Report of the Executive Director - 2019

In 2019, HDA will host two House of Delegates in one calendar year but there was a lot going on, in between. The January 2019 House Meeting set the stage for a busy and productive 2019, including a few activities that required us to be nimble. I won't go into details into the various programs and work, as you'll see these reports included in the House Handbook but one thing's for sure: the changes we underwent in 2019 generated some interesting conversations and decisions this year.

Although we were pleased to have hosted ADA and our mainland colleagues last October 2018, we had to adjust our April 2019 CE program, not just to a smaller and more modest size, but with a new events management company. That allowed us to support a local company, and in the end, to work more efficiently and in a more cost-effective manner. The Convention program is now working diligently to get us back to our usual programming and mode for 2020.

We are halfway through our Strategic Plan so the Board will refresh and revise it in 2020 for the next three years' plan. It has guided the creation of several programs, and I'm looking forward to what the next plan will bring, including addressing our growing needs which would be complimented by our revised staffing structure.

In the meantime, we are kept busy not just with our mission work, but the building continues to be a hot topic. We will end the year as we began — with one tenant and two empty suites. But we have signed on with a new property management company who has been hard at work advertising and showing our suites. That, coupled with our Building Task Force's work to upgrade the aesthetics of the building, are our continued strategies to seek suitable tenants.

However, as we created our 2020 budget for your review, we were faced with the reality of the building's lack of revenue and ongoing costs. Regardless of suites being filled or not, we remain responsible for building costs. With the combination of two empty suites (one of which is the largest suite) and projected shortfalls on the 2020 Convention and member dues, we are heading into 2020 with a deficit of \$165,000. The Board of Trustees and programs have reviewed the deficit and will offer additional adjustments at the House; however, the deficit will remain. I will look to the House to determine a course of action to remedy the deficit that takes into account resources needed to continue focusing on our mission.

This is not a cause for alarm though. The HDA was granted a clean audit by our auditors and we have been exercising fiscal responsibility on organizational expenses. But this is an opportunity for our leadership to consider structural and cultural changes to our programming and to our organizational environment – changes that should parallel the changing landscape and economics of organized dentistry and our membership.

My sincere appreciation to our leadership, members, our partners, and staff for a very productive year. I'm looking forward to what more we can do together, in 2020, for the oral health state of our patients and for our profession.

- Respectively Submitted,
- Kim Nguyen, MSW Executive Director