Nova Scotia Regulator of
Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism

The Initial Board of the Nova Scotia Regulator of Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism (NSRDHDTD) met for a full-day meeting on April 18, 2026, that was delivered in a hybrid format with most Board members in attendance in person, and others in attendance virtually.

Governance and Meeting Administration

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am on with Chair, Kayla Leary-Pinch welcoming attendees, confirming quorum, and giving a land acknowledgement.
- The agenda was approved without amendments.
- Minutes from the January 31, 2026, Board meetings were adopted.
- No conflicts of interest were declared.

Board Education

Angela Simmonds of A-Team Coaching presented to the Board on the topic of "Expanding Our Knowledge in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility". This two-hour session expanded on the presenter's previous presentation to the Board and explored concepts of EDIRA in greater depth. The session was both didactic and interactive, and gave Board members opportunities to consider real-world examples and apply their knowledge and judgement.

The Board identified ongoing governance education priorities for the next fiscal year, including:

- Engaging Angela Simmonds of A-Team Consulting for "Part 3" in her EDIRA training series;
- Further Policy Governance training, to be delivered by Sue Radwan; and
- Education on financial literacy.

Decisions Approved Between Meetings

The Board formally acknowledged and recorded three motions approved by electronic vote between February 1 and April 18, 2026:

- Re-appointments to the NSRDHDTD Complaints Committee – **Karen Alcoe-Guest** (for a 5-year term effective June 1, 2026) and **Mallory Brent** (for a 5-year term effective June 1, 2026).
- Appointment to the NSRDHDTD Registration and Licensing Committee – **Leslie Kenwell** (for a two-year term effective April 7, 2026).

Items for Decision

Selection Committee Report & Subsequent Board

- The Selection Committee presented to the Board a slate of candidates for the subsequent Board that was populated using the composition matrix and applicant scoring rubric that was previously approved.
- The subsequent Board will be composed of 5 public representatives and 6 registrant members, with at least one registrant member from each profession.
- It was noted that public representatives are appointed by government and therefore do not need to be approved by the Board.
- The Board approved the slate of registrant candidates, as presented by the Selection Committee, including their new terms of office:
    - Kayla Leary-Pinch (DH) – May 1, 2026, to Apr 30, 2028
    - Sonya Bishop (DH) – May 1, 2026, to Apr 30, 2028
    - Benjamin-Thorfinn Mueller (DT) – May 1, 2026, to Apr 30, 2027
    - Pamella Patterson (DD) – May 1, 2026, to Apr 30, 2028
    - Karen Fletcher (DH) – May 1, 2026, to Apr 30, 2027
    - Sydney Nelson (DH) – May 1, 2026, to Apr 30, 2027
- The Board approved the slate of candidates for Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, as presented by the Selection Committee:
    - Kayla Leary-Pinch
    - Sonya Bishop
- The Board further considered the gaps-analysis presented in the Selection Committee report and approved a “Board Development Plan” in principle.

Items for Information

Upcoming Annual Regulated Professionals Meeting

- Will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2026.
- Ryan Baxter, lawyer at McInnes Cooper, will be presenting on “Regulation of Personal/Political Speech” and “Compassionate Regulation”.
- Michelle Thompson, Minister of Health, has provided a written greeting, and Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health, has provided a recorded video greeting.
- Meeting date for next year’s Annual Regulated Professionals Meeting set for Saturday, May 15, 2027.

Assurance of Effective Performance

Monitoring Registrar Performance (Ends and Executive Limitations)

- The Board approved the Registrar’s preliminary plan for the NSRDHDTD Ends, including KPIs, finding that it provided reasonable interpretation and is compliant with Board policy.

- The Board reviewed and accepted the Registrar's First-Quarter Financial Monitoring reports, Treatment of Recipients Monitoring report, and Treatment of Staff Monitoring report, finding that they provided reasonable interpretations and are compliant with Board policy.
- They also reviewed and accepted the Registrar's Communications and Support report, confirming it met governance expectations.

Monitoring Board Performance

- The Board engaged in self-monitoring for the policies regarding Global Governance Commitment, Shared Values, Board Committee Principles, Board Committee Structure, and Global Board-Management Delegation and deemed that they were in continued compliance.
- The Board approved revisions to the Shared Values policy to underscore accountability to the public, as well as revisions to the Board Committee Principles policy to remove a reference to a previous legacy regulator, and to rename all statutory committees using the naming convention legislated in the RHPA.
- Each Board member completed an evaluation of governance processes of the meeting.

Next Board Meeting

The Board confirmed the following upcoming meeting dates:

- **June 2026** – Governance Budget meeting
- **October 2026** – Fall in-person Board meeting.

Exact dates to be determined.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned the meeting at 2:05 pm.