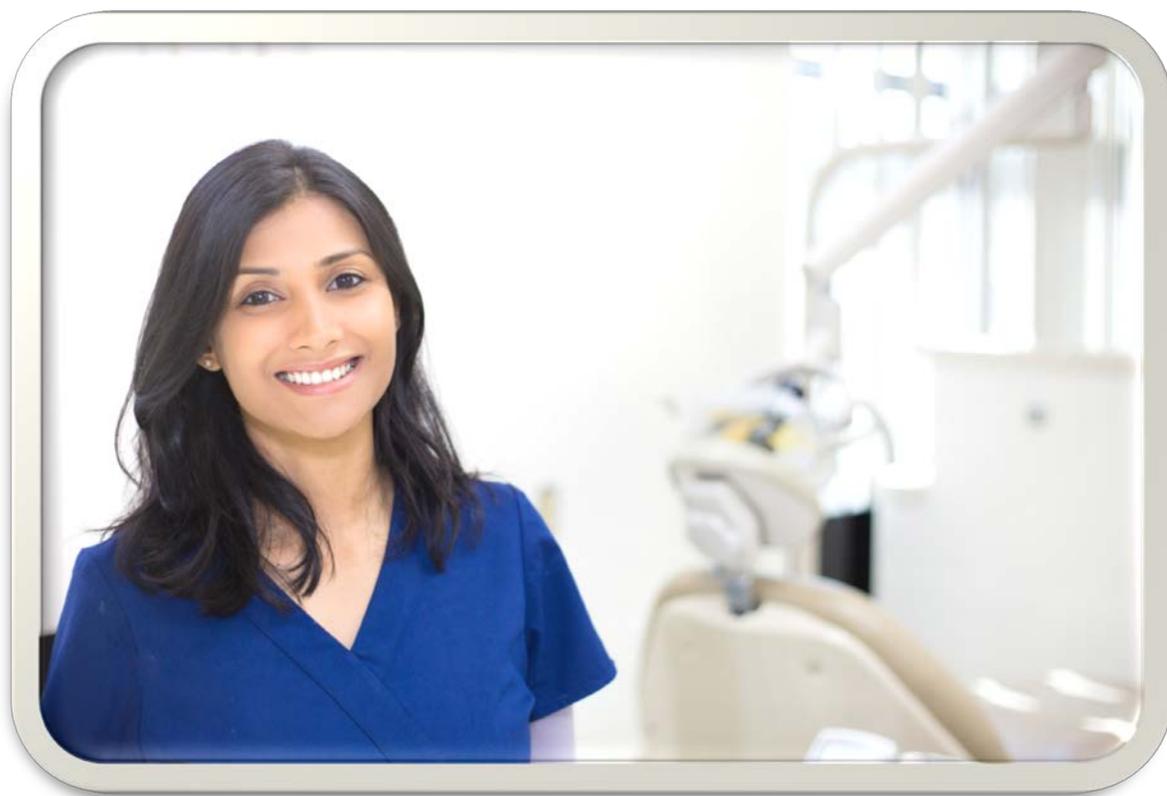


Annual Report of the British Columbia Dental Hygienists' Association



2017-2018

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Our Mission

The British Columbia Dental Hygienists' Association (BCDHA) exists so that members are connected to a growing, vibrant, professional community.

About BCDHA

Formed in 1964, the BCDHA represents nearly 3,900 member dental hygienists across the province. The BCDHA is dedicated to the principle that all British Columbians should have access to the quality preventative oral health services dental hygienists provide. BCDHA collaborates with government, the provincial dental hygiene regulatory body and clients to effectively serve members and the public.

Dental hygienists who are members of the BCDHA enjoy a range of member benefits and services, including continuing education, advocacy, promotion of the profession and information on employment issues and guidelines. Through a joint membership with the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association, members receive superior professional negligence insurance and discounts, and special offers from a number of suppliers and services.



Message from the Chair

Our 2017/2018 was a year of growth as it was our first year that included all British Columbia dental hygienists. We grew not only in numbers, but in strength, as the board of directors committed to a stronger political presence to lobby for Dental Hygiene.



Dental Hygienists across BC are passionate and committed to their role in improving the oral and overall health of British Columbians. We will need to keep the pressure on our government and elected officials and be strategic in our approach to improving dental hygiene access to care. This will continue to elevate our profession, which will have both an important impact for dental hygiene career options but also for the oral health of the public.

Once again, we must reflect on the benefits of having a strong professional association to support our journey into the future. As challenges arise, the British Columbia Dental Hygienists' Association (BCDHA) and the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) will be strong voices to advocate for our profession.

There are many valuable services provided to our member-owners such as professional liability insurance, discounted insurance and products, the e-CPS, and many others, but the advocacy role is the important outcome of a strong professional body.

Thank you for your support of our profession and I look forward to working with you as we continue to promote oral health and the profession of Dental Hygiene.

Sincerely,



Tammy Gulevich, RDH
Chair
BCDHA Board of Directors



The Board of Directors

The British Columbia Dental Hygienists' Association is governed by a Board of Directors. Seven Directors are selected through a regional election process administered by BCDHA and one Director is appointed by the Dental Hygiene Education Articulation Committee.

Through consultation with members, the Board determines the goals and direction for the Association.



Tammy Gulevich, Chair
Northern BC Director
2016-2019



Karl Gunderson - Vice Chair
Interior Director
2017-2020



Brenda Currie
Fraser Valley Director
2016-2019



Christina Capy
Greater Vancouver Director
2016-2019



Mandy McGill
Kootenay Director
2017-2020



Bev Jackson
Victoria Director
2017-2020



Brenda Wisdom
Upper Island Director
2016-2019



Mandy Hayre
Education Director
2016-2020

BCDHA welcomes members to attend Board meetings to observe the proceedings. Dates and locations of upcoming Board meetings are listed on the BCDHA website at www.bcdha.com.

The Board of Directors also welcomes input and comments from members. The Board can be reached via email at boardofdirectors@bcdha.bc.ca.



2017-2018 Board of Directors

BCDHA Staff and Office

The staff is tasked with achieving the Ends (or goals) established by the Board of Directors. Projects and initiatives are developed and implemented in accordance with the Board's strategic directions.



Cindy Fletcher
Executive Director



Wendy Jobs
Dental Hygiene
Practice Consultant



Chris Kilmaster
Member Services



Denise Pulice
Communications &
Corporate Relations

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Web: www.bcdha.com



Members always welcome!

BCDHA Activities 2017-2018

The Board of Directors focuses on setting the vision and long term goals for the Association. These policies are known as the “Ends”. The staff then plan and implement programs and activities that will move the Association toward achieving these goals.

**BCDHA EXISTS SO THAT ...
MEMBERS ARE CONNECTED TO A GROWING, VIBRANT PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY**

This is further interpreted in these subsequent Ends levels, in order of priority, as:

END #1 MEMBERS VALUE AND BENEFIT FROM BEING A PART OF OUR ASSOCIATION

The CDHA/BCDHA membership year now coincides with the registration year of the College of Dental Hygienists, March 1 to February 28 annually. Once again this year, efforts have been made to ensure that all dental hygiene students receive the benefit of membership in their professional association prior to graduation. A virtual student membership is available free of charge to all students enrolled in an entry level dental hygiene program. At the close of the 2017-2018 membership year BCDHA had 3879 members.

Streamlined Professional Renewal

This was the first year that all practicing dental hygienists in British Columbia paid fees to the College of Dental Hygienists of British Columbia (CDHBC), the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) and the British Columbia Dental Hygienists Association (BCDHA) at one time, prior to March 1.

BC dental hygienists now all equally financially support BCDHA's advocacy efforts and are represented with one united voice on national and provincial issues. At the same time, all BC dental hygienists have access to quality continuing education and other professional tools to ensure they meet their regulatory obligation of maintaining safe and current care.

Support and Services to Members

BCDHA provides a range of services and benefits to members to support them in their professional practice and personal life.

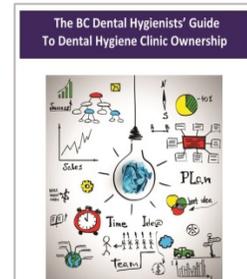
Continuing Education:

- *No more dull instruments! Instrument sharpening workshop for the Dental Hygienist* - This workshop was hosted by BCDHA and Hu-Friedy on July 12, 2017 in Kelowna, BC. The workshop offered attendees a lecture component which reviewed current methods of instrument sharpening as well as opportunity to practice hands on sharpening techniques.
- *Virtual Study Club* - BCDHA facilitated the establishment of a virtual study club to assist members who may reside in areas where a dental hygiene study club is not conveniently accessible. The first online meeting was held on September 27, 2017. Subsequent meetings were held on November 22, 2017 and February 21, 2018.

- *Myofascial Education for the Dental Hygienist- Preventing Posture Pain* –This full-day workshop presented by Kat Keller was offered on November 4, 2017 and was a blend of self-myofascial release (SMR), lecture, posture, and core specific exercise.
- *Fundamental Principles of Periodontal Instrumentation* - BCDHA collaborated with the continuing dental education department at the University of British Columbia to co-host a hands-on clinical course on November 25th.
- *Income Protection for the Dental Hygienist* - This free webinar was presented by Paul Munnis, Financial Advisor with Haslett Financial Inc. on January 22, 2018.
- *The Refresher Program Modules* continue to be well-received by members who are using them to prepare for the College of Dental Hygienists of BC Quality Assurance Program (QAP) or using them to meet their Learning Plan needs after completing the QAP.

Practice Support

- Wendy Jobs, the BCDHA Dental Hygiene Practice Consultant assists members with inquiries around employment issues, self-employment, dental hygiene practice and independent practice. Members have access to this support service by phone or email.
- BCDHA offers a wide range of resources available free of charge to members. Resources include oral health education materials and practice tools (salary survey, sample contracts, information on self-employment, articles and more.)
- BCDHA offers two guides, “*The BC Dental Hygienists' Guide to Dental Hygiene Clinic Ownership*” and “*The BCDHA Dental Hygienists' Guide to Independent Practice in Residential Care*”. These resources provide a framework for the steps involved in translating stand alone or residential care practice visions into reality.



Member Benefits

- The Association is committed to ensuring that every member finds value in their membership that exceeds its annual cost.
- BCDHA members enjoy personal benefits and discounts from a range of corporate sponsors and agencies.
- These discount services can save members hundreds, even thousands of dollars over the course of a year.
- Savings can range from 2 for 1 meals, to entertainment deals, uniform discounts and travel discounts.

BCDHA Awards and Recognition

BCDHA is proud to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of our members.

Dianne Gallagher Award of Inspiration

This award recognizes Dianne Gallagher's immeasurable contributions to the dental hygiene profession over more than 40 years. The award is presented annually, and recognizes a dental hygienist or dental hygiene student whose accomplishments, service and character have exemplified, developed and encouraged positive traits and attributes to enhance the future achievements of dental hygienists.

Donna Lee was selected as the recipient of the 2017 Inspiration Award in recognition of her mentorship of other dental hygienists and the volunteer contributions she has made in her community.

Donna received her dental hygiene diploma from Vancouver Community College (VCC) and Bachelor of Dental Science (DH) degree at the University of British Columbia. Most recently, Donna completed the combined Masters in Public Health and Dental Public Health specialty at the UBC. Prior to Donna's dental hygiene career, she was a Social Worker and a Certified Dental Assistant in her home province of Alberta.

Donna's 24 years of dental hygiene experience include clinical periodontal practice in Richmond, BC and the Yukon Territory. She has travelled and provided oral care to numerous rural and Indigenous communities throughout BC and has worked for 13 years at the not-for-profit Mid-Main Community Dental Clinic in Vancouver. Donna is also an educator in the dental and dental hygiene programs at UBC and also a researcher focusing on oral care among marginalized and oppressed populations.

Donna actively volunteers in many community projects in various capacities with Indigenous programs, Special Olympics, public health and dental public health initiatives and study clubs as a consultant, educator, clinician and administrator.



Donna Lee (l) receives the Dianne Gallagher Award of Inspiration from BCDHA Chair Tammy Gulevich.

Student Awards

BCDHA is pleased to have recognized the outstanding accomplishments of our student members in the 2017-2018 academic year.



The Award of Excellence was awarded to the graduating dental hygiene student at each diploma program who demonstrated the highest clinical proficiency. The Presentation Award was presented to a group of students at each program who prepared and presented an outstanding table clinic or presentation.

The Joan Voris Award was presented to the graduating student from the UBC Dental Hygiene Degree Program who's professional vision and accomplishments embody the current BCDHA mission statement.

Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene – January/May 2017

Award of Excellence (Jan 2017) – Sara Andrews

Presentation Award (May 2017) - Savannah Wheaton, Sarah McEachran, Breanna Hoegler

Camosun College – May 2017

Award of Excellence – Christina Neal

Presentation Award - Deanna Haworth, Ruchy Maher

University of British Columbia – June 2017

Joan Voris Award – Courtenay Johnson

Vancouver Community College - June 2017

Award of Excellence - Jade Smith

Presentation Award - Xiaochun Zhang, Yuan Li, and Sandra Yu

Vancouver Island University – June 2017

Award of Excellence – Lynsey Jones

Presentation - Courtney Craig, Hilary McLoughlin



Courtenay Johnson recipient of the BCDHA Joan Voris Award (ctr) with Tammy Gulevich, BCDHA Chair (L) and Cindy Fletcher, Executive Director

END # 2 THE PUBLIC RECOGNIZES DENTAL HYGIENISTS AS PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS.

BCDHA plays an important role in educating the public about the role that dental hygienists can play as primary care providers with a focus on therapeutic care, health promotion and disease prevention.

Public Education Events

These events promote the role of the dental hygienist and the importance of oral health. In 2017/2018, BCDHA supported members participating in the following events:

- Hope Career Fair
- Daycare Education – Downtown Eastside
- Student Awareness - UBC, VIU
- Kamloops Public Health Display
- Salmon Arm Public Health Display
- Preschool, Elementary and Secondary School Presentations



BCDHA was an exhibitor at the 55+ Lifestyle Show in Vancouver (September 23, 2017) and the Vancouver Baby & Family Fair (October 28-29, 2017). The displays offered age appropriate oral health information and highlighted the role of the dental hygienist in maintaining oral health through the years.

BCDHA volunteers once again provided important oral health information at a series of employee health fairs hosted by Translink in Metro Vancouver 2017/2018.

Public Awareness

BCDHA sponsored a province wide public awareness campaign between November 6 and December 4, 2017. Ten digital billboards in Surrey, Abbotsford, Kamloops, Kelowna, Prince George, and Victoria displayed a series of ads that promoted the varied roles of dental hygienists and our role in promoting oral and overall health.

The 3 screens (below) were displayed a total of 322,560 times over the course of the campaign. Screens were displayed for 6 seconds each time. The approximate audience per day of the campaign was 194,610 for a total of 5,449,080 public views over the 28 day campaign.



Member Grants

BCDHA makes grants available to members who undertake initiatives that raise the profile of the dental hygiene profession in a measurable way in their community. In 2017, BCDHA awarded the following member grants:

- FAIR Dental Access fund (\$500) – The fund provided assistance to financially challenged community members in the Trail area through the provision of urgent dental treatment and dental health education.
- Share a Smile Society (\$1,000) – The Society provided free dental and dental hygiene care to children and families in remote communities on Vancouver Island.
- Northern BC Dental Hygienists Society (\$600) – Nineteen RDH's in the Prince George area hosted a Gift from the Heart Event on April 8, 2017. 48 patients received over \$7,200 worth of treatment free of charge.
- Sherry Priebe (\$500) – To support Sherry accompanying 2 UBC 4th year students on a trip to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in December 2017. Students provided oral health lessons to orphaned children; provided periodontal therapy for disabled persons at a shelter, and presented seminars on oral cancer awareness and screening to professional audiences.
- Tammy Gulevich (\$100) – For the ongoing support of an annual award at the Northern BC Regional Science Fair. This award is presented to a student whose project demonstrates an increased knowledge in dental hygiene care and/or oral disease.
- UBC Dental Hygiene Students (\$500) – This project raised the awareness of UBC students of the importance of oral health and the dental hygiene profession through educational and interactive booths.

END #3 DENTAL HYGIENISTS PARTICIPATE IN EDUCATION, REGULATION, COMMUNITY SERVICE, HEALTH PROMOTION, RESEARCH AND COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE.

BCDHA creates and supports opportunities for dental hygienists to have direct influence on new and existing policies and programs which impact dental hygiene education, regulation, community service, health promotion and collaborative practice.

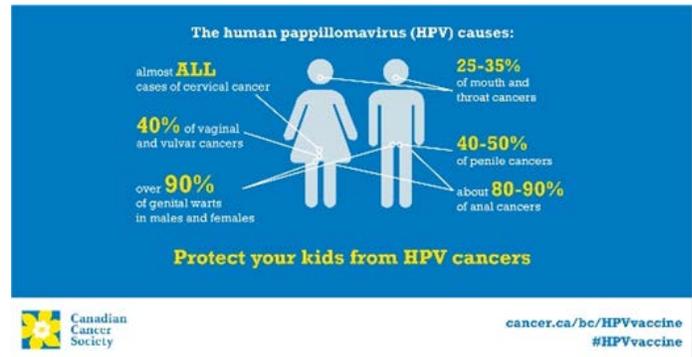
Influencing Healthy Public Policy

Gender Neutral HPV Vaccine Initiative

In early in 2017 the BC government announced that the HPV vaccine would become available to males and females through the school immunization programs. In addition to supporting the original campaign, BCDHA participated in a multi-disciplinary planning session in May 2017 to discuss strategies to raise awareness of the HPV vaccine of all health care providers and share targeted HPV educational information.

BCDHA participated and publicized Canada's first HPV Awareness Week October 1-7, 2017.

Through social media, we were able to share, distribute and communicate the importance of the HPV vaccine for all genders. BCDHA members were encouraged to engage in discussions with parents of Grade 6 students and encourage them to sign the permission form for HPV vaccination sent home from the school during this period.



Supporting Dental Hygiene Education

Dental Hygiene Program Grants

BCDHA once again made grants available to the 6 dental hygiene programs in BC. Grants are offered to assist in the development or enhancement of a particular aspect of the program. Grants of \$1000 were awarded to the following programs in September 2017:

- Camosun College - To support the purchase of additional instructional resources
- College of New Caledonia – To support the purchase 7 digital blood pressure monitors
- University of British Columbia - To assist in the delivery of a mindfulness curriculum for first-year dental hygiene students
- Vancouver Community College - To support release time for faculty to continue working on components of the Baccalaureate Degree in Applied Science in Dental Hygiene program
- Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene - To support a community outreach program
- Vancouver Island University - To support a two-day clinical calibration workshop

Program Advisory Committees

BCDHA has a representative on the Dental Hygiene Program Advisory Committees at Camosun College, Vancouver Island University and Vancouver Community College.

Collaborative Practice

Through BCDHA's work with Ending Violence, Cindy Fletcher was invited to participate in a planning session on April 10, 2017 involving a number of organizations to strategize ways to increase awareness of the law and legal rights.

The goal of the project is to equip health care professionals with the knowledge and resources to provide patients with information and referrals to legal services (violence related issues, child apprehension and protection, etc.). Aboriginal, rural and remote communities around BC were the primary focus of the discussions.



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