



THE CANADIAN DENTAL
HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DES HYGIÉNISTES DENTAIRES

For immediate release (Offert en français sur demande)

Media Release

Canada's Dental Hygienists Elect New President

October 30, 2017 (Ottawa, ON) — The Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) is pleased to announce the installation of its new president, Sophia Baltzis, at its annual general meeting in Ottawa, Ontario, on October 21. Sophia hails from Quebec and joins president-elect Tracy Bowser (Prince Edward Island), past president Gerry Cool (Alberta), and directors Mandy Hayre (British Columbia), Leanne Huvenaars (Saskatchewan), Deanna Mackay (Manitoba), Beth Ryerse (Ontario), Francine Trudeau (Quebec), Wendy Stewart (Nova Scotia), Anne Marie Caissie (New Brunswick), Tiffany Ludwicki (Newfoundland & Labrador), and Natasha Burian (North) on CDHA's board of directors for 2017–2018.



Sophia holds a diploma in dental hygiene from John Abbott College in Montreal, and has been working in clinical private practice since 2002. She joined CDHA's board of directors as the representative from Quebec in 2011, and has played a key role in raising awareness of critical oral health issues among policy makers and elected officials at the provincial and federal levels. Advocating measures to improve the oral and overall health of the general public as well as mentoring her junior colleagues in dental hygiene are Sophia's twin passions. "I feel so privileged to be a part of the dental hygiene profession," Sophia remarks, adding, "As CDHA president, I hope to connect with dental hygienists across the country and help build and maintain their professional pride. Most importantly, I want to increase awareness among Canadians of the profession and the fact that dental hygienists are primary health care providers."

Serving the profession since 1963, CDHA is the collective national voice of more than 28,495 registered dental hygienists working in Canada, directly representing 19,000 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: www.dentalhygienecanada.ca.

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