

Word Of Mouth

WITH
Drs. Greg Konotopetz & Kim Neudorf

Produced to improve your dental health and awareness

Winter 2011

from the dentists

Bits And Bites

■ Added patient cancer screening is now possible with *VELscope*®. This technology detects early oral cancer before it is ever visible. Ask about it for your next exam!

■ We're now using *iTero* - our latest technology that uses digital imaging to record your teeth instead of mouthfuls of impression material - no gagging, no funny taste. Great technology!

■ Office growth now necessitates expanded hours to accommodate serving our valued patients well. Watch for further details. We'll keep you posted on our website www.signaturesmiles.ca

■ Ken and Shauna Bourassa experienced a *night out on the town* prize as a thank you for being friends of *Signature Smiles*. Thanks to all of you for your confidence in us, demonstrated by your referrals! Our 2012 contest is a go! Email us at info@signaturesmiles.ca, get the details and be part of it. We're offering over \$2,000 in prizes.

■ Dr. Konotopetz recently attended the 60th World meeting of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry. We are proud to share that he passed his implant exam and will receive his Associate Fellowship upon completing his oral case exam. He also passed his Fellowship exam in the Academy of General Dentistry and is celebrating his 30th year in practice.

Continued on page 4

Improve Your Smile!

Enrich Your Life!

DENTAL IMPLANTS

If you are self-conscious about your smile, you may not be getting the most out of life. Missing teeth or worn restorations can age your face and make you feel less vibrant. They can also cause you to miss out on the things you once enjoyed, like favorite foods. Rest assured that there is a solution: *dental implants*, which are artificial roots secured by the jawbone, serve as anchors for replacement teeth. They offer superior stability and help preserve bone. Implant-supported teeth look, feel, and function just like natural teeth.

IMPLANTS CAN IMPROVE YOUR SMILE BY:

- providing a permanent anchor for attractive replacement teeth
- curtailing bone loss
- supporting face and lips, eliminating a "sunken" look.

IMPLANTS CAN IMPROVE YOUR LIFE BY:

- offering the convenience and comfort of non-removable replacement teeth
- restoring bite pattern and alleviating headaches and jaw aches
- aiding digestion by allowing you to properly chew foods.

Whether you need to replace one tooth, several teeth, or all of your teeth, there is a solution for you. We will be happy to discuss ways to bring back your healthy smile and vibrant lifestyle.



Dental Implants are as natural-looking and feeling as real teeth.

Doing our very best for each and every patient, each and every day!



Say Yes To You

You'll smile more!

Though each of us inherits both good and not-so-good features from generations past, we are more than a patchwork of hand-me-down genes. We all have the power to learn to be happy with ourselves. Once that happens we can stop being self-conscious and enjoy being in the moment.

Positive self-esteem is more than just liking how you look. It's about feeling good emotionally, mentally, and physically. There is no question that your good oral health directly affects this perception.

We're very proud when we can contribute to your well-being. Sometimes it's by providing cosmetic treatments that work with what you've got to help you change what you can. Other times it's by providing quality care to achieve and maintain your healthiest smile. Make regular visits part of your self-esteem regime!

3 KISSES For You Keep it simple, savvy, easy & sassy!

According to *Cornell University* researchers, in addition to all your other daily choices, you make 200+ decisions a day - a minimum of 1,400 a week - just about what food and beverages to put in your mouth! And how about sorting through countless toothpastes, mouthrinses, and other oral care products on the market? We'd like to uncomplicate at least one part of your life. Here are three amazing smile sparklers. If you can't settle on only one, consider all three!

Teeth whitening picks up your smile power by removing even the most stubborn stains caused by tobacco, tea, coffee, wine ... or time.

White fillings made from long-lasting easy-care materials matched to your own enamel color will restore your smile to its original immaculate condition, so no one will guess you've ever had a cavity!

Veneers are thin individually sculpted concealers that are applied to the surface of your own enamel.

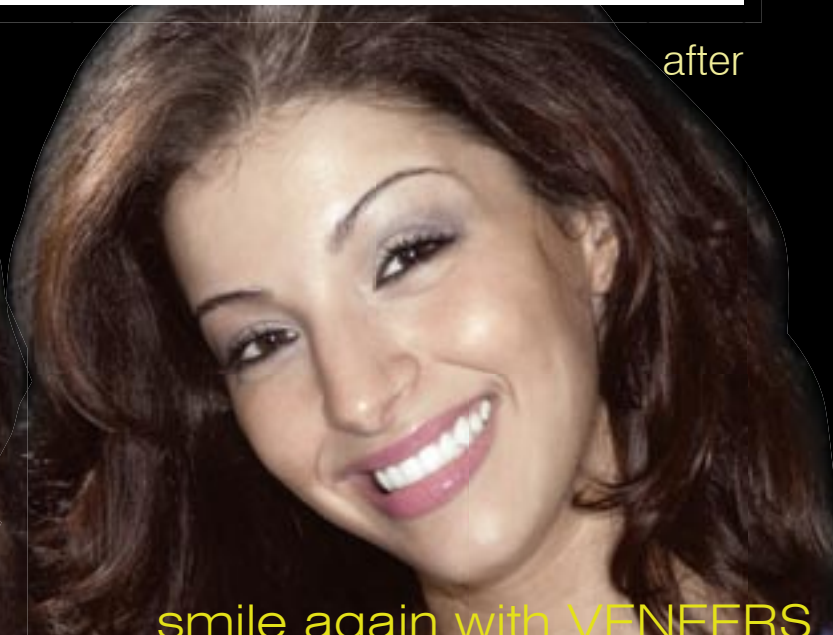
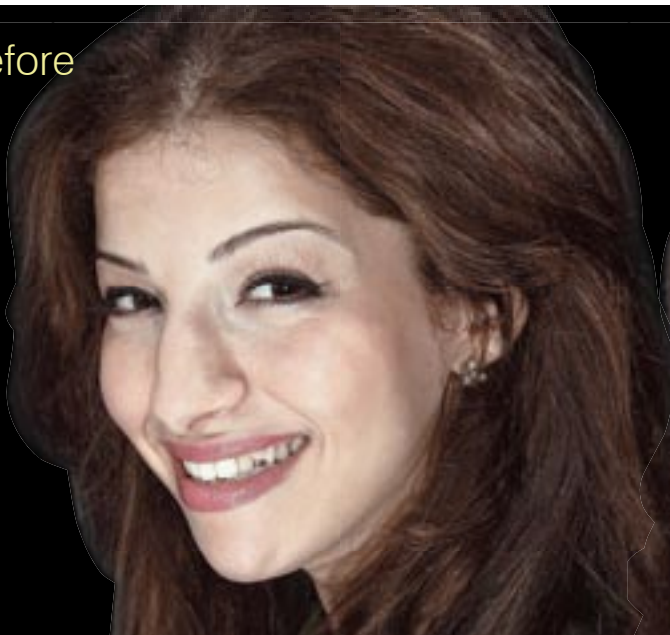
There's nothing superficial about the results though, thanks to sophisticated materials that are strong and require no special care. Veneers are an excellent choice to mask...

- chipped, cracked, or worn teeth
- unattractive gaps
- minor twists and overlaps
- even the darkest stains
- misshaped teeth.

Still can't decide? Keep it simple and give us a call. We'll work with you to help eliminate the guesswork!

before

after



smile again with VENEERS

Your Smile. YOUR WAY.

Planning the future of your smile

We follow the golden rule: we treat our patients the way we would like to be treated. It's important to us to provide you with real information, explain our recommendations, and give you time to absorb them. We understand that just as milestones like marriage, graduations, and retirement involve planning, ensuring your smile will last through your lifetime takes some forethought too. That's where we would like to help you.

For example, some restorative solutions are so beautiful that you may believe they are only cosmetic. Yet many metal-free restorations made of white composite, porcelain, cast glass, or resin that are matched to your enamel were actually created to save your smile, not just dress it up.

Consider...

When your tooth is too damaged for a simple filling, *inlays* (which fill the cavity) or *onlays* (which also covers it) can be an excellent solution.

A *crown* can be used to cap your entire tooth to provide improved shape and strength. One or more can also be attached to a *bridge* when several teeth are missing.

A crown can also be placed on top of a permanently implanted artificial root made of biocompatible metal. These *dental implants* can also be used to anchor a bridge or a denture for greater stability.

Still have questions about your best smile-saving options? We will always be happy to answer them for you. Call us today!



Crowns

Keep Up The Pace!

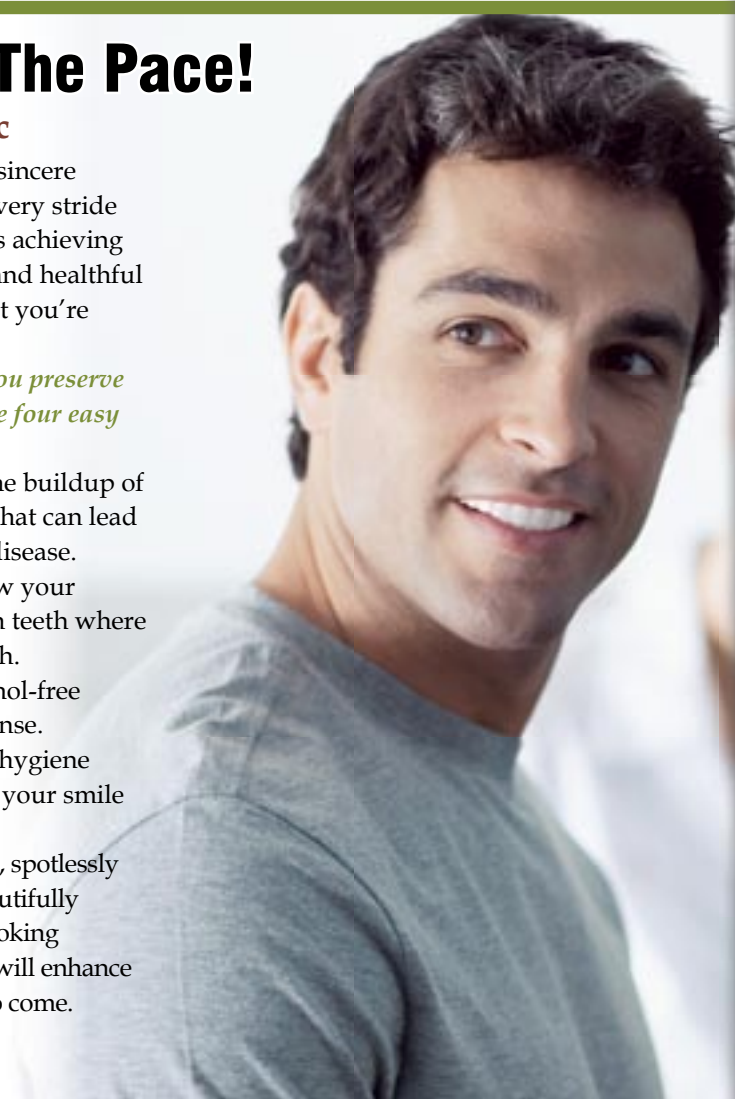
You look terrific

Please accept our sincere congratulations for every stride you've made towards achieving your most beautiful and healthful smile. We can see that you're pleased - it shows!

We'd like to see you preserve that sparkle! Here are four easy steps to success...

1. Brush to prevent the buildup of the bacterial biofilm that can lead to cavities and gum disease.
2. Floss to reach below your gumline and between teeth where your brush can't reach.
3. Rinse with an alcohol-free antibacterial mouthrinse.
4. Keep your regular hygiene visits so we can keep your smile clean and fresh.

Pink healthy gums, spotlessly clean enamel, and beautifully maintained natural-looking cosmetic restorations will enhance your smile for years to come.



It's Called WHAT?

Find out if you do it

Bruxism, the often unconscious habit of clenching and grinding your teeth, can run in families. Stress is the most frequent cause. Some children grind, but it is most common in 20-40 year olds. Three times as many women do it, yet it has also been linked with apnea - multiple cessation of breathing through the night - which is more common in men. Male or female, whatever your age, bruxism can damage your teeth and dental restorations and cause jaw and facial pain and headaches.

We can check you for...

- signs of bruxism
- problems with your bite
- the need for a custom nightguard or splint.

Your doctor can recommend...

- stress counseling
- exercise &/or physiotherapy
- medication.

You can try to...

- change sleep positions
- avoid alcohol and caffeine
- refrain from chewing on pens, pencils, gum, and fingernails.

Mouth-Body Must-Read

Is there a chance you're in here?

We'd like to take a moment to revisit the relationship between your oral health and systemic diseases, particularly diabetes. *Why diabetes?* Diagnoses are on the increase even among children and young adults. Health professionals tie at least some of this increase to diet and obesity, and it certainly reflects greater knowledge and vigilance on the part of the medical profession. An early diagnosis is always better than a later one, yet one other thing is certain: people with diabetes – especially if it is uncontrolled – are particularly susceptible to infections, including gum disease.

In fact, unmanaged gum disease can increase blood sugar even in non-diabetics, so you can see how this could place diabetics at increased risk for complications. It goes without saying that diabetics should be monitored regularly for signs of infection.

But they're not the only ones. Anyone suffering from other inflammatory diseases such as heart disease, kidney diseases, arthritis, osteoporosis or its precursor osteopenia, should come in and see us more regularly to avoid gum problems. Gum disease has also been linked to some cancers, Alzheimer's, and complications with pregnancy. (In fact women at all stages of life tend to be susceptible because of fluctuations in hormones.)

Please keep an eye on your calendar for your upcoming visit to our practice, and if you're not scheduled, please call us now to book your appointment.

Mouth-Body Links



Bits And Bites

Continued from page 1

■ Dr. Neudorf *tied the knot* in November with a romantic wedding ceremony in the Caribbean. We wish her the best! Congratulations.

■ Maralee just returned from a month long journey to southeast Asia. A good break for a hard working team member. MarieAnne has returned after a maternity break, with Perseus joining their lovely family, husband Benjoe and son Gem. Great to have you back!

■ Thank you to all of the thoughtful well wishers! Dr. Konotopetz is back to 80+% after his concussion and back issues.

■ Melanie and her partner, Dustin are expecting their first baby. Any suggested names? Email them to our website.

■ Signature Smiles has some new digital plans for its website. Visit it soon at www.signaturesmiles.ca. You can submit an appointment request at any time of the day or night.

Sincere Christmas greetings to each of you and your families since this will be our last newsletter before the festive season!

Yours in Good Dental Health,

*Dr. Greg Konotopetz and
Dr. Kim Neudorf*

office information

Signature Smiles

ORAL WELLNESS CENTRE

IMPLANTS • SMILE MAKEOVERS • ORTHODONTICS

Dr. Greg Konotopetz

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Office Hours

Monday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Contact Information

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Are We Conservative?

When it's about teeth... definitely!

There is nothing better for your smile than healthy *natural* teeth structure. In many cases, restorative materials are required to repair and correct dental issues such as decay and weakened teeth, but what Mother Nature provided you with, nothing can truly replace. This is why we practice what we call *minimally invasive or conservative dentistry* 100% of the time for 100% of our patients.

Conservative dentistry involves careful treatment planning to ensure that for all treatments we preserve as much of your natural healthy tooth structure as possible. Taking this stance is a decision made with your optimum oral – and overall – health in mind because nothing can top the smile with which you were born. Our dental team has your best interest in mind for your best smile ... every time!