



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

Advocacy Snapshot

CDHA is the national voice of dental hygienists in Canada. Guided by the priorities and perspectives of our members, we advance the profession and work with federal policy makers and elected officials to improve access to preventive oral health care for people across the country. Here are some highlights of CDHA's recent advocacy efforts.

CDHA on Parliament Hill

CDHA held a Lobby Day on Parliament Hill in February 2026, calling on the federal government to continue addressing access to care and affordability gaps. Board directors and select staff met with Parliamentarians to discuss policy priorities impacting the dental hygiene profession and the importance of preventive oral health care for all.

CDHA's chief executive officer, Ondina Love, appeared before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA) in February, highlighting key issues affecting oral health in Canada.

cdha.ca/HillDay

Canada Student Loan Forgiveness

Expansion of the program to include dental hygienists working in underserved rural and remote communities was exciting news. This milestone followed years of advocacy by CDHA and represents a significant step towards improving access to oral health care for Canadians in areas where services are limited.

cdha.ca/StudentLoanForgiveness



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Our 2026 Parliament Hill Day



CANADA STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS

Now Extended to Dental hygienists

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Meeting with the Federal Health Minister

In March 2026, CDHA staff met with the federal health minister, Marjorie Michel. We emphasized the need to enhance the coverage of prevention services under the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) and to improve administrative processes. We also raised issues regarding the health workforce, the education landscape, and other policy developments.



Collaborative Advocacy for Greater Health Impact

CDHA partners with other national professional associations to advance shared priorities. Through HEAL (Organizations for Health Action), EHPC (Extended Healthcare Professionals Coalition), Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry (CAPHD), and the National Collaborative for Health Care Well-Being, we are supporting the development of recommendations to improve recruitment and retention of health care providers.



Supporting Dental Hygiene Business Owners

CDHA advocates for dental hygiene business owners by increasing the recognition of dental hygiene service codes by insurance carriers and enhancing provider services such as direct deposit. We are also collaborating with financial institutions to improve access to banking services and streamline processes, including the acceptance of third-party cheque deposits for associates.

