



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

November 9, 2023 (Ottawa, ON) — The Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) is pleased to announce the installation of its new president, Francine Trudeau, at its annual general meeting on Saturday, October 21. Francine is from Quebec and joins president-elect Alexandra Sheppard (Alberta), past president Anne Caissie (New Brunswick), and directors Donna Lee (British Columbia), Kaylen Anholt (Saskatchewan), Kathy Yerex (Manitoba), Bev Woods (Ontario), Tayyaba Fiaz (Quebec), Nicole Mainville (New Brunswick), Heather Cassidy (Prince Edward Island), Wendy Wells (Nova Scotia), Cindy Holden (Newfoundland and Labrador), and Tracy Bowser (North) on CDHA's board of directors for 2023–2024.

Francine holds a Diploma in Dental Hygiene from CEGEP John Abbott College, a Bachelor of Science from Université de Montréal, and a Master of Education from Université de Sherbrooke. Over her 39-year career in dental hygiene, she has worked in private practice, dental public health, education, and program administration.

As president of CDHA, Francine looks forward to strengthening public recognition of dental hygienists as experts in preventive oral care and leaders in the quest to make oral health care accessible for all. "From clinical practice and dental public health to education, administration, research, and advocacy, dental hygienists are contributing in meaningful ways to the health and well-being of individuals across the country." She adds, "We are, as a profession, particularly excited about the impending launch of the Canadian Dental Care Plan, which will ensure that eligible vulnerable Canadians can access the essential preventive oral health care that they desperately need."

CDHA is the collective national voice of more than 31,000 dental hygienists in Canada, directly representing 22,000 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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