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KELOWNA – Dr. Bernie Legatto has been appointed President of the Association of Prosthodontists of Canada (APC). As president, he hopes to boost public awareness about prosthodontics and the valuable impact the specialized dental field can have on its patients.

“I am honoured and excited about accepting my role as President of the APC,” said Dr. Legatto of Kelowna’s Legato Centre in the Orchard Plaza. Dr. Legatto of Legato Centre in Orchard Plaza started his full-time specialty practice in Kelowna in 1980.

“Prosthodontists are smile designers — we’re a combination of a creative artist and a technical engineer.”

Prosthodontists are dental specialists with expertise in the replacement of missing teeth, restorative and cosmetic dental procedures. This includes crowns, bridges, complete and partial dentures, veneers and bonding. They are accredited dental professionals who must complete three additional years of post-graduate education and training. Dr. Legatto, a fellow of the International College of Dentists, has lectured around the world to other dentists on the subjects of crown and bridge and dental implants.

As president of the APC, Dr. Legatto will address the issue of professional encroachment and raise public awareness about the specialized role of prosthodontists in dentistry.

“Amazing technological breakthroughs are allowing us to help our patients regain their self-esteem and confidence,” said Dr. Legatto.

“An example of a recent innovation is the dental implant which is a revolutionary improvement over dentures and now more affordable than ever before.”

Dr. Legatto will cap off his year as president by hosting the 180 accredited prosthodontists of the national association at a conference in Kelowna.