

To the BCDHA Board;

I'd like to thank the BCDHA Board of Directors for selecting me for this amazing award and I am thrilled to have been invited to accept the award in person and to give thanks to Barbara herself for being an inspiration to many and a leader in the field of mobile dental hygiene treatment.

*It only takes one snowflake to start a snowball, then just keep rolling and watch it grow.*

The possibilities with mobile dental hygiene treatment are endless and require only a dream or inspiration, some encouragement and a forward motion to become a reality. Our profession just keeps growing and evolving and it will be ever changing so keep moving with us, have goals, dream big and find solutions, not excuses.

I would also like to give huge thanks and gratitude to Bronwynne Sove for nominating me for this award. Bronwynne and I met last year on our volunteer trip with Share A Smile Society up to Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island. We were lucky to have chosen such a caring, thoughtful and hardworking registered dental hygienist to receive some of the funding from a BCDHA grant that was awarded to Share A Smile Society last year.

I do find however, that you don't have to look far to find these amazing people in our profession. They are everywhere, yourself included, so give thanks to you and those around you for our dedication and commitment to care and be proud of our profession and know we are making a difference in the lives of those we touch.

I never stop dreaming of the opportunities that await me in this profession and in life. What is over the crest of the next hill, the next upward climb? Usually, a fun ride down! It is without question, one of the best things about our profession, the expanding, growing body of knowledge and scope of practice. There are always bumps in the road or maybe even some road blocks but eventually the construction is over and everything clears for the path ahead.

Our Society will again apply for the grant and I hope to meet more dental hygienists who have the motivation and desire to give back to our communities and help those who do not have access to regular professional dental hygiene care. I want to welcome all registered dental hygienists in BC to BCDHA, our professional association this year, a wonderfully, inclusive partnership created by the College, BCDHA and CDHA. We are a stronger voice united and there is so much support within.

Thank you.  
Heather Cooper, RDH