

**This is a template letter to Ontario MPPs for use by Registered Dental Hygienists.**

1. To get started, copy and paste the letter inside a new document (without these instructions). Fill in the blue placeholder text (date, MPP address and name, name of your riding, your name and address) with your own text.
2. Finish up by applying the same colour to the text throughout (e.g., black). If possible, it is recommended that you save/send your final letter as a PDF file.
3. For MPP email addresses (their legislative offices), click [here](#).
4. Recommended email subject line: Government action required – spousal exemption for dental hygienists in Ontario

Released by the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) on September 18, 2019.

[insert date]

[insert your MPP's address – legislative office]

Dear [insert your MPP's name]

**RE: Government action required to approve regulation permitting dental hygienists in Ontario to treat their spouses**

As a constituent of [insert your riding name] and a [dental hygienist/insert role] serving your community, I am writing to emphasize **the critical importance of the Ontario government's approval of the regulation put forward by the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario (CDHO) to enact a spousal exemption to the *Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA)*.**

All members of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario can play an impactful role through its approval of the exemption for dental hygienists in Ontario, members of the sixth largest regulated health profession in Canada.

Government approved the same exemption for the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario in 2014.

The recent media coverage of a regulated dental hygienist who lost his appeal to the Ontario Divisional Court for licensure reinstatement distinctly illustrates the concern. The current legislation is an overreach relative to the professional misconduct provisions of the RHPA for providing dental hygiene treatment to spouses.

The College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario voted in favour of a spousal exemption in 2015, but to date, it has not been passed by government. **It is time for a government response to prevent any further drastic sanctions and hardships for regulated dental hygienists.**

Knowing this issue affects the dental hygiene profession at large and access to oral health care for the people of Ontario, I sincerely hope that legislative officials will work efficiently to pass the regulation.

Sincerely,

[your name]

[your address]