

**Board Highlights**  
**Fall 2015**

The Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association was held in Victoria, British Columbia on October 31, 2015 and the CDHA Board of Directors met October 29 and November 1, 2015.

Key highlights from these meetings include:

**New CDHA Board of Directors**

The presentation of the new CDHA Board of Directors for 2015-2016:



*Front Row (left to right): Leanne Huvenaars – Saskatchewan; Tracy Bowser – Prince Edward Island; Mandy Hayre - British Columbia & Past-President; Donna Scott - North (representing Yukon, NWT and NU) & President; Sophia Baltzis – Quebec;*  
*Back row (left to right): Joanne Noye - Nova Scotia; Gerry Cool – Alberta & President-Elect; Beth Ryerse – Ontario; Deanna Mackay – Manitoba; Wendy Taylor, New Brunswick; Tiffany Ludwicki - Newfoundland and Labrador*

KPMG was appointed as auditor for 2015-2016.

**Awards**

At CDHA's AGM, the following awards were presented:  
Carole Whitmer was presented with the 2014 Award of Merit.



Jacki Blatz was presented with the 2014 Distinguished Service Award.



Sharon Compton was presented the 2015 Distinguished Service Award.



Salme Lavigne was presented the 2014 Life Membership Award.



Anne Bosy was presented the 2015 Life Membership Award.



Three outgoing Directors were completing their terms on the Board and were recognized:  
Mary Bertone, Manitoba  
Sandy Lawlor, Ontario  
Janel Parkinson, Saskatchewan (absent)



*Mandy Hayre with Mary Bertone*



*Mandy Hayre with Sandy Lawlor*

Donna Scott is the new President of CDHA for the 2015-2016 year.



*Mandy Hayre, Past President, Donna Scott, new CDHA President*

Three new Directors joined the CDHA Board:

Leanne Huvenaars - Saskatchewan

Deanna Mackay - Manitoba

Beth Ryerse – Ontario



*Donna Scott, CDHA President, Deanna Mackay – Manitoba, Beth Ryerse – Ontario, Leanne Huvenaars - Saskatchewan*

### **Policies**

The Board undertook a comprehensive review of all policies and updated numerous policies to ensure currency.

The Board endorsed the Canadian Oral Health Roundtable’s proposed consensus statement on oral health care standards for residents in long-term care in Canada.

***Given the particular oral health challenges faced by seniors in care facilities and the importance of oral health to overall health, the following should be the minimum oral care requirements for all residents in long-term care in Canada:***

- ***Oral health assessment by an appropriately trained and licensed/registered health professional upon admission and annually thereafter***
- ***Beginning as soon as possible after admission, a referral process to a dentist for examination, diagnosis and treatment planning***
- ***A daily mouth care plan that is implemented by appropriately trained staff***
- ***Suitable infrastructure to support the appropriate delivery of needed care by the oral health care team***

One of the key roles of a Board of Directors is its fiduciary responsibility. To ensure ongoing competency in this regard, the Board had a short education session on reading financial statements.

The Board directs, controls and inspires CDHA through the careful establishment of broad written policies reflecting the Board's values and perspectives. Thus, one of the key roles of the Board is monitoring and assessing board policies and executive limitations at each Board meeting.

The Board decided to explore the interest in developing Chapters in the Yukon, NWT and Nunavut. The Board approved a new terms of reference for the CDHA Audit Committee.

The Directors on the CDHA Board are the “members” of the Canadian Foundation for Dental Hygiene Research and Education (CFDHRE). The CDHA Board attended (as members) the CFDHRE Annual General Meeting.

### **Ownership Linkage**

One of the key roles of the Board is connecting with the Owners (who are the members) of CDHA. The Board included some key questions on the CDHA member survey and completed an assessment of the results. The Board hosted a student session in Victoria with 40 students.



***Student Ownership Linkage Session***

### **Representation**

The CDHA Board appoints representatives to the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CDAC) – Alexandra Sheppard, the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board (NDHCB) – Mary Bertone and the International Federation of Dental Hygiene (IFDH)- Mandy Hayre and Donna Scott. The board reviewed reports from CDAC, NDHCB and IFDH.

### **Provincial President's Meeting**



*CDHA President and Provincial Presidents*

On October 30, Provincial Presidents, Executive Directors and CDHA Board held a meeting during CDHA's national conference. During this event, provincial presidents provided a brief snapshot of current demographic trends in their respected provinces, current regulations for mouth care in long term care, the presence/absence of publicly financed dental programs for seniors, and opportunities for dental hygienists to promote positive oral health practices and improve access to daily and professional oral care for seniors in LTC, homebound, and in the community. CDHA's author for the position paper on long term care reported on the findings from the position paper and important recommendations for government, decision makers, and other key stakeholders for improving the quality of life for older adults in long term care. In response to this event, CDHA helped prepare letters for provinces (e.g. New Brunswick) to advocate for publicly funded dental programs and standards in long term care in their province.

### **Future CDHA AGMS and Conferences**

2016 - October 22, 2016	Edmonton, Alberta
2017 - October 21, 2017	Ottawa, Ontario
2018 - Fall	Charlottetown, PEI