I wish to outline my view that the proposal “to remove the requirement of a structured professional relationship” should not be made.

Re:“50. The Board proposes to remove the requirement of a structured professional relationship from the registration standard. In the proposed revised registration standard, the Board has strengthened its expectations for working through a team approach for dental practitioners, and also included reference to the Code of conduct.”

For following reasons.

1. **Fragmentation of Oral Health Care.**

This proposal will create separate silos and fail to facilitate true integrated health outcomes.

Health care is increasingly looking at required inroads to integration, I refer to Kurt C.Strange in “The Problem of Fragmentation and the Need for Integrative Solutions” *Ann Fam Med*. 2009 Mar; 7(2): 100–103.

2. **Diagnosis by a Dentist.**

Diagnosis is central to deeper health care. The broadest possible view a dentist provides is essential to efficient health and disease care. Diagnosis is best made by a treating dentist. Although there may be an appearance of doing same things, therapists and hygienists do not have same training and skills and do not do the same as a dentist.

Diagnosis is more important than treatments for its own sake. The role of diagnostician is central. With these proposed changes I see the outcome may end up increasing risk to public. As procedures are encouraged and mistakenly advanced without therapy- that is without health related outcomes. This displaces dental care for cosmetics or a narrow consumption of dental services. I believe oral health is greater than that, more complicated than that and more difficult to achieve.

Work force matters currently allow use of under-utilized dentists more than anticipated in previous reviews.

3. **Contradictory Message to community.**

This proposal action to break a structured relationship between providers states to the public that the involvement of the dentist is not a valuable aspect of care. In deed. An action that will be interpreted as such no matter what the board desires the public to think. This is a statement of the board’s values and is Contradictory. To remove the connections between relevant practitioners then to say the board “has strengthened its expectations for working through a team approach for dental practitioners” is contradictory.

The Board should not delegate away their responsibility to the community. We expect the board to promote a working framework to enhance delivery of health care. This proposal breaks the structure and framework that ensures oversight to encourage a professional relationship.
Dental board submission

Thanks you for the opportunity to voice my concern for the provision of dental care.
Sincerely Adam Frederick.

14 May 2018