



Newfoundland and Labrador Dental Association
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Good Afternoon,

Here are the most recent updates as of the afternoon of Friday, May 1st:

What we're working on now:

A Message from the Executive Director

These are trying times and there reigns a lot of confusion as to what the future will look like. Dentistry is currently at the lowest point it has been in many many years, probably the worst days in your career. I think we can see a light at the end of the tunnel as we have turned that corner and are moving back to what normal will be in the future. Yes all the way down has been reached so we are now on the ascent don't despair as we are moving in the right direction. Overall, Dentistry will do just fine unless a side effect of the virus or vaccine is loss of teeth and I don't think that will be the case. The dentistry you had before COVID shut you down will be there at the end of this time-out. While a lot of you have been doing emergency work and we thank you for that as it has helped keep the lid on the issue of dental pain and infection. I do realize that there has been no public thank you for the Dentist who is going in to face the infected face of a patient who may or may not be COVID. With limited PPEs you have worked outside the box and secured non-traditional sources for PPEs so you could serve your patients. Be pleased with what you are doing and have done. The number of cases showing up at the ER Departments has been but a trickle so yes you have been doing the job.

No member has made money during this Pandemic the work you do barely keeps the wolf from the door but it helps the patient out of pain and infection.

That is the main objective at this point we will get back to business later but not that much later.

On the road back to normality or whatever you will see a lot of dips and bumps. First there are commissioned sales people who will quote rules that apply elsewhere and tell you that such will happen here and therefore you need to buy some very expensive piece of equipment. The pressure is there is only one of these do dahs left in the country and the price will go through the roof. Just because Sask says you need whatever it does not mean you need it there is no national rule that says you have to follow another Province. Dental is Provincially regulated and we have a very competent Board that makes decisions based on local conditions and needs not what is happening in a faraway location. Your Association and the Licencing Board have formed a joint Panel to build a back to work plan and they are working on this with the interest of the Newfoundland Patient and Dentist in mind. This plan will be provided to you before the 28 days are up and you will have time to do that construction or buy the gear needed to work. The second item I have seen on this road to redemption is the buyers who are looking to pick up Dental Clinics for a song. Yes this is the bottom of the market and is a great time to buy but it is not a great time to sell. We need the market to come back to an equilibrium where everyone wins, but that is not yet but it will happen as you know even dead cats bounce. You will be given stories by some great sales folk about how they are doing you a favour by taking things off your hands at this time of crisis. Remember Dentistry is an inflation proof business that will always make a good return when it is operational. We are just going through a short disruption in the normal world it will pass.

We have a webinar on Monday at which we will have the Panel who may be able to answer any question you have so I suggest join us and ask if we don't have the answer we will get. There is notice of this in the daily briefing.

Anthony Patey
Executive Director
NLDA

NLDA Webinars

Next week's webinar will be a Q & A and we encourage all with questions to attend. The beginning of the webinar will include a discussion on the Government of Canada's new financial programs. The Panel that is working together to create the Back to Work plan has been invited to be on screen for Q & As.

The webinar will take place on Monday, May 4th at 2:00pm and if you'd like to attend you must **RSVP via email to amanda.nlda@nfld.net before 12:00pm on Monday.**

Media Updates

* CBC NL - N.L. reports 1 new case of COVID-19
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/covid19-newfoundland-labrador-may-1-1.5552077>

Our next update will be Monday afternoon, May 4th. We will continue to keep you updated.

Kind Regards,

Amanda Squires on behalf of Dr. Paul Hurley, President of the NLDA

If you have any questions you can contact myself, the Manager of Communications and Members Relations with the NLDA, via email Amanda.nlda@nfld.net or phone: 709-685-4420.