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## Media Release

## Canada's Dental Hygienists Meet to Explore Oral Health Care and Research

October 20, 2015 (Ottawa, ON) – Dental hygienists from across Canada will gather in Victoria, British Columbia, from October 29–31 to share leading-edge research, clinical experiences, and knowledge at the <u>Canadian Dental Hygienists Association's (CDHA) biennial national conference</u>.

Celebrating 52 years as a professional association, CDHA has assembled a dynamic group of speakers and scientists, who will present the latest information on oral cancer, tobacco addiction, dental hygiene practice, and the links between oral and overall health. Keynote presentations will be given by Dr. Wenche Bornakke, an internationally renowned professor and researcher at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, who will explore the relationship between the oral microbiome and systemic health; and by Barb Fry, a registered nurse, business owner, educator, and author, who inspires individuals and groups to examine their current workplace realities and strive for excellence in all aspects of service provision and collaborative practice. CDHA recognizes that educated and informed dental hygiene professionals provide the best oral health care for Canadians, and is pleased to offer a robust professional development program.

Complementing the conference's educational sessions will be special events, including an awards luncheon recognizing leaders in Canadian dental hygiene scholarship, research, service, and community involvement. Tributes will also be paid to CDHA's 25-year members and to its dental industry partners—PHILIPS, Crest Oral-B, Johnson & Johnson, Colgate, SUNSTAR G•U•M, DENTSPLY, and Hu-Friedy—who provide integral support to the dental hygiene profession through the CDHA Partners' Circle.

Serving the profession since 1963, CDHA is the collective national voice of more than 26,800 registered dental hygienists working in Canada, directly representing 17,500 individual members including dental hygienists and students. Dental hygiene is the sixth largest registered health profession in Canada, with professionals working in a variety of settings, including independent dental hygiene practice, with people of all ages, addressing issues related to oral health. For more information on oral health, visit <u>www.dentalhygienecanada.ca</u>

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