

Introducing:



From the Registrar ?!

It is with great pleasure that I write this article as registrar of the pending College Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia. We are on the verge of becoming a regulatory body in our own right; it is both an exciting and challenging time for dental hygienists in Nova Scotia.

Although many members may remember me as their professor in dental hygiene others may recall my work with the association over the years especially with the Legislative Committee. While I will not bore you with my credentials I will try to acquaint you with experiences during my career upon which I will draw to serve the new College of Dental Hygienists. More importantly I would like to take this opportunity to discuss the important issues regarding the new College.

As you may be aware at their annual meeting in June the NSDHA elected both a Board of Directors for the association and nine members whom, with three public members will become the new Council of the College of Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia. When the Dental Hygiene Act, which was passed in December of 2007, receives proclamation the NSDHA will dissolve and the College of Dental Hygienists will become the recognized body to “serve and protect the public” through regulation of the profession and represent dental hygienists in Nova Scotia. While it is still uncertain as to the exact date of proclamation we are doing everything we can to move things forward. Until then we will prepare for the College and NSDHA will continue to serve and represent dental hygienists in NS. The Provincial Dental Board will continue to be the regulatory body for dental hygiene.

What is the “college” and what is the “registrar”?

Ordinarily we think of the term “college” as an educational institution however in this context it has a slightly different meaning. According to the Gage Canadian Dictionary it means “an **organized** association of persons having certain powers, rights, duties and purposes”. In this case all dental hygienists who are licensed to practice under the Dental Hygiene Act will be members of the College and have certain powers, rights, duties and common purposes. The registrar’s job involves keeping the College an “**organized** association of persons.”

Introducing: From The Registrar ?! continued

Last December the Board of the NSDHA appointed a hiring committee to oversee the hiring of the registrar. The committee worked with a professional company Royer Thompson and Associates who conducted the job search, initial interviews and job profiling tests. In all the application process for the position of registrar was a very interesting one which required me to be introspective about my personal goals and objectives and why I would want to take on this very demanding job at this point in my career. As I stated in my letter of application I have learned much from my experience as an educator, working with the Commission on Dental Accreditation, the Dental Hygiene Examining Board, Dental Hygiene Educators of Canada and serving on various boards and committees over thirty four years in dental hygiene and want to continue to serve the profession in a new and challenging capacity.

Communications

Included in the job description for the registrar's position are **Members and Public Relations**. It states that the registrar must ensure the College has appropriate communication systems to inform members and promote the College. This newsletter is the beginning of the communications with the members. I officially start with the pending College on September 1. If local communication companies cooperate I hope to have all methods of communication available to you our members very soon. Until then you can reach me at pdgrant@eastlink.ca. Remember to check the NSDHA web site for more up to date information and new lines of communication.

There is much work to be done to put into place all the policies and mechanisms which will be required to run a regulatory body. There will be issues of courses for self-initiation, office space and continuing education to name a few. As things move along and you have issues of concern please bring them forward. We may not always agree with everything that is decided but it is important that we are all accurately informed on the issues.

As members you are represented by a very capable and hard working Board of Directors and Executive Committee who are all willing to serve on your behalf. I am looking forward to working with this group. As registrar I am proud to represent dental hygienists in Nova Scotia. I ask for the same trust, support and understanding that have been extended by you during the legislative process. I hope that I can visit with you in your communities to discuss the College as it unfolds in this exciting year ahead.

Thanks to you all.

I hope you have enjoyed a wonderful Nova Scotia summer.

UNTIL NEXT TIME.

Patricia Grant

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UNISON

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DATES TO NOTE

NSDHA Board Meeting
Saturday October 4, 2008

National Dental Hygienists'
Week
April 19-25, 2009

NSDHA AGM
Cape Breton Host
June 5-7, 2009

Vice President's Message



We had a super AGM in Halifax in June. Thank you to Jen Clarke and the HMRCs for all your efforts in helping the meeting and Continuing Education to be successful. We had the privilege of making some special presentations to some outstanding members of the NSDHA. Check inside this issue for details. It's an honour to work with these individuals.

This summer, NSDHA teamed with the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia to create a presentation that is now available to all our members. I strongly encourage everyone to take advantage of this CE and book your presenter early.

Some websites to check often: pdbns.ca for Mandatory CE requirements, nsdha.ns.ca for Legislative Updates & cdha.ca's Boutique and CE opportunities.

Lastly, I will continue to serve as Vice President, under Karen Wolf who will serve another term as President.

Congratulations to Wanda Fedora as she begins her term as CDHA President this fall.

Get out and enjoy the fall colours as they appear in our beautiful province!

Jackie White

Vice President NSDHA

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**NEXT DEADLINE
FOR SUBMISSIONS:
DECEMBER 1, 2008**

Greetings to all and hopefully everyone had a wonderful summer.

Of course, the talk is all about self-regulation and when will it come into effect. The best way to keep informed is by attending your local component society meetings. As of now, the Legislative Committee continues to work hard on your behalf. NSDHA is still awaiting final proclamation of the Dental Hygienist's Act, which was approved in the Nova Scotia

Legislature in December 2007. Once notice of final proclamation has been confirmed with NSDHA, a membership information package will be developed and mailed to all dental hygienists registered in Nova Scotia. In the interim, questions from the membership are welcomed. Please contact: Sue MacIntosh or Pat Grant

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NSDHA ADVERTISING RATES

2" X 3.5"	\$ 25.00
1/4 PAGE	\$ 50.00
1/2 PAGE	\$ 75.00
FULL PAGE	\$125.00

Publication of an advertisement does not necessarily imply that the NSDHA agrees or supports the claims therein.

Are you retired or a part time professional interested in advancing the oral health care for seniors in Nova Scotia?

Volunteers Dental Hygienists Needed for Research Study

The Oral Health of our Aging Population (**TOHAP**) research study (www.tohap.dentistry.dal.ca) requires several volunteer dental hygienists to greet adult study participants, collect informed consent, and provide oral hygiene instruction.

The **TOHAP** study seeks to understand the oral health status and needs of aging and senior Nova Scotians. This information will be used to direct planning and influence public policy creation to support oral health needs in the future. The study will target 1,200 Nova Scotians in three age groups: 45-64 + living in the community and 65 + living in long-term care facilities. Through a combination of interviews and clinical screenings, the study will explore four main measures of oral health: the impact of oral health on the quality of life; utilization of oral health services; oral health status; and treatment needs.

The study will be conducted at approximately 12 locations throughout Nova Scotia and will involve 2-3 days per week for 4-6 weeks in October/November 2008 , and 8-10 weeks in the spring and summer, 2009. ***Any amount of time you have to donate would be appreciated.*** Any travel costs would be reimbursed.

For more information contact Dr. Joanne Clovis at (902) 494-8887 or email the project coordinator, Martha Brilliant at tohap@dal.ca

DID YOU KNOW ?

A very small amount of salt , sprinkled on the edge of a bitewing holder or swabbed across the back of the tongue has been known to prevent the patient from gagging during xrays.

JOB ADS

Dental Hygienist required for maternity leave, starting Dec. 1/08
FT or PT with possibility of continuing employment.
Apply to: Austin & Carruthers Family Dentistry
191 Temperance Street
New Glasgow NS B2H 3B2

Or Call: 752-7774

Full Time
Dental Hygienist required immediately.
Forward resume to:
Landmark Dental Care
Attention: Valerie Wilson
125 Queen St. **Truro NS B2N 2B4**
Fax: (902) 843-3309
E Mail: valerie@landmarkdentalcare.ca

Component Meetings News

Cape Breton Island Component
Cape Breton Regional Hospital, Room 3612, Education Services

Saturday September 27, 2008 9:30 a.m.
Saturday February 28, 2009 9:30 a.m.
Saturday April 25, 2009 9:30 a.m. AGM

Northern Component
Valley United Church, Salmon River Rd., Truro

Saturday September 20, 2008 9:00 a.m. CE TBA

Halifax Component
Keshen Goodman Library

Sunday October 5, 2008 2:30 p.m.

Annapolis Valley Component
EKM Board Room, Wolfville

Sunday September 21, 2008 2:00 p.m.
Membership fees due

Continuing Education Available to Components

The Alzheimer Society of NS teamed up with NSDHA to create a
Power Point Presentation titled:

**“ Adapting the Dental Hygiene Process of Care for Persons With Dementia “ and
“Providing Oral Hygiene for Persons with Dementia”**

To book this one hour presentation in your area, contact info@nsdha.ns.ca or (902) 396-3152.
also available

Head & Neck Cancer Exam Review for Oral Health Professionals:

(1 hr Power Point & Demonstration)
presented by Rosemary Bourque RDH

Giant Step forward for Dental Hygiene Research: New Master's Award

Ottawa, August 5, 2008 — The Canadian Foundation for Dental Hygiene Research and Education (CFDHRE) presents a new Master's Award in partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). This is a breakthrough opportunity which celebrates the unique perspective dental hygienists apply to oral health research – a focus on prevention and health promotion.

This award will significantly influence the dental hygiene research community in Canada by securing funding for dental hygiene research projects at a Master's degree level. Previously dental hygienists competed with other healthcare researchers for grants and awards with some notable success. However, a growing need exists to study dental hygiene topics, including best practices for preventative care and health promotion, in order to improve the oral health of Canadians. “

The Master's Award is a giant step forward in the development of dental hygiene research in Canada,” says Susan Ziebarth, Executive Director of CFDHRE. “This opportunity will expand the existing body of professional knowledge which will in turn improve the oral and overall health of the population.”

The CFDHRE established this award to build the capacity for innovative research within the Canadian dental hygiene community and encourage investigation by future stewards of the profession. The award is being offered through CIHR's Small Health Organization Partnership Program.

This Master's Award provides funding to a maximum of \$17,500 for a 1-year term to support the development of the recipient's research project. Deadline for application is February 2, 2009. For more information about the application processes, please visit the Call for Proposals section of the CFDHRE website at http://www.cfdhre.com/call_for_proposals.asp.

To learn more about the CFDHRE's mission and objectives visit

<http://www.cfdhre.com/about.asp>

For additional information about the award, please contact:

Judy Lux, Program Director

Telephone: (613) 224-5515 ext. 123, 1-800-267-5235

E-Mail: foundation@cdha.ca



2008 MEMBER AWARDS



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS,
Maureen Keating RDH Posthumously

NSDHA Distinguished Service: Stanley MacLean RDH (retired 37 years)

NSDHA Distinguished Service: Merla Gerroir RDH (retired 40 years)

NSDHA Life Membership: Sue MacIntosh RDH (retired 36 years)

CDHA Life Membership: Sue MacIntosh RDH

CDHA Distinguished Service: Patricia Grant RDH

CDHA Distinguished Service: Terry Mitchel RDH

Editorial

Component Society Status Under the New Act?

WHAT HAPPENS TO US NOW?

NSDHA has been a legal entity for 35 years. In order to maintain non-profit status, we were required to draft by-laws. The components could be fully independent of NSDHA to function, but were recognized publicly as arms of NSDHA, and therefore had to have by-laws to operate under, which did not contradict NSDHA policies.

While the NSDHA mandate has always included protection of the public health, the NSDHA Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Strategic Goals indicate a primary responsibility to meet the needs of the membership, through support for CE and recognition projects.

Once self-regulation is proclaimed, the NSDHA is no longer the **voice** of dental hygienists in Nova Scotia. *The College* will be the new voice, and we will all be members of *The College* instead of the Association. *The College* Council will be held accountable to government for the new *primary* mandate, “the protection of the public, and regulating the profession to that end.”

This however, does not automatically mean an end to component societies.

What **will** change for the component societies, is that they are no longer considered a legal arm of the post-proclamation defunct NSDHA. Your current Component By Laws (yes, you each have a set), will be deactivated, but your component society may certainly still exist. Component meetings are a great way to connect with conferences, discuss news and set up study clubs. One of the best resources for relevant continuing education over recent years, has been the component societies initiatives.

So there is little need for change at the component level under the new regimen. You will no longer have a Board representative that can be utilized to communicate with your organization’s Council. However, you will be able to communicate individually with The College Council, the way we communicate with our current licensor, and therefore Board Component Reps will not be necessary. Regional representation will still be desirable from an association perspective, as we have seen in recent pending College Council elections, held at the June 2008 AGM. The future may see a renewed member’s representation as an arm of The College, or as an individual entity.

So... keep component “society’ing” ...
it’s chicken soup for the dental hygienist’s soul.

~~~~~

By Rosemary Bourque

This editorial is not meant to reflect the views or policy of the pending College of Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia.

Canada’s Chief Dental Officer, Dr. Peter Cooney, weighs in on Fluoride in light of recent Health Canada recommendations and media concerns about safety.

Go to the Health Canada website at:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/oral-bucco/care-soin/fluor-eng.php>

for associated articles and Dr. Cooney’s letter of response.



A very special thank you to all of our 2008 AGM weekend sponsors and contributors.

*~ Especially ~*

**Glaxo Smith Kline**  
**the makers of *Sensodyne* and PRO NAMEL**

for their **GOLD** status sponsorship  
and Tim Dixon for his  
regular support and valuable scientific product knowledge  
that he continues to share with us.

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Special thanks to Jennifer Clark, Halifax NSDHA Component Chair  
and her enthusiastic team, Roxana Belleza, Wendy Stewart and everyone else who  
contributed to a successful event.

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The Canadian Dental Hygienists Association has made high quality CE programming more accessible through partnership with the DVD Quarterly of Dental Hygiene.

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