



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

For immediate release (Offert en français sur demande)

## Media Release

# Dental Hygienists Praise New Federal Dental Care Becoming Law "A Tommy Douglas Moment"

November 18, 2022 (Ottawa, ON) – The Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA), today praised Royal Assent for Bill C-31. The new law is the first time in history that the federal government is providing broad based, targeted support to Canadians for dental and dental hygiene care.

"This is a Tommy Douglas moment," stated Anne Caissie, president of CDHA. "We have for the first-time historic federal action on oral health care that will be remembered for generations. CDHA has consistently called for legislation to deliver direct support to vulnerable Canadians within a national model and this new law does just that. This is federal action and law that now makes clear how crucial oral health is to overall health"

CDHA represents the sixth-largest regulated health profession in Canada. "Our 30,000+ registered dental hygienists in Canada are proud to be named in the legislation and have expanded opportunities to better serve Canadian patients," added Caissie.

"The passage of this national dental care bill into law is an historic accomplishment of Prime Minister Trudeau and his government, working with the NDP to support the health of Canadians," concluded Caissie.

CDHA is the collective national voice of more than 30,000 dental hygienists in Canada, directly representing 21,000 individual members, including students. Since 1963, CDHA has worked to advance the profession and promote the importance of oral health. Dental hygiene is the sixth-largest regulated 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 [dentalhygienecanada.ca](https://dentalhygienecanada.ca).

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