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Nick Ritchie, MBA, has purchased
Rideau Orthodontic Mfg. Ltd
and
Bonarch Supply Canada Ltd.

February 1, 2016

Dear Doctor and Team,

I am proud to announce the purchase of Rideau Orthodontic Mfg. Ltd and Bonarch Supply Canada Ltd. on February 1, 2016.

My wife and I are residents of Smiths Falls and the proud parents of two lovely daughters. I am 37 years of age and obtained my MBA in 2004 from Wilfrid Laurier University. The majority of my working life has been within the world of high precision manufacturing (Cambridge, ON; Toronto, ON; Mexico and the USA) in both operations and general management.

We decided upon Smiths Falls for our future and I began helping companies as the Senior Corporate Lender for the Royal Bank in Eastern Ontario. Supporting dentists and other business professionals, helping them grow and prosper was extremely rewarding. Presently the opportunity to own these successful and respected companies is a culmination of my journey in manufacturing and financial services to bring together continuous improvement, customer service and quality control improving the overall relationships between Rideau / Bonarch and our valued clients.

I have known Emmett Griffiths and his wife Donna for 10 years as their bank manager and friend. Emmett just completed 43 years' operating the orthodontic dental laboratory and over 25 years leading the orthodontic dental supply company. As he will turn 65 years of age in May it was critical to him to ensure the companies longevity by selecting a young, ambitious new owner with proven management skills, production capabilities and a passion for customer service.

Emmett's new role as a consultant and mentor will ensure continuity of the Case Evaluation service for the next 3 – 5 years as many clients recognize his background and knowledge in functional jaw orthopedics/orthodontics.

I wish to ensure you that the services Emmett Griffiths and his staff have provided your dental team will continue. We have an excellent team dedicated to providing superior quality. Our commitment will be to continue to grow and learn, listening to your requirements, and working together as we transition into this new chapter.

I anticipate a strong future for Rideau Orthodontic and Bonarch Supply Canada as we invest in new technology like 3D printing to better serve our clients.

Thank you for your confidence and support.



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Rideau Orthodontic changed hands

Scott Campbell

Smiths Falls Record News | Apr 15, 2016

Rideau Orthodontic has been tucked away on Beckwith Street since 1983. It's been in business for an impressive 43 years.

The ownership of the location had officially changed hands on Feb. 1, from Emmett Griffiths to the new guard, Nick Ritchie, MBA.

They even had a joke that some people don't even know the business is in Smiths Falls since 99.9 per cent of their business comes from out of town.

So, what exactly is Rideau Orthodontic?

It's a custom manufacturing orthopedic/orthodontic dental laboratory.

"It is quit unique," said Griffiths. "I believe when I first opened the lab, it was one of the first in Canada to mainly focus on functional jaw orthopedics."

Both Griffiths and Ritchie described what exactly happens at the lab.

They focus on functional jaw orthopedic dental devices for young growing patients, which can greatly reduce the future overall orthodontic bracket treatment once the patient is in the permanent dentition. When this early route is taken, it actually has reduced jaw surgery significantly.

"Functional jaw orthopedics does not just focus on the teeth," said Ritchie. "It could also help improve airways, breathing, reduce snoring and improve the patient's overall health. Rideau's main focus is to provide quality dental devices to dentists and orthodontists."

Productivity also goes towards retreatment dental devices and TMJD splints and providing indirect bracket and archwire setups.

Griffiths actually started his laboratory in Ottawa, but even though he was training people, he would eventually lose them to government positions. In 1978, Griffiths heard about Smiths Falls and the high unemployment after the closure of the RCA plant and made a business decision to relocate the laboratory to Brockville Street for a few years prior to moving to its present location.

When Griffiths finally decided to retire at age 65, he wanted it to keep the jobs local even though he had interest from Ottawa, Toronto and the USA to purchase and relocate the laboratory. Griffiths was very pleased that a local entrepreneur saved the jobs in Smiths Falls.

"Out of town clientele is critical for a small business in Smiths Falls." Ritchie noted that they service dentists from Newfoundland to British Columbia and some in the USA.

The orthodontists and dentists send dental casts along with their prescription requesting the type of dental device that is required for an individual patient.

"There's a great team of craftspeople and 10 people who get to keep their jobs here," said Ritchie.

Griffiths will remain as a consultant for the next three to five years to ensure a smooth transition.

"Having Emmett involved as a mentor is invaluable," said Ritchie. "I just want to make it better and implement new computer technology like 3D printing and continue expanding the benefits of functional jaw orthopedics PRIOR to fixed bracket therapy."



Nick Ritchie purchased Rideau Orthodontic in February from Emmett Griffiths, who owned/operated the business for 43 years.