

FERNEY communiqué

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

My election to the presidency shows that the FDI is open to diversity, and ready to embrace the modernity of the twenty-first century.

It is a great honour but also a great responsibility to be President of the FDI.

During the next two years, I put myself at the service of the FDI and I will apply special focus on these three areas; Excellence, Medical, Ethics. They are all the sole warranty of our professional dignity.

Imprinting a seal of excellence on the structures and the functioning of the FDI and on the Policy Statements is most important.

Excellence in our actions in the promotion of oral health as part of general health should be one of our priorities. With a special emphasis on the developing countries, it is more important to establish a broad forum in order to introduce political change than to collect funds.

During the coming two years I would like us to reinforce the positioning of our profession as a medical profession and the applied ethics! We are not teeth salesmen! We are doctors in oral health and our profession is becoming increasingly more oriented towards medicine.



We must establish alliances with other medical professions and increase our visibility at their meetings and congresses.

We must work towards a global awareness of oral health. No general health without oral health!

The FDI, its Members and the profession as a whole contribute to the quality of life of our patients. This is the task that I propose we proceed with!

Yours sincerely,

Michèle Aerden
President
FDI World Dental Federation

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MONTREAL CONGRESS

Many people involved in dentistry came from all parts of the world to friendly and multicultural Montréal between 22 and 27 August to take part in the Annual World Dental Congress. The World Dental Parliament meetings started before the Scientific Programme and the Trade Exhibition.

The state-of-the-art convention centre, Palais des Congrès, the bilingual city located at the shore of the St. Lawrence seaway, the easy-going people of Montréal – all came together during a few days to create a successful congress.

Opening Ceremony

As always the Opening Ceremony was one of the highlights of the congress with a mixture of spectacle and entertainment. The arrival of the VIPs set the standard for the ceremony escorted as they were in pomp and circumstance by "La Compagnie franche de la Marine" in historical uniforms and playing fife and drums. A flag ceremony on skates made all the flags flow high and visible.

After the flag ceremony we were all taken on a trip, together with a young girl, Carolyne, through Canada from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast accompanied by the four seasons. The show, reflecting the many cultures within Canada through song and dance ended right in Montréal!

Some figures

More than 14,000 people registered for



the congress; of these 4,700 were dentists, 1,100 were dental hygienists, 950 were auxiliary staff, 1,800 were students and 2,500 exhibition staff. Of the total number registered 8,900 were from Canada and the number of exhibition only visitors was close to 1,000. All figures are approximate at this stage.

The scientific programme covered over 130 sessions and lectures; there were 110 poster presentations and 45 free communications.

Over 270 companies participated in the trade exhibition and 620 booths covered the 5,600 sq m floor space (net).

Scientific programme

There was a full scientific programme in English with translations provided and another one in French; both on a variety of topics covering all aspects of dentistry. The goal of the scientific programme is to provide continuing dental education for all and it was certainly achieved this year.

Many of the business meetings and workshops were open to anyone interested. Some were well attended, others were not.

General Assembly

The General Assembly meetings were well attended with a greater number of delegates than in the past few years; in General Assembly A there were 138 voting delegates from 63 countries. In both the General Assembly and Open Fora meetings intensive discussions took place on, among other issues, the policy statements and finances.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following organisations as new FDI members:

Regular member

Lithuanian Dental Chamber

Affiliate member

International College of

Prosthodontists

Policy Statements

The following new statements were approved by the General Assembly. The full texts can soon be found on the website:

- Sterilisation and cross infection control in dental practice
- Occupational health in dentistry
- Bleaching materials and tooth whiteners
- Post-exposure prophylaxis for HBV, HCV and HIV
- Dental unit water systems and microbial contamination
- Guidelines for dental volunteers
- Saliva as a diagnostic fluid

And the following revised statements were approved:

- Need and demand for oral health care
- Improving access to oral care

Election of Office Bearers

The election of office bearers are of great importance and interest to all. The following persons were elected or re-elected; some were elected by the General Assembly and some by the Council:

President- Elect

Burton Conrod, Canada

Speaker

Gregory Chadwick, USA

Councillor from Africa

Lethoko Tsiu, South Africa

Councillors

Peter Engel, Germany

Myron Pudwill, USA

Masaki Shimono, Japan

David Thomson, Australia

Finance Committee

Brent Stanley, Treasurer, New Zealand

Alex Mersel, Israel

Myron Pudwill, USA

David Thomson, Australia

Communications & Member Support Committee

William O'Reilly, Australia

J.H Schotte, the Netherlands

Dental Practice Committee

Claude Bouchet, France
Leonard Sizani, South Africa

Education Committee

David Crum, New Zealand
Peter Reichart, Germany

Science Committee

Masaki Kambara, Japan
Henry Magloire, France
Taner Yücel, Turkey

World Dental Development & Health Promotion Committee

Denis Bourgeois, France
Gary Leff, USA
Malick Sembene, Senegal
Martin Hobdell, UK (appointed special consultant by Council)

Council and committee members who had completed their terms of office were praised by the President, Dr Yoon, and all received a Certificate of Appreciation.

Thanks

Our congratulations and thanks go to Dr Denis Forest and all members of the Local Organising Committee as well as to the staff of the Canadian Dental Association for their excellent support and co-operation with the FDI Head Office. Without their commitment this congress would not have been such an outstanding success as a lot of work was done on a voluntary basis for a number of years leading up to the congress.

Thanks and congratulations should also go to Dr Kathy Kell, Chairman of the Education Committee and her committee members and in particular to Dr Choo Teck Chuan, the FDI Programme Director for organising an outstanding scientific programme.

More information

In the next issue of the Feryé Communiqué there will be further information on the business meetings. More information and pictures can also be found in a few weeks time on the website.

SHENZHEN 2006

The Annual World Dental Congress next year will be held in Shenzhen, China. Shenzhen, 35 Km from Hong

Kong is situated in the Guangdong Province and is one of China's fastest growing cities and a popular tourist destination.

The preliminary programme will be printed towards the end of this year but information on the scientific programme, the dental exhibition, the social programme, visas etcetera will soon be placed on the website and updated continually.

DR BURTON CONROD, PRESIDENT- ELECT



Dr Burton Conrod, Canada, was elected president-elect at General Assembly B in Montréal.

Dr Conrod is in general practice in partnership with his wife Connie, in Sydney, Nova Scotia since graduating from Dalhousie University in Halifax in 1976. He has been president of the Nova Scotia Dental Association where he focused his efforts on drafting a new Provincial Dental Act and on strategic planning for the Association. He was a Governor of the Canadian Dental Association (CDA) for ten years and chairman of the Association's Governance Review Steering Committee. Between 2000 and 2001 he was the CDA President. In this office, he promoted the value of the dentist in tobacco control efforts and the importance of the dentist/patient relationship being free of the influence of third party benefit providers.

At the Paris 2000 and Kuala Lumpur 2001 General Assemblies he was a CDA delegate and from 2001 he has been a member of the FDI Council. He has also been a member of the FDI Governance Task Team.

Dr Conrod's special interests with regard to the FDI lie in strategic planning to improve the effectiveness of the organisation, in promoting the value of the FDI and in stabilising its funding.

We congratulate Dr Conrod and wish him all success as President-Elect of the FDI.

2008 CONGRESS IN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Council decided at one of its meetings in Montréal that the 2008 Congress will take place in Stockholm in September 2008. The Swedish Annual Congress will take place at the same time which means that there will be some parallel sessions in Swedish.



View over Djurgården

Photographer: Richard Ryan, supplied by: Stockholm Visitors Board

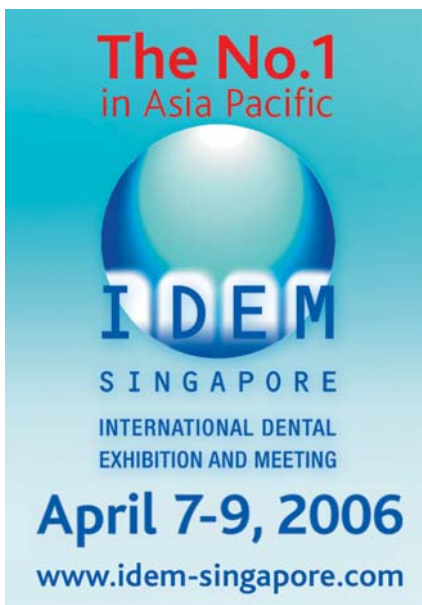
FDI AND KOELNMESSE GMBH ANNOUNCE COOPERATION

FDI and Koelnmesse Gmbh, one of the world's largest trade fair organisers and organiser of IDEM (International Dental Exhibition and Meeting), will cooperate on the IDEM 2006. This is a renewal of an agreement that was established many years ago and which has now been successfully revived.

Aside from supporting the dental trade exhibition of IDEM 2006, the FDI through its Programme Director Dr Choo Teck Chuan, will provide assistance with regard to the scientific programme of the IDEM Conference, to be held in conjunction with the IDEM 2006 exhibition. The

collaboration and backing from the FDI will further enhance the status of this event.

IDEM 2006 exhibition and conference will take place from 7 to 9 April at the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre and it will be a great educational event for all dental professionals. Further information on the scientific programme will come soon on the FDI website.



STRENGTHENING THE DENTAL PROFESSION IN GUYANA

Guyana has recently embarked on the process of improving the quality of care through the introduction of a code of practice for the dental profession. The project, initiated by the Ministry of Health, was financially supported by the European Union. Together with experts of the other health professions (medical doctors, pharmacists and nurses) the FDI's Development and Public Health Manager, Dr Habib Benzian, assisted

the Dental Council in drafting a Code of Practice and a joint Code of Ethics for all Health Professions in the country.

Guyana ranks among the five poorest countries of the American region and is one of the focus countries of the Pan American Health Organization. Within the framework of the National Health Plan and the National Poverty Reduction Strategy the European Union is supporting the development of the health sector. Improving the quality of care will be a key element in achieving the Millennium Development Goals for Guyana.

Currently, there are only 33 dentists in the country which has a population of 780,000 living mainly in the coastal areas. There are huge problems of accessibility for populations in the hinterland. In order to address the shortage of oral health workforce the government has very successfully introduced a model of basic oral care services delivered through dental therapists (in Guyana called *Dentist Extenders or Dentex*) in the Primary Health Care system. However, there are still more than 200 illegal providers of oral care that offer their services without any formal training, proper infection control or quality control. A dental school – the first in the country - is due to be opened later this year in the capital Georgetown.

This led the Minister of Health, Dr Leslie Ramsammy, to call for technical assistance in the development of codes of practice for all health professions. Despite the Dental Council being established in 1996, there was no professional regulation in place. The Nurses Council, for example, still used the Code of Practice drafted in the 1950s under the British colonial law. In close consultation with all stakeholders and during several workshops all four health professions agreed on new Codes of Practice. They also adopted common Code of Ethics

applicable to all that recognises health as a human right and places it in the context of development in the Caribbean region.

The new *Code of Practice for Oral Health Professionals in Guyana* gives guidance on all aspects of dentistry, for example licensing, malpractice, patient rights and continuing education. The regulation addresses issues of the extended oral health professional's team as well as practicing in public and private services.

Following a final consultation process it is expected that the Parliament and the Ministry of Health will approve the Code of Practice by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the Guyana Dental Association, established in 1974 has applied for membership of the FDI.

For further information please contact the FDI Development & Public Health Manager at hbenzain@fdiworldental.org

Wrigley - your partner in oral healthcare

Wrigley Oral Healthcare Programs operate across 47 countries to help improve oral health, via research and the provision of educational resources.



Chewing sugarfree gum has been proven to help prevent tooth decay by up to 40%*



* Szoke J, et al. J Dent Res 2001

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The editor-in-chief reserves the right to edit all text submitted.

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