

URGENT Message to Licensed Denturists
Covid-19 – MANDATORY CLOSURE as per the Update to the Public Health Order under *The Public Health Act*, released March 20, 2020
by the Saskatchewan Chief Medical Health Officer

On March 18, 2020, the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan sent members, Saskatchewan Licensed Denturists, a message which strongly recommended that all non-essential Denturism care and service be suspended immediately and that we would revisit this recommendation on April 6, 2020 or earlier if the situation changes. The situation has drastically changed, forcing the Saskatchewan Chief Medical Health Officer to issue an Order updating the [Public Health Order](#) under *The Public Health Act* to further reduce the risk of potential Covid-19 transmission in the province. The [Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer's Order](#) of March 20, 2020, includes but is not limited to the following **three important mandatory items** that we wanted to ensure you were fully aware of:

- **Effective March 23, 2020, The closure of dental clinics (which under the [Dental Disciplines Act](#) includes Denturists, Dentists and all other oral health care providers) except for non-elective procedures; there has been no end date provided in this regard.**

This Order **MUST BE COMPLIED WITH** or you could face arrest, a fine and/or a conduct hearing and discipline meeting (in accordance with our [Regulatory By-Laws](#)) if the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan knowingly becomes aware that you are unlawfully providing denture services, which could result in suspension or revocation of your license together with a fine.

The Denturist Society of Saskatchewan does not feel that there are many circumstances/procedures that a Denturist provides that would be deemed of a “non-elective procedure” nature and therefore would not be defensible. A non-elective procedure is defined as “relating to, being, or involving an urgent medical procedure and especially surgery that is essential to the survival of the patient”.

- **Effective immediately**, all persons that have travelled internationally shall go into mandatory self-isolation for 14 days from date of arrival back into Canada.
- **Remains in effect**, all persons in attendance at the 2020 Pacific Dental Conference must self-quarantine immediately until March 22, 2020 in accordance with the following (see paragraph 5 for specific PDC information ([click here for link](#))). The Saskatchewan Chief Medical Health Officer has confirmed that this directive must be followed by all attendees of the 2020 Pacific Dental Conference.

To further clarify, the recommendation that was released to members on March 18, 2020 will be in full force and effect until the [Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer's Order](#) comes into effect on March 23, 2020, which is supported by [Premier Scott Moe's Ministerial Order](#), both of which can be found at the following links:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/-/media/news-release-backgrounders/2020/mar/ministers-order.pdf>

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2020/march/20/covid-19-update-march-20>

As referenced above, Premier Scott Moe today signed a [Ministerial Order](#) pursuant to the provincial State of Emergency directing that all Orders of the Government and Chief Medical Health Officer must be followed and that law enforcement agencies in Saskatchewan have the full authority to enforce those Orders.

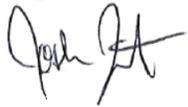
We urge you to comply with the [Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer's Order](#) supported by [Premier Scott Moe's Ministerial Order](#) to ensure the public's safety, maintain the integrity of the Denturism Profession and protect your license to practice Denturism. As stated previously, the consequence that could ensue if you do not explicitly comply with this Order could be as follows:

- Arrest and possible jail time
- Violation of an order may result in a fine of \$2,000.00
- A conduct hearing and discipline meeting may be ensued (in accordance with our [Regulatory By-Laws](#)) if the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan knowingly becomes aware that you are unlawfully providing denture services, which could result in suspension or revocation of your license together with a fine.

Your safety and the safety of the Saskatchewan public is our highest priority and we are working to ensure you are informed and prepared regarding Covid-19. The Denturist Society of Saskatchewan will inform members immediately when this Order is rescinded or amended.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the office directly at admin@saskdenturists.com or any one of the Council members at: President, Josh Laewetz DD, at president@saskdenturists.com; Vice-President/Treasurer, Rod Sternig DD, at treasurer@saskdenturists.com; Secretary/Quality Assurance Committee Chair, Jared Samborski DD, at qualityassurance@saskdenturists.com; Registrar, Craig Martin DD, at registrar@saskdenturists.com; or Conduct Chair, Darryl Kuny DD, at conduct@saskdenturists.com. We can also be reached by telephone at 1-855-633-6875.

Respectfully Circulated,



Josh Laewetz, DD
President