBC. The knowledge, skills and abilities of international applicants will be assessed against the competencies as will the academic and internship education of our provincial dietetic students. The Alliance is confident that most academic and internship programs in Canada already teach the new competencies and that their adoption by

### ***New Committee members, Chairs and Vice-chairs***

Congratulations to the following committee members who were appointed to their positions by the Board during the March 3 meeting:

- Lesley Nicholls, new public representative member of the Registration Committee
- Monica McAuley, new registrant member of the Registration Committee
- Parveen Khattra, new registrant member of the Quality Assurance Committee
- Debbie Zibrik, registrant, new Chair of the Inquiry Committee
- Robin Watt, registrant and elected Board member, new Vice-chair of the Inquiry Committee.

A special "thank you" to Louise Malysh who served for three years as a public representative on the Registration Committee. Your contribution was greatly appreciated! Thanks as well to Carol Kline, appointed Board member, for chairing the Inquiry Committee for the past three years. We're looking forward to continuing our work with you as a committee member.

Click here for a [full list of current committee members](#).

### ***BC-Alberta "Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement" (TILMA) Update***

The CDBC Registrar recently met with the Registrar of the College of Dietitians of Alberta to draft an initial TILMA agreement that will facilitate the movement of Registered Dietitians in good standing from one province to the other. TILMA comes into effect in 2009. The labour mobility provisions of TILMA differ from those in the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA). Because of this, the Alliance is reviewing the MRA at the May 9-11

regulatory bodies will have little impact on current dietetic education. Some preliminary discussion between the College and UBC has already taken place, about developing a practical yet thorough process so that the CDBC is assured that dietetic education in BC includes the Essential Competencies. I'm confident the College and UBC will find a way to accomplish this task with minimal work for administrators and educators.

Nationally, work has begun on re-development of the blueprint for the Canadian Dietetic Registration Examination (CDRE) based on these Essential Competencies. The Alliance will implement the new exam in consultation with educators, by late 2008. The CDRE will complement the students' academic and internship curriculum.

As I've written in the past, the mandate of regulatory authorities is vastly different from that of member services organizations. Because of this, the Essential Competencies for Dietetic Practice differ significantly from visionary statements being developed by Dietitians of Canada. The Competencies reflect current practice and will be updated regularly so they continue to be of regulatory value.

I encourage you to read the Essential Competencies documents - I'm confident the Competencies and Indicators will be very familiar to you as a practicing dietitian.

Fern Hubbard, DDH, BA, MEd  
Registrar

## **Continuing Competence Program (CCP) Implementation**

The College's new Continuing Competence Program has started! Receiving this Newsletter by email likely coincides with you receiving your [Professional Development Guide \(PDG\)](#) in the mail. The PDG thoroughly explains the program. It is based on the principles: that the program is simple, easy to follow, makes use of forms that are easy to use, encourages continuing development and lifelong learning, values all types of learning relating to dietetic practice, and uses a fair and transparent process that the College evaluates and updates regularly.

The PDG will explain how to initiate the program by

meeting. Further details will be published as they are available.

### ***New Interpretive and Practice Guidelines***

College committees regularly review existing policies and guidelines and revise them as necessary to reflect current practice and legislation.

Three new or revised policies and guidelines have recently been posted to the Legislation Page:

- "Interpretive Guideline - Privacy Legislation for Private Practitioners" developed by the Patient Relations Committee, provides guidance for registrants with private dietetic practices to help them meet provincial privacy legislation requirements;

- "Practice Guideline - Co-signing Interns' Records" also developed by the Patient Relations Committee, will be of interest to registrants who supervise interns; and

- Quality Assurance Committee policy and Practice Guideline on "Standards for Insertion of Nasogastric (NG) and Nasoduodenal (ND) Feeding Tubes ". (Note: this document was amended by the QA Committee to allow physicians only to sign the Declaration Form in accordance with the Dietitians Regulation. The document was also reformatted for clarity as two documents - a policy and a Practice Guideline).

### ***Registrar Receives Provincial Award***

Fern Hubbard is the 2007 recipient of the "Darlene Thomas Award for Vision and Leadership in Dental Hygiene." The award was presented March 9 by the Board of Director's Chair of the College of Dental Hygienists of BC for outstanding contribution to the dental hygiene profession. Please join our CDBC Board of Directors in congratulating

developing your Professional Portfolio (optional) and completing a Self Assessment Relative to the Standards of Practice. It provides copies of all forms as well as sample completed documents for all scope of practice areas.

A personalized cover letter accompanies the PDG. It informs you of your assigned cohort and reporting requirements.

- **Cohort 1 registrants** have a one-year reporting period to March 31, 2008. By **October 31, 2007**, registrants submit their *Professional Development Plan and Progress Tracking* form, are expected to have selected at least three learning goals based on their Self Assessment, and to show **some evidence of progress** toward meeting them. Cohort 1 registrants are **not** expected to have completed their goals by October 31, 2007; they are expected to continue working on them until March 31, 2008 when they will begin a new three-year cycle on April 1, 2008 with a new Self Assessment.
- **Cohort 2 registrants** submit their *Professional Development Plan and Progress Tracking* form by **October 31, 2008**. While registrants are expected to have selected at least three learning goals and to show some evidence of progress toward meeting them, they are **not** expected to have completed all goals by the October 31, 2008 submission date. Cohort 2 registrants will begin a new 3-year reporting period on April 1, 2009.
- **Cohort 3 registrants** submit their *Professional Development Plan and Progress Tracking* form by **October 31, 2009**. By this date, Cohort 3 registrants are expected to have completed most of their planned activities toward meeting their three selected learning goals. The new 3-year reporting period for Cohort 3 registrants begins on April 1, 2010.

Thank you to the many registrants who contributed to the CCP program and Professional Development Guide development. Their ideas were integral to the program's design. The College welcomes your participation and feedback. Information sessions will be offered province-wide over the coming months; the College will be hiring a staff dietitian to oversee the program. The PDG is posted on the News Page of the website.

Fern on this significant achievement. Click here to read more...

**Reminder!**

Please access your *Personal and Workplace Profiles* through the Registration link on the Home Page on the website to update your contact information. It's critical that this information is kept current, particularly your *email address*. If your workplace is not listed in the dropdown list, please contact the office.

The Quality Assurance Committee and Board of Directors are pleased and excited to present this new program. The CCP is a significant part of our legislated mandate to ensure ongoing competence for the public's protection. We look forward to your comments.



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**You asked about...**

This new Newsletter item features questions from registrants that have broad applicability and interest. Do you have a question? Please call the College or email your question to [info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org](mailto:info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org).

**Q:** I'm a Certified Diabetes Educator and work in a community diabetes centre. Am I legally allowed to prick my client's finger to test their blood glucose level as part of teaching the client to manage their diabetes?

**A:** In order for a dietitian to legally pierce skin, the action would have to be listed as a Reserved Act in the Dietitians Regulation. Reserved Act legislation covers a myriad of procedures that present a high risk to the client and includes actions such as inserting an instrument, device, hand or finger into or under the skin or into the body, administering substances by injection, inhalation or instillation (including enteral and parenteral nutrition), setting bones and joints, applying ultrasound, lasers or x-rays, and working within body openings, including the ears, mouth and eyes.

The Dietitians Regulation does not include a Reserved Act that allows dietitians to pierce the skin. However, as part of your client education, you may "guide" the client to pierce their own finger by placing your hand over their's and guiding the position of the finger and the pressure applied.

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