

Dental Hygiene Articulation Committee

Minutes

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

Location: Zoom

Meeting Date: April 23, 2021 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Present: Deanna Mackay (Chair, VIU), Amber Ariss (VCC), Mandy Hayre (BCDHA), Jennifer Scott (CNC), Liz Morch (Camosun), Denise Laronde (UBC)

Guests: Carole-Anne Mrsic (VCDH), Andrea Burton (BCDHA), Jennifer Lawrence (CDHBC), Annabella Chun (BCCAT)

Regrets: none

Recorder: Denise Laronde, UBC

Welcome from Deanna Mackay, Chair

1. Meeting called to order at 9:03am
2. Introductions / Welcome

The chair acknowledges the Snuneymuxw, Quw'utsun and Tla'Amin, on whose traditional lands we teach, learn, research, live and share knowledge.

3. Approval of the agenda

Motion: to adopt the agenda as revised (add Carole-Anne to agenda for 1pm)

Moved: Mandy Seconded: Jennifer Motion: Carried

4. Approval of the minutes from May 11, 2020

Minutes circulated from May 2020. Minutes revised to correct the spelling of Deanna Mackay's last name and to remove names off the items.

Motion: to accept the May 11 2020 minutes as revised

Moved: Mandy Seconded: Amber Motion: Carried (with one abstention – Jennifer)

5. Update DH Articulation Membership list

- No changes

6. Confirmation of Chairs and Recorders for 2021

- Deanna Mackay, VIU

- Denise Laronde, UBC
- Agreed with list circulation by the chair over email

7. Comparison Chart

Discussion to separate tuition from other expenses. Program client fees across programs discussed; consensus on access to care as primary reason to maintain costs (plus increased time clients spend vs private practice)

8. Prerequisite course alignment

Discussion on what courses are transferable as prerequisites between institutions and what is needed for acceptance at each program in the province. Challenging to determine alignment of prerequisite courses across different institutions.

Historical perspective – CDHBC does not define what is needed as a course; each institution sets what meets the criteria.

9. Electronic Oral Health Records (EOHR)

Discussion on security and access to EOHR offsite and privacy issues. A concern was raised that offering access offsite may cause a security risk. Most institutions do not allow offsite access to the EOHRs. Client information only on institutional email without identifiers.

Action – Denise will check UBC policy and send EOHR off campus policy

10. Amalgam recontouring

Discussion of whether assessment (performance observation), simulation or theory and restoration recontouring. Most institutions do not require their students to purchase their own amalgam knife and files, nor do they have summative assessments.

11. Dental therapy

Discussion on the interest for a Dental Therapy program at any BC institutions. Potential funding may be available.

Camosun is looking at integrating dental therapy into the Dental Hygiene degree being developed. Plans may change since Saskatchewan starting a Dental Therapy program. It is assumed that need may not support more than the one program. Discussion on having a few programs across Canada. VIU focused on DH degree only.

12. Care of deferred clients if had vaccinations

Some institutions have been deferring care for vulnerable clients due to Covid-19. CDHBC states if two weeks after final vaccination, programs can provide care and clients must be educated about risks.

13. BCDHA Director position on articulation committee

Discussed the history for BCDHA board member elected to sit on this committee and how, moving forward, we will not have a representative on this committee from BCDHA. BCDHA is eliminating all appointed positions; only elected positions. Specific educator position was appointed versus elected members from geographic areas.

Discussion on the need for a specific BCDHA educator position on the board. It was noted that there has always been an educator on the BCDHA board regardless of a specific appointment to this committee.

If this committee wants to have a BCDHA educator on the board we would have to discuss at AGM.

Discussion on writing a letter to the BCDHA that with the withdrawal of a BCDHA appointed educator, the committee requests that the BCDHA board contact this committee for an educational view point or input on the dental hygiene education issues.

14. Suspected lesions

Discussion on how variations of normal and common benign lesions are documented and the concern around 'diagnosis'. Discussion focused on how Registered Dental Hygienists and Dental Hygiene Practitioners are educated on variations of normal and common benign conditions and that in our institutions we document these conditions as is.

15. AAP

Discussion on issues of 'diagnosis' and adding a systemic disease or condition is to the AAP diagnosis. If the client has a systemic disease can the DHYG add "as modified by" systemic disease. It was noted that the systemic conditions have previously been diagnosed by their physician, nurse practitioner or dentist. Classification versus diagnosis; the AAP diagnosis is based on the evaluation.

Noted that it is not a causal association – the systemic illness may contribute to the oral health but it is important to look at each case individually and have the student think critically and defend their classification.

16. Presentation of Institutional Reports

Each institution delegate gave a brief overview of their report and answered questions.

Discussion on the class numbers of CNC. UBC was questioned on how they will deal with ill students in the fall who are not able to come to campus. VCC will likely not be returning to normal in September; they are awaiting information from the Dean.

Discussion regarding plans for September regarding delivery of program, what worked well online versus onsite.

CNC uses Google Docs for sign up for clinic instructor and DMD; students can't leave operatory; CA brings what the student needs

17. CDHBC report

Discussion on what the impetus for the report. Discussion on what are critical benchmarks for programs.

18. Guest reports

1:00pm Carole-Anne Mrsic (VCDH)

The report included the recent successful completion of a CDAC visit. Comments added related to earlier agenda items included: clinical renovations related to Covid (glass partitions between each operatory); only use EOHR; and computerized sign-up sheets for instructors.

1:30 – 2:30 Jennifer Lawrence (CDHBC)

Discussion on letter on CDAC requirements forwarded by the CDHBC. Jennifer noted that this is a recognition of BC Dental Hygiene, it is not a policy change, and it is associated with the importance of maintaining 'Schedule I' for public safety.

It was noted that only BC programs are on 'Schedule I' (versus all Canadian programs). The CDHBC does not approve programs, it recognizes programs. The new requirements will level the playing field. In addition, CDAC accreditation is the first but not only hurdle to get over and accredits the program and not the graduates. Non-BC program policy – College reviews for Non-BC programs to be recognized; setting a BC standard.

The CDHBC would like to see accreditation report and what the recommendations are and to confirm that BC programs will you graduate competent dental hygienists. The question is what are the critical elements for programs to graduate competent hygienists?

CDHBC will work with BC Programs to decide which are critical. The objective is not to be overly onerous but to keep the regulator informed of any program changes. The CDHBC will retain the right to deal with programs if they disagree with CDAC decisions.

Suggestions from dental hygiene articulation group is for the critical list to include accreditation, prerequisites, national competencies, aligns with BC model, clinic, community, decision making, and critical thinking. CDHBC will talk to each program and then survey the programs. Labour and mobility need to be considered.

Discussion on the new Oral Health College included the probable timeline and current status. The Health Minister will need to create it and appoint the first board. Current focus of Health Minister is Covid.

NDHBC amalgamation with Federation of Dental Hygiene Regulators of Canada.

Discussion on the amalgamation of the NDHBC and the regulators included rationale (duplication – many members sit on both). Regulators will not subsidy the exam nor will exam subsidize the regulators.

Discussion on the CPDH (clinical exam) included that the exam is on pause for anything beyond what it is currently being used for. The hope is the NDHCB will use it for non-recognized graduates. Although there is still a desire by regulators to have something more than a MC exam, it is not likely to happen for some time; may include a virtual performance exam).

2:30 – 3:30 Andrea Burton (BCDHA)

Discussion on QAP exam included the development of a committee to review a survey, and issues regarding what would the exam be replaced with and potential costs. The new committee include three subgroups within the committee – research, survey group, recommendation group (what will be recommended to board). It was noted that some Colleges (OT and PT) have suspended the exam until the college's amalgamations are complete.

Discussion on the 21 competencies set out by the CDHBC and the use BCDHA modules as base material. The modules will need to be more robust and focus on synthesis of knowledge to be used.

Discussion regarding the hiring of someone (contract) to revise, update, and digitize the study guides. Emphasis on requiring expertise to review the updates and decide what needs to be updated.

Further discussion on removing the BCDHA educator from committee since it is an appointed position. Recommend the Articulation Committee attend each board meeting for an hour. Confirmed that the Articulation committee has the experience and expertise in education

Discussion on whether program advisory committees require Board representatives at their meetings or whether a report is sufficient to inform the BCDHA.

Request that when programs contact BCDHA for a speaker go through Kayla Holmes and not through Angela or Wendy (restructuring things internally).

New committees have been created: pandemic, Covid response, interprofessional collaboration, QA guide, fee guide committee, bylaw, indigenous /diversity issues, senior, and public health. Students are welcome. Interest in an educator committee

Discussion on cultural competency course such as San'yas. Cost is an issue.

3:30 – 4:30 Anabella Chun (BCCAT) Committee and technology support coordinator

- First week of May launching “Canadian – international equivalencies” from 30+ countries
- Moodle will be transferred to new site / platform from KPU by first week of September.
- New research reports have been released:
 - o Microcredentials,
 - o Trends in credit transfer ad credentialing,
 - o Data governance policy models,
 - o Who decides transfer credit requests?, and
 - o Block transfer and degree partnerships.
- Upcoming reports on adult education equivalences and impact of Covid on transfer policies
- Annual general meeting – sessions online and YouTube site. Registration in September

Next meeting:

Location: Hybrid

Date: May 6, 2022, 9:00-4:00 pm (or May 13, April 29) – Date TBC once we know BCCAT conference room availability.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm