



Dental Hygiene Collaborative Curriculum Project

Student Pathways to Higher Education
Conference

February 28, 2013



Scope of Project

Ensure the
*Entry to Practice Competencies & Standards
for Canadian Dental Hygienists, 2010*
was integrated into the curriculum of CAAT
dental hygiene programs
by the September 2011

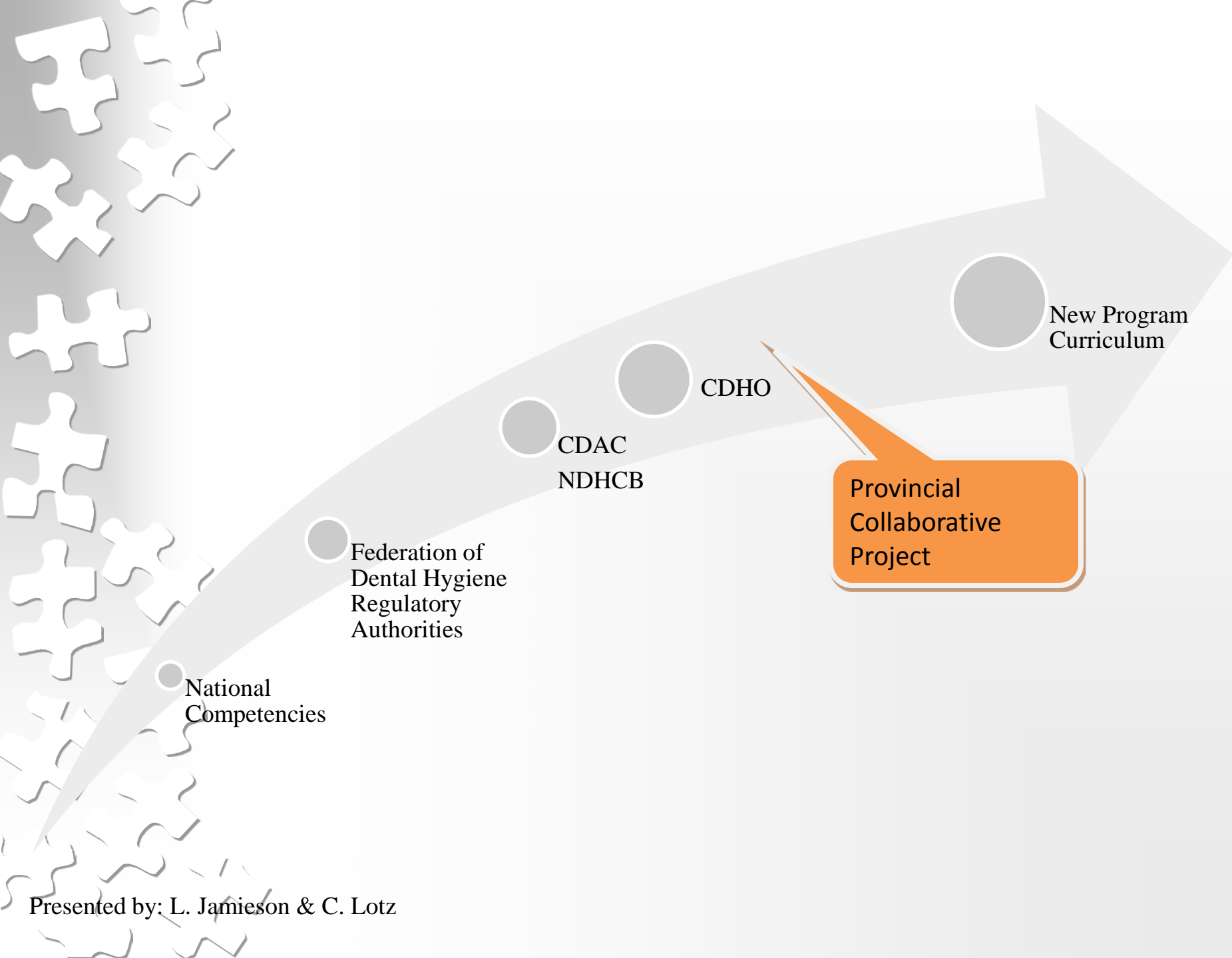


Context

- 12 dental hygiene programs
 - 10 Anglophone; 2 francophone
- Annual program enrolments
 - ranges from 20 to 87 students
- On-site Clinical facilities
 - 15 chairs – 50 chairs
- Program delivery prior to project
 - Ranged from 60 – 70 wks
- Program hours prior to project
 - Ranged from 1,278-1,940 hrs

National Vision







Triggers

- Release of national competencies & standards for dental hygiene – *December 2009*
- New Standards of Practice approved College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario – *January 2011*
- New National Dental Hygiene Certification Examination – *September 2011*
- New accreditation requirements approved Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada – *November 2011*

Starting point

- CDHO Letter
 - Implementation deadline September 2011
- Commitment to move forward by Colleges
 - January 2011
- Creation of Task Group
 - First meeting February 2011
 - Creation of a Working Group



Crisis

危機

The Chinese word for crisis
shares a character with the
word for opportunity.

機會

- Need to fast-track MTCU approval & funding
- Existing 2007 Program Vocational Standards related to 4 semester program that would not fully address new expectations
- Differing delivery models & institutional rules across programs
- Short timeframe for curriculum development & course approvals



Opportunity

for Provincial Collaboration

- Adopt a ‘one-ask’ approach for MTCU approval
- Strike the balance between college autonomy and provincial consistency
- Establish clear transferability pathways
- Curriculum development becomes a shared process; decreasing the work



Players

- Task Group
- Working Group
- Dental Hygiene Educators





Audience

- Programs – coordinators, curriculum writers
- Faculty – front line users
- Commission on Dental Accreditation

Goals:

- ✓ To provide a curriculum framework that gives context
- ✓ To provide evidence that the new competencies and standards are in the curriculum
- ✓ To provide documents that can be used as resources by programs for course development and reporting to accreditation



Deliverables

Phase 1

- New Program Learning Outcomes & Elements of Performance
- *Consensus* Clinical Skills Acquisition document
- *Consensus* Program of Study
- Principles of Transferability

Phase 2

- *Consensus* Curriculum Theme Outcomes
- Curriculum mapping & validation
- Curriculum Theme Detailed Maps
- Website to support sharing and archiving documents



Strategies for Success

Process

- Engagement of programs
- Ownership by all
- Building on expert knowledge
- Consensus building – multiple feedback loops
- Working group
 - Finding common ground
 - Recommendations
 - Validation
 - Documentation

Issues

- Trying to keep ahead of the ‘pack’
- Diverse expectations of the role of the Working Group
- Time constraints of program coordinators
- Face-face meetings



Program Development & Consensus

- Program Learning Outcomes & Elements of Performance
- Program of Study (6 semesters)
 - Curriculum Themes not Courses
- Clinic Skills Acquisition document

MTCU approval – August 2011



Challenges post-Approval

- Credential to be granted was undecided
- Students beginning program were not aware of specifics until August
- Started new program without complete curriculum map
- Programs still needed to provide the ‘old’ curriculum for existing cohorts
- Varying levels of support for curriculum development at individual institutions

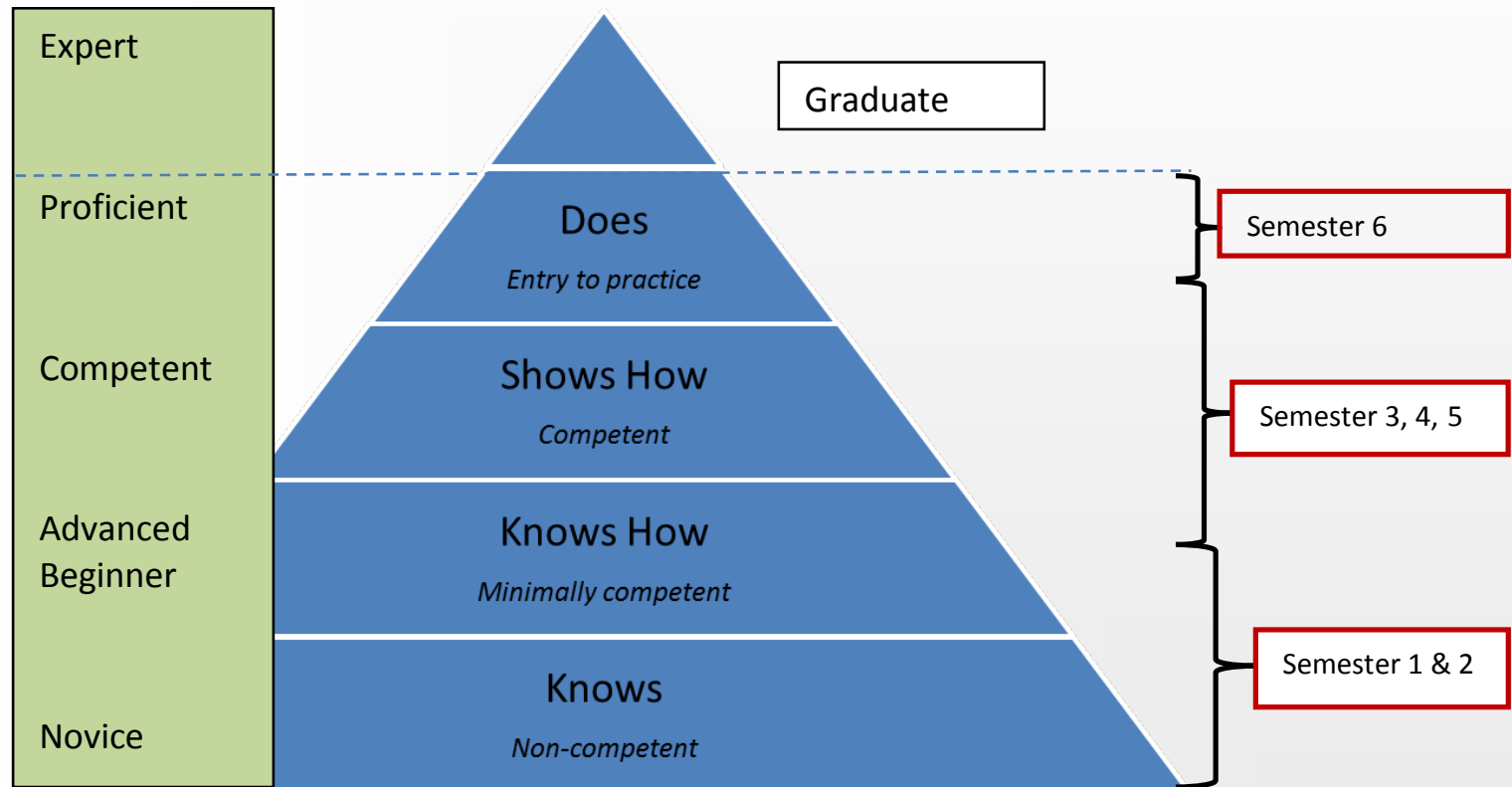


Curriculum Development

Curriculum Theme Approach

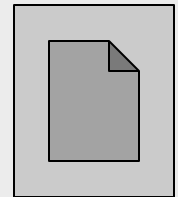
- **Program of Study** identifies which themes are addressed in Year 1, 2 & 3 of the program
- Agreement on expected outcomes for each *Curriculum Theme*
- Multidimensional scaffolding of curriculum
- Programs determine which courses will address the *Curriculum Theme* outcomes

Multi-dimensional Scaffolding



Agreement on Transferability

- Based on achievement of *Curriculum Theme* outcomes
- Block transferability points established at end of Semester 2 and Semester 4
- Unrealistic to assume block transfer at end of Semester 1 and 3
 - would result in a prescribed curriculum
 - individual assessment at these points



Mapping & Validation

- Provided a gap analysis for Working Group to ensure national competencies and standards were integrated within curriculum
- Provides a resource for programs to support mapping of college-specific curriculum
 - for accreditation reporting
 - for course mapping

Program of Study – PLO

Curriculum Themes - PLO

Program of Study–ETP

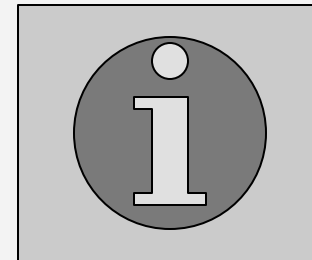
Program of Study–CDHO Standards

Program of Study–NDHCE

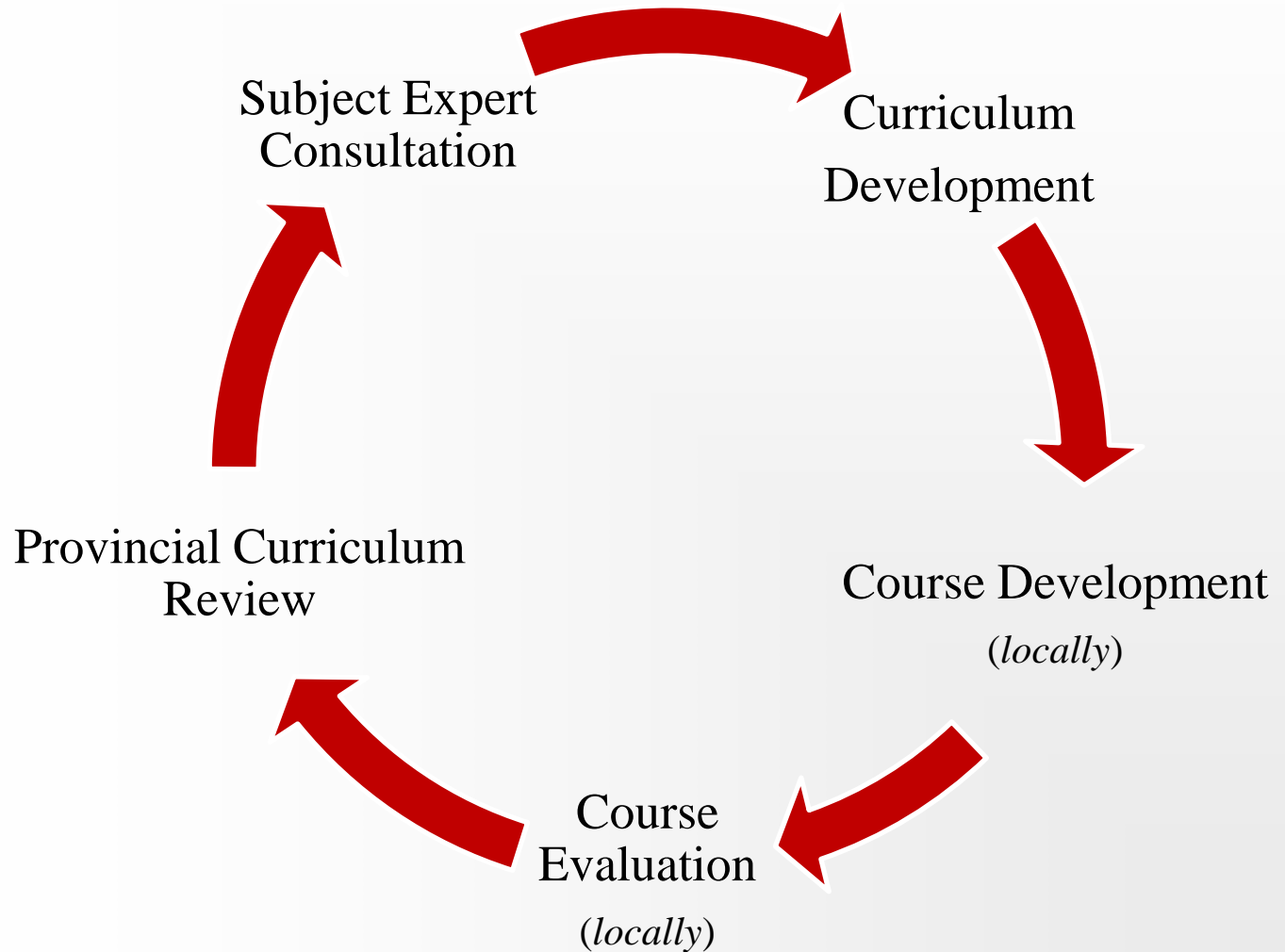
Program of Study-EES & NS

Detailed Maps

- Consolidates information in one location
- Resource for faculty responsible for course development



Sustainability





Ongoing Collaboration

- Exchange
- Heads of Dental Programs
- Heads of Health Sciences Programs



Thank You

Questions??

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