

August 2026



Nova Scotia Regulator of
Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology,
and Denturism

WITHIN SCOPE

Foundations: Connecting Regulation, Practice, and the Public Trust



Eye Safety *in* Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism

Oral health professionals rely heavily on their eyesight to provide optimal care to their clients. It's very important to protect not only your own eyesight but the eyesight of your clients as well. When all parties are compliant, injuries to the eyes are much less likely to occur.

Working in the oral field brings with it several risks. One of those risks is airborne pathogens. Many dental hygienists use things such as ultrasonic scalers, polishers, and air and water syringes during dental procedures, creating an airborne mist of saliva and blood. If both the eyes of the clinician and client are not protected, pathogens such as measles, tuberculosis, hepatitis, etc. can be easily transmitted. It's imperative that eyes are protected from both infection and trauma.

Dental technologists, dental laboratory technicians, and denturists have their own set of eye hazards. Although they typically don't work intraorally the same way many dental hygienists do, they must contend with things such as

flying debris, acrylic chips, pumice, broken burrs, potential chemical exposure, etc. If eyes are left unprotected, damage to the eyes can easily occur.

There was a time when protective eyewear was not used regularly in the oral health field. Clinicians often worked without gloves, masks or protective eyewear. The HIV/AIDS epidemic in the 1980s prompted changes, as dental infection control became more regulated and industry-wide best practices were established. These included mandating the use of eye safety wear and other protective barriers, which were not previously used during all dental procedures.

Currently, under the [NSRDHDTD IPAC](#) (Infection Prevention and Control) Standards, protective eyewear is classified as "required and must be worn during all dental procedures involving the possibility of producing debris, aerosols, sprays or splatters. All oral health care providers must wear protective eyewear with solid side shields or a face shield.

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WITHIN SCOPE

is the official newsletter of the
**Nova Scotia Regulator of Dental
Hygiene, Dental Technology,
and Denturism**

Editor-In-Chief: **Kelly Hurlburt**

NSRDHDTD Board:

Kayla Leary-Pinch *Chair, Registrant*

Sonya Bishop *Vice-Chair, Registrant*

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Sydney Nelson *Registrant*

Pamella Patterson *Registrant*

Betty Thomas *Public Member**

Bruce Walton *Public Member**

Registrar: **Stacy Bryan**

*Appointed by Government. We are awaiting confirmation of appointment of one more public member.

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1/4 pg. \$75.00

1/2 pg. \$140.00

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Publication of an ad does not necessarily imply that the NSRDHDTD agrees or supports the claims therein.

We welcome your ideas and feedback. Submit to the Editor at communications@oralhealthns.ca.



Kayla Leary-Pinch
Chair

NSRDHDTD Board Chair's Message

Dear Colleagues,

As we enter the fall season, I am pleased to reflect on another period of meaningful progress for the Nova Scotia Regulator of Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology and Denturism. Our organization has continued to mature, guided by a shared commitment to public protection, good governance, collaboration and continuous improvement.

One of the strengths of our regulator is the dedication of the people who serve it. I would like to recognize Registrar Stacy Bryan and our staff for their outstanding leadership and commitment throughout the year. With our Deputy Registrar now in place, our leadership team is well positioned to support the continued growth and sustainability of the organization. I would also like to recognize our Board Directors and committee members for their continued dedication. Your commitment to thoughtful governance, strategic leadership and informed decision-making is essential to fulfilling our mandate. The time, expertise and diverse perspectives you bring continue to strengthen and support our ongoing success.

An equally important area of focus has been the continued alignment of our information technology systems and regulatory database. While much of this work happens behind the scenes, it is an important investment in the future of our organization. Strengthening our digital infrastructure supports more efficient regulatory processes, improves data integrity, enhances service for registrants and applicants and ensures we remain well equipped to meet the evolving needs of the professions we regulate.

The Board has remained focused on its governance responsibilities, providing strategic oversight while ensuring that every decision supports our mandate of protecting the public. Through collaboration with staff and committees, we continue to strengthen the accountability and effectiveness of our regulatory processes.

Recently we have welcomed new public members to the Board and celebrate the reappointment of returning public members. Public members play an essential role in ensuring that the public interest remains at the centre of our decision-making, bringing valuable perspectives that strengthen our governance and reinforce public confidence in the work of the regulator.

Another significant milestone this year was the Board's approval of the updated jurisprudence examination for licensing, following the dedicated work of the Jurisprudence Examination Phase 1 & 2 Working Groups. This updated examination ensures that applicants are assessed using a current and comprehensive tool that reflects the legislative, ethical and professional responsibilities required for practice in Nova Scotia. The Board also endorsed an ongoing process for routine maintenance of the examination, including regular review, item analysis,

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NSRDHDTD Board Chair's Message *continued*

blueprint updates and the development and refinement of examination questions. This commitment to continuous evaluation will help ensure the examination remains current, relevant and aligned with evolving regulatory standards.

As we prepare for the upcoming renewal period, the Board has completed its annual review and approval of licence and permit fees. This important responsibility requires balancing the resources needed to effectively fulfill our mandate of public protection with a commitment to responsible fiscal stewardship. The approved fee structure reflects thoughtful consideration of the organization's operational needs, priorities and long-term sustainability, while ensuring we continue to provide effective regulation.

I was pleased to see the strong participation in our recent Regulated Professionals Meeting. These conversations are an important part of fostering transparency, collaboration and engagement within our regulated professions. Thank you to everyone who attended, shared their perspectives and asked meaningful questions that contributed to presenters' discussions. Your participation helps strengthen our professions and our regulator.

Finally, to our registrants, thank you for your ongoing professionalism, compassion and commitment to providing safe, ethical, high-quality care to Nova Scotians. Your dedication to lifelong learning and ethical practice is fundamental to protecting the public and fostering confidence in our professions.

As we look ahead, we will continue building on the strong foundation we have established, ensuring our regulator remains responsive, accountable and sustainable while continuing to serve the public interest with integrity.

Thank you for your continued trust, engagement and commitment.

Best wishes for a fulfilling season.



Kayla Leary-Pinch
Chair, NSRDHDTD



Stacy Bryan,
Registrar

Registrar's Message

With the arrival of August, we are reminded that licence and permit renewal is approaching quickly. This is our second NSRDHDTD licence and permit renewal for all four designations – dental hygienists, dental technologists, dental lab technicians, and denturists.

Please read your Notice of Expiry carefully when it is circulated at the end of August.

Expiry Notices: All expiry notices will be sent to registrants and permitted individuals by email. **Online renewal is mandatory for all registrants and permitted individuals.** *It is your responsibility to ensure that you hold a valid practising licence or DLT permit at all times, regardless of notice sent or other circumstances.*

Beginning **September 1, 2026**, the Renewal tab will appear in your Registrant Portal and outline the steps required to complete your renewal.

In the application itself, the first step will be to complete a questionnaire and select the action you wish to do during this renewal e.g., I am currently in the **Practising** class and

I want to renew in the **Practising** class. You will also be able to indicate if you wish to remain on the NSRDHDTD Register, but not renew your licence (i.e., let your licence expire/lapse). **Regardless of your intention, you must still proceed through the renewal form.** Once you indicate your selection on the questionnaire section at the beginning of the form, the appropriate sections will show for you to complete.

Practising Licence and DLT Permit Renewal Period: The renewal period runs from **September 1 to October 5, 2026 (11:59 pm)**. The renewal portal will remain open until **October 31, 2026**.

Renew early: Please do not wait until the deadline. Submitting early gives you time to address any follow-up questions and helps ensure there is no disruption to your ability to practise.

Renewal Fees: The 2026–2027 renewal fees are:

Dental Hygienists: \$600	Dental Technologists: \$600
Denturists: \$1,030	DLT permit holders: \$125

Registrar's Message *continued*

Renewal Deadline: The NSRDHDTD Board has set the renewal deadline for the 2026/27 year to **Monday, October 5, 2026 (11:59 pm)**.

Although **October 31, 2026** is the practising licence or DLT permit expiry date, the October 5 deadline gives staff sufficient time to review applications, follow up on questions, and issue licences and permits before **November 1, 2026** so there is no disruption in practice or permit status.

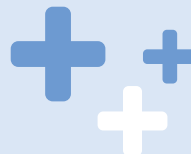
The NSRDHDTD staff must review all 1,000+ applications, complete any necessary follow-up, review and approve CPR submissions, apply fees, manage receipts, and email notice that renewal is complete for November 1, 2026. Please help us process applications efficiently by completing all required steps in your profession-specific renewal email.

A complete application, including payment of fees and any other requirements, such as CPR at the level specified by the Board, must be received by the October 5, 2026 deadline.

Applications submitted between **October 6 and October 31, 2026**, must be complete and will be subject to **additional fees**:

- Registrants wishing to renew their practising licence must pay an additional **\$100 payment**.
- Permitted individuals wishing to renew their DLT practice permits must pay an additional **\$20 payment**.
- Registrants and permitted individuals who do not renew by **October 31, 2026**, will no longer hold a licence or practice permit. To renew after that date, they must pay reinstatement fees, in addition to the applicable late fee, and provide proof they have met all licensing or practice permit requirements.

Chain Lake
Dental Center



Your Schedule. Your Balance. Your Career.

Full-Time • Part-Time • Fill-In Opportunities Available

Looking for a practice that values your time as much as your talent?

At Chain Lake Dental Center, we know that every hygienist's ideal schedule looks different. Whether you're looking for a full-time career, part-time flexibility, or occasional fill-in opportunities, we'd love to welcome you to our team.

We are a well-established, family-owned practice that has proudly served our community for over 25 years. Our supportive culture is reflected in our team—many of our staff have been with us for over 20 years, and we take pride in creating a workplace where people enjoy coming to work.

Whether you're an experienced hygienist or looking for a fresh start with a practice that truly values work-life balance, we'd love to hear from you.



Join a team that works with you—not just schedules you.



Apply today and discover why so many of our team members choose to build their careers at Chain Lake Dental.

Please email Carolyn@chainlakedental.com to inquire.

Why You'll Love Working With Us

- Flexible scheduling that works around your lifestyle
- Full-time, part-time, and fill-in opportunities available
- Competitive compensation
- Comprehensive health benefits (for eligible positions)
- Friendly, experienced, and supportive team
- Modern, well-established practice
- Monday–Friday schedule only
- No weekends
- Free on-site parking • Uniforms provided



Announcements

Staffing Update

The NSRDHDTD is pleased to welcome **Gabrielle Robinson** as the new Administrative Assistant. Gabrielle graduated from Saint Mary's University in May 2026 with a BSc in Psychology. We are so happy to have her join the NSRDHDTD team and she looks forward to connecting with as many of you as possible.

Announcement of Public Board Members

The NSRDHDTD staff and Board would like to extend a very warm welcome to Colleen Arnold and Lisa Caron as the recent government appointed public members to the NSRDHDTD Board. Colleen was appointed on June 4, 2026 (term ending June 4, 2029) and Lisa Caron was reappointed on June 4, 2026 (term ending June 4, 2029).



Colleen Arnold is a senior executive recognized for leading complex organizations through change, with a focus on strategic planning, fiduciary oversight, stakeholder collaboration, and advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in governance.

From 2000 to 2019, Colleen was Director of Corporate Services for the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia, where she led finance, human resources, IT, and registration and licensing services for domestically and internationally educated nurses. She played a key leadership role through the merger that formed the Nova Scotia College of Nursing and continued as Director of Finance and Administration until 2022, also serving as Privacy Officer for both organizations.

She contributed to provincial health regulatory reform through the Regulated Health Professions Network, serving on its Audit Committee from 2012 to 2022 during a period of significant legislative change. Colleen holds an MBA from St. Mary's University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR).

The other recently reappointed public member, **Lisa Caron**, was previously introduced in the July 2025 issue.

Best wishes to Dr. Leigha Rock, Director of the Dalhousie School of Dental Hygiene



The NSRDHDTD would like to extend our best wishes to **Dr. Leigha Rock** who exited her role as Associate Professor and Director of the School of Dental Hygiene. She held this position since the fall of 2019. She accepted a position as the Chair of the Mike Petryk School of Dentistry and Senior Associate Dean

(Dental Affairs) at the University of Alberta for a five year term effective August 1, 2026. We wish her continued success and happiness in her future endeavors.

Introduction of the New Acting Director for Dalhousie's School of Dental Hygiene



Leslie Kenwell, RDH, stepped into the role of acting Director for the School of Dental Hygiene on July 1, 2026.

Leslie has over twenty years of experience in dental education and has been a part of the Faculty of Dentistry since 2021. She has shown a great deal of dedication to student education, curriculum development, scholarly activity, and collegiality. We wish her every success in this new position.

Save the Date!

- The CDHA is holding its national conference in Halifax from November 12-14, 2026.
- The Denturist Society of Nova Scotia will be holding a CPR/First Aid event, including continuing competency sessions in September, 2026.
- The next NSRDHDTD Regulated Professionals Meeting will be held virtually on Saturday, May 15, 2027.

Eye Safety in DH, DT, and DD *continued*

Protective eyewear must be used to protect the clients' eyes from dental procedures causing any type of splatter, debris or injury. It is important to make sure all protective eyewear from both the clinician and client is cleaned, disinfected and dried between clients, or more frequently if necessary."

The NSRDHDTD IPAC Standard also states that "a fixed or portable eye-wash station must be available in the oral healthcare facility, to aid in managing any chemical or body fluid splashes, sprays, or spills into the eyes of an oral health care provider or patient. Staff should be oriented as to the location, function, and indications for use of the eyewash station. The eyewash station must be cleaned and checked regularly according to manufacturer's instructions to ensure proper water flow. Portable eyewash devices must be checked for an expiry date on the solution" (p.17).

There may be times when a patient does not want or feel they need to wear protective eyewear during the appointment. It is your responsibility as an oral health care provider to ensure that they do. As mentioned in the NSRDHDTD IPAC Standard, "Prescription eyeglasses are not acceptable by themselves and should only be worn underneath face shields or other types of eye protection" (p.17). It is your responsibility to educate your client on why it is necessary to wear appropriate eyewear to ensure the safety of their eyes.

The clinician should try and follow the rule of 'patient first on and last off' meaning that the patient should be provided with protective eyewear at the very beginning of the appointment and not be removed until all procedures have been completed.

All dental practitioners must safeguard their own, and their client's, eyesight against light-related hazards as well. Curing lights are used in many different procedures such as pit and fissure sealants, restorations, orthodontic bonding, curing of acrylics, polymer resins, etc. Making sure to use glasses with proper filters and effective side shields to prevent long-term damage to the eye is essential to protect against harmful rays. This type of protective eyewear must be worn by both the clinician and client.

Not only is it important to protect eyes from the hazards of dentistry, it is equally important to keep your eyes healthy in other ways. Oral health professionals are all at an increased risk not only for injuries to the eye but those affecting visual acuity. To protect and maintain visual acuity, below are some practices that all oral health professionals can do. (Lintag-Nguyen & Dahm, 2021)

- Schedule regular, comprehensive eye examinations. These exams are important preventive measures because many ocular problems do not present with signs or symptoms.
- Oral health professionals should follow the American Optometrist Association (AOA) 20/20/20 rule, which suggests individuals look at an item 20 feet away for 20 seconds every 20 minutes, when possible.
- [Dental clinicians] often struggle to maintain proper ergonomics... and poor ergonomics can lead to ocular deterioration. Clinicians should sit an arm's length from the computer screen, reduce the glare and brightness of the screen, and wear eyeglasses instead of contacts, as contacts may increase dryness and irritation.
- Computer screens should be about 4 or 5 inches below eye level to help reduce the symptoms of computer vision syndrome; however, this is not always possible.
- All oral health professionals should remember their visual acuity can be impacted by personal screen time use; therefore, limiting digital use outside of the office can also help support eye health.
- Other strategies to support visual acuity during leisure time include the use of sunglasses and glasses with anti-reflective coatings and blue filters. Blue light glasses can help reduce the amount of blue light that enters the eye by filtering it out.

Working as an oral health professional requires you to perform various procedures both intra and extra orally with precision, attention to fine detail, and good hand-eye coordination.

Dental loupes are an important tool in improving visual acuity, improving precision, enhancing the field of vision, therefore helping the clinician provide the best care and best product possible to their clients. Dental loupes help reduce eyestrain, aids in hand eye coordination, and help achieve proper posture which can also prevent musculoskeletal injuries (Goffron-Mercieri, 2019).

As mentioned in [IPAC](#), it is also important to remember to clean and disinfect all personal safety glasses, face shields, loupes, and safety glasses worn between clients, every time. All reusable eye safety wear must be cleaned, disinfected, and dried between clients, following manufacturer's instructions.

Eye Safety in DH, DT, and DD *continued*

Many of us take our eyesight for granted but it's imperative, as healthcare providers that all safeguards are used to protect yourself, and your clients, against all types of hazards and injuries to the eye.

Exercises to Aid in Visual Acuity (O'Keefe Osborn, 2024)

Focus Change	• Hold your pointer finger a few inches away from your eyes. • Focus on your finger. • Slowly move your finger away from your face. • Look away for a moment, into the distance. • Focus on your outstretched finger and slowly bring it back towards your eyes. • Look away and focus on something in the distance.	Repeat three times
Near and Far Focus	• Hold your thumb about ten inches from your face and focus on it for 15 seconds. • Find an object roughly 10 to 20 feet away and focus on it for 15 seconds. • Return your focus to your thumb.	Repeat five times
Figure Eight	• Pick a point on the floor about 10 feet in front of you and focus on it. • Trace an imaginary figure eight with your eyes. • Keep tracing for 30 seconds, then switch directions.	Repeat twice

References:

- American Dental Association - <https://www.ada.org/resources/practice/practice-management/eye-safety-in-the-dental-office>
- American Optometric Association - <https://www.aoa.org/healthyeyes/eye-and-vision-conditions/computer-vision-syndrome>
- Centers for Disease Control - <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/healthcare/hcp/pandemic/conserving-eye-protection.html>
- Lintag-Nguyen, Kimberly and Dahm, Tracee. *Dimensions of Dental Hygiene - Ensure Career Longevity With Eye Health* (Oct 21, 2021) - <https://dimensionsofdentalhygiene.com/article/ensure-career-longevitywith-eye-health/>
- Goffron-Mercieri, Jenefer. (June 26, 2019) - <https://www.dentistryiq.com/dentalhygiene/student-hygiene/article/14035375/eyecare-protectionfor-dental-hygienists>
- NSRDHDTD. *NSRDHDTD IPAC Standards. May 1, 2025* - <https://immediac.blob.core.windows.net/cdhnswebsite/pdf/NSRDHDTD-IPAC-Standards-May-01-2025.pdf>
- O'Keefe Osborn, Corinne (Updated on July 29, 2024) - <https://www.healthline.com/health/eye-health/eye-exercises>

A New Continuing Competency Program (CCP) Survey Is Coming - Your Feedback Matters

The NSRDHDTD will soon invite all regulated individuals to share feedback on your current CCP and provide input on the development of a future program. The survey is an important opportunity to tell us what is working well, what could be improved, and what should be considered as we work to modernize and unify our approach to continuing competency across dental hygiene, dental technology, and denturism. Your feedback will help ensure the future framework recognizes the distinct scopes, practice settings, and professional obligations of each profession.

Please watch your email for the survey link and take a few minutes to share your perspective when it arrives.

Call for Applications for Statutory Committees of the NSRDHDTD

Introduction

The Nova Scotia Regulator of Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism (NSRDHDTD) is inviting registrants to apply for positions on statutory committees. These committees play an essential role in upholding the regulatory body's public protection mandate under the *Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA)*.

The NSRDHDTD regulates three distinct professions – dental hygiene, dental technology, and denturism. It is important that some of the statutory committees include representation from each profession to support balanced, informed decision-making.

The NSRDHDTD is seeking to fill registrant representative positions on the following statutory committees:

- Fitness to Practice Committee (all three professions encouraged to apply)
- Registration and Licensing Committee (dental hygienists and denturists especially encouraged to apply)
- Registration and Licensing Review Committee (dental technologists and denturists encouraged to apply)
- Complaints Committee (dental technologists especially encouraged to apply)
- Professional Conduct Committee (dental technologists and denturists especially encouraged to apply)
- Reinstatement Committee (dental technologists and denturists especially encouraged to apply)

Roles and Responsibilities

Fitness to Practice Committee (Adjudicative) – Assesses capacity-related concerns, where the Registrar deems the registrant is eligible and the registrant agrees to participate in the fitness to practice process.

Registration and Licensing Committee (Non-Adjudicative) – Reviews applications that have been referred by the Registrar to determine whether the applicant meets the criteria for registration, licensing, or renewal of a licence, and/or whether conditions or restrictions should be imposed.

Registration and Licensing Review Committee

(Adjudicative) – Provides an impartial, adjudicative review of decisions made by a Registration and Licensing decision-maker, when a formal review is requested by an applicant.

Complaints Committee (Non-Adjudicative) – Reviews complaints and directs investigations of alleged instances of misconduct, conduct unbecoming the profession, incompetence, or incapacity (when not managed through the fitness to practice process). May dismiss the complaint, impose conditions or restrictions, suspend a licence, or refer the matter to the Professional Conduct or Fitness-to-Practice Committees.

Professional Conduct Committee (Adjudicative)

– Conducts formal hearings to determine whether allegations referred by the Complaints Committee are substantiated. If one or more of the allegations are proven, the Committee determines appropriate sanctions or remedial actions.

Reinstatement Committee (Adjudicative) – Reviews applications for reinstatement of registration or licence following a revocation or resignation. May also decide whether publication of the reinstatement is in the interest of the public.

Application Criteria

It is important that committee members represent the public interest in their role on statutory committees. For this reason, individuals applying to sit on the committees should make themselves familiar with relevant legislation including:

- The [Regulated Health Professions Act](#)
- The [General Regulations of the RHPA](#)
- The [Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism Regulations](#)
- The [By-Laws of the NSRDHDTD](#)
- The relevant Codes of Ethics and Standards of Practice

Pursuant to the RHPA, applicants for positions on adjudicative statutory committees cannot be current NSRDHDTD Board members and cannot have been members of the Board of a professional association within the past two years. Further, individuals cannot sit on both the Registration and Licensing AND Registration and Licensing Review Committees, or both the Complaints AND Professional Conduct Committees.

Individuals applying to sit on a statutory committee will be required to:

- Complete an application. They are encouraged to self-identify as a member of any equity-deserving groups to which they belong. This information will be carefully compared to an established competency matrix and used to fill in any gaps in equity, diversity, inclusion, or skills areas of the committee that were previously identified as needing representation to most effectively operate in the public interest.
- Provide a brief cover letter outlining the reasons they are looking to serve on the applicable committee(s) they have applied for.
- Disclose any perceived or potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise as a result of participating in their committee work.
- Attend an interview (virtual, telephone, or in-person) with the Registrar, Chair of the applicable committee, Board Executive member, or any combination of these.

Terms of Appointment

Applicants applying to serve on a committee are expected to complete an orientation process, and to attend all committee meetings. Meeting frequency will vary depending on which committee and how many matters may be referred to it, but every committee will meet at least once annually. The term of appointment will depend on the specific committee. Reimbursement of expenses will be consistent with the Board's expense reimbursement and per-diem policies for committees.

To Apply:

Please fill out the [application](#) including conflict of interest attestation to:

- **Stacy Bryan, Registrar**
- Email: registrar@oralhealthns.ca
- 202-1597 Bedford Hwy., Bedford, NS B4A 1E7

If you wish to be considered for the next round of committee appointments, **please submit your application by Friday, September 18, 2026.** However, we are open to accepting applications for any committee position at any time, so that when a vacancy arises, it can be filled in a timely way.

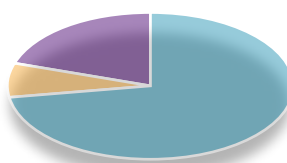
Survey Results of 2026 Regulated Professionals Meeting

Of the 324 individuals registered for the Regulated Professionals Meeting, 17% completed the post event survey. *Thank you to those who did.*

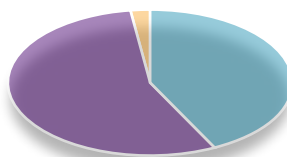
Survey results provide us with invaluable insight into your overall thoughts and also provides feedback for future events.

96% of those who completed the survey rated the event 'good to excellent'.

Of those who responded to the survey:



- 72.5% were dental hygienists
- 20% were dental laboratory technicians
- 7.5% were dental technologists
- 0% were denturists



- 55.5% Urban
- 42.5% Rural
- 2% Both

Did you know?

The NSRDHDTD requires that the names shown on your PLI certificate must be the same as the one on your portal. If the names do not match, the PLI will not be accepted, and you will not be able to move forward in the renewal of your licence. Please ensure they match before uploading your PLI to the NSRDHDTD. *If necessary, you can request a name change by accessing the form on the right side of your portal after logging in.*

Requirements to Upload an Acceptable CPR Certificate

A CPR must be taken, yearly, and approved by the NSRDHDTD before you can proceed in the licence renewal process.

For a CPR to be approved by the NSRDHDTD, the following Board set requirements *must* be met:

The level of CPR certification must include, at a minimum, classroom instruction and practical experience related to:

- one and two-person rescuer chest compressions for adults, children and infants;
- one and two-person rescuer adult, child and infant bag-valve mask technique and rescue breathing;
- relief of choking in adults, children and infants; and
- use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Before uploading your CPR certificate, please review the criteria below:

- The name on your registrant portal must match the one shown on the certificate. If you need to change your name, please do so by using the 'Name Change Request' form found on right hand side of your portal, after you have logged on.
- The issue date must be displayed, and the course must have been taken *on or after November 1*.
- The CPR document you submit for approval must be a *permanent certificate* (handwritten cards or certificate of attendance will not be accepted).
- The course must be at a level required by the NSRDHDTD Board. (HCP or BLS) from a provider that has been reviewed and approved.

Some examples of approved organizations who provide at the required level of CPR are:

- Canadian Red Cross
- St John Ambulance
- Heart and Stroke
- Lifesaving Society
- Rescue 7
- Priority First

We encourage everyone to upload your certificate as soon as possible to avoid delays in your renewal process.

CPR Offerings: There are a variety of organizations and providers across the province who provide CPR courses that meet the requirements for NSRDHDTD renewal and initial licences in the practising class. As a courtesy to NSRDHDTD registrants/permit holders, a [CPR section](#) of the website indicates providers who have notified the NSRDHDTD that they will offer courses for registrants based on the requirements.

NSRDHDTD registrants must obtain and provide evidence of current CPR certification, at the appropriate level, so that you can proceed with renewal. Prior to enrolling in a CPR course, check with the provider to confirm how you will receive your certification and how long it will take to receive it. A temporary certificate is NOT acceptable.

Scope of Practice in Nova Scotia

Sections 8 through 10 of the [Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology and Denturism Regulations](#) define the scope of practice for dental hygiene, dental technology, and denturism. Only individuals who hold the appropriate NSRDHDTD practising licence, or DLT practice permit, may engage in their specific scope of practice in Nova Scotia, whether as a volunteer or for remuneration.

For each profession, practice includes the application of specialized and evidence-based knowledge, skills and judgment, including activities taught in an approved education program or set out in Board-approved competency frameworks, standards of practice, or practice guidelines. Practice may include clinical or laboratory services, as applicable, as well as health promotion, research, education, inter-professional collaboration, consultation, management, administration, advocacy, regulation or system development related to the profession. When reporting practice hours, include all hours where you provided services in any of these areas, not only time spent providing clinical or laboratory care. All such positions count toward practice hours and require the appropriate practising licence or DLT practice permit.

DLT permit holders may only perform the dental technology scope of practice under a supervisor approved by the NSRDHDTD Registrar, and in compliance with the [NSRDHDTD DLT Supervision Standard of Practice](#).

Detailed information on each scope of practice will be included in your profession-specific Notice of Expiry.



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

CDHA National Conference

Practice360

November 12–14, 2026 | Halifax, Nova Scotia

Empower your passion at our conference on the coast!

Program Highlights

Using AI to Lead the Next Era of Dentistry

Sponsored by Crest + Oral-B and EMS

Periodontal & Peri-Implant Disease Diagnosis

Sponsored by Colgate

How to Counsel Your Patients on HPV Cancer Prevention

Sponsored by Merck



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August 2026



Nova Scotia Regulator of
Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology,
and Denturism

WITHIN SCOPE

Foundations: Connecting Regulation, Practice, and the Public Trust

Important dates to remember

End of August: Notice of Expiry sent out to all NSRDHDTD Regulated Individuals

September 1, 2026: Licence and Permit Renewal Begins

September 18, 2026: Deadline to Submit Application to Serve on NSRDHDTD Committee

October 5, 2026: Licence and DLT permit Renewal Deadline (without penalty)

October 31, 2026: Licence and DLT permit Renewal Deadline (with penalty)

Nova Scotia Regulator of Dental Hygiene, Dental Technology, and Denturism

202-1597 Bedford Hwy
Bedford, N.S. B4A 1E7

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