

From the Desk of the Registrar

DATES TO NOTE

April is
National Oral Health Month

National Dental Hygienists
Week April 11 - 17, 2010

CDHNS AGM
& MCDHE
June 5, 2010

STUDY CLUB & SOCIETY MEETINGS

Halifax Regional Metro Society
Notice: Change from Calendar
publication date to:
Sunday April 25, 2010 @ 2:30
p.m. Keshen Goodman Library,
Clayton Park



By the time you receive this newsletter it will be spring. At least on the calendar, March 21 is spring. Once again we survived another winter in Nova Scotia and the College of Dental Hygienists is thriving.

shop in January on the discipline process under our act. Marjorie Hickey our legislative council presented. This was conducted to assist the Credential, Investigative and Hearing Committees members in their roles in the discipline process. The session was very well attended and received.

Office Premises

The CDHNS has leased office space in the Armadale Professional Centre, located at 2625 Joseph Howe Drive, Unit 26, B3L 4G4. It is a pleasant space which suits our needs at present. We are currently in the process of setting up the new premises.

Annual General Meeting

The first ever AGM of the College of Dental Hygienists of Nova Scotia will take place in conjunction with the Continuing Education courses on June 5th and I hope to see as many members out as possible. It will be an historic occasion.

Happy Spring!
Patricia Grant, Registrar.

Local anaesthetic

At the January Council meeting the Council approved a policy on requirements for the delivery of local anaesthetics by dental hygienists in Nova Scotia. Under the legislation Section 25 (c) of the Regulation dental hygienists may administer oral anaesthetic, only under the written order of the client's dentist or physician. Under this policy the CDHNS will recognize the qualifications of those licensed members to administer local anaesthetic.

Essentially the policy deals with the issues of the education required, the experience of the member and the time elapsed since they have used the skill. The policy will be posted on the college web site by the end of March at www.cdhns.ca

Disciplinary Process Workshop

Council members, as well as committee members and public representatives attended a work-

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Full pg. \$125.00

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Send us your ideas, articles and letters. Submit to the Editor at unisonnews.cdhns.ns.ca

Next Deadline
for submissions
August 1, 2010

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When families of new babies leave the hospital they should receive the Loving Care series of booklets. The oral health messages from Healthy Teeth for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers are in that series of booklets. You can find oral health messages in the Food, Safety, and Dental health sections.



The Loving Care series of four booklets for parents of children from birth to age three has been or is in the process of being developed by Nova Scotia's department of Health Promotion and Protection. As a public resource, Loving Care focuses on information that will help young families to protect, promote, or improve their health and to prevent illness, injury and or disability. You can check out two of the booklets at the websites listed below. They are a great read. For a small fee you can order your own copies by calling 1-800-670-4357. Visit these sites below for previews.

http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/04175_HealthyTeethBooklet_Jun08_En.pdf

http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/09045_Birthto6MonthsBooks_Jul09_En.pdf

http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/09046_6to12MonthsBook_Jul09_En.pdf

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp>

USE OF A NEW PRODUCT CDHNS COMMENT

The CDHNS has received inquiries regarding the use of a recently released product in Canada. The product is produced by Dentsply and is marketed in Canada under the brand name Oraqix. Oraqix is a lidocaine and prilocaine periodontal gel, 2.5% / 2.5% indicated for topical application in periodontal pockets for moderate pain during scaling and/or root planing.

Oraqix is not a Schedule A, C, D or F Drug therefore by default, since it required a new drug submission its schedule is being labeled as "Ethical" by Health Canada. It is a form of topical anesthetic as it is neither injected nor inhaled.

The CDHNS has no specific policy on the use of Oraqix by its license members. It is within the Scope of Practice of Dental Hygiene Practice to use those professional products normally used in the course of dental hygiene care as directed by specific patient need and circumstances and when used according to manufacturer's direction. The use of topical anaesthetics is within the scope; this product is not administered by injection but rather placed in the sulcus/pocket with an applicator. Individual members must determine their own practices based on client care principles.

Oraqix has been used in the U.S. for a number of years and has now been approved by the Canadian drug agency for use in Canada. As with all procedures and products members are encouraged to consider all new products and to use the best evidence approach to practice.

~ CONGRATULATIONS ~

2010 Dalhousie Dental Hygiene Student Table Clinic Winners

1st place – Samantha Tetford & Shana Ewart - Laser Away Pockets Today - Adviser: C. Tax

2nd place – Safina Waljee and Hilary Boudreau – ZAP Hypersensitivity- Adviser: N. Neish

3rd place – Julie McCurdy and Vanessa Kelly - Shining a Light on Oral Cancer- Adviser: D. Purdy

4th place – Pamela Taylor and Andrea Myra - Caries Vaccine: A Future without Cavities? Adviser: J. Clovis

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2009 Dalhousie Faculty of Dentistry School of Dental Hygiene Outstanding Alumnus Award Recipient

Louise Robichaud (1974)

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# SUNSTAR

Feature Interview  
Nova Scotia's First Independent Dental Hygiene Practice

*“Essential Dental Hygiene Services”*  
BRINGS DENTAL HYGIENE SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY

The 2009 change in Nova Scotia Legislation, through the Dental Hygienists Act, was meant to improve access to oral care for all Nova Scotians. One approach to meeting this goal is independent practice, in this case, a mobile dental hygiene clinic, Nova Scotia's first!

Joanne Noye graduated from Dalhousie University's School of Dental Hygiene in 1986. In 2009 she completed the CDHNS Self-Initiation course and opened *Essential Dental Hygiene Services*, a mobile clinic that she takes to the home bound and retirement/assisted living facilities. Up and running since December 2009, we visited Joanne and asked her about her new business, operated in and around the Halifax region.

**Unison:** Have you ever owned or operated a business before?

**Joanne:** No, I haven't.

**Unison:** What help did you get to ensure a good business plan?

**Joanne:** I attended the Independent Practice Workshop in Toronto sponsored by the CDHA and perused websites of independent practices in other provinces.

**Unison:** Did you consult with any other professionals such as accountants or lawyers?

**Joanne:** Yes, I did consult with an accountant for further business advice.

**Unison:** Do you actually take equipment and tools to the client?

**Joanne:** Absolutely. I purchased a sterilizer for use in my home, folding client chair, tray with suction, air/water syringe powered by a separate compressor and an operator's stool from an Ontario company that I discovered at the Independent Practice Workshop. I have a head-light attached to my safety glasses to enhance my visual field. I also have a 'toolbox' on wheels for supplies and a rolling briefcase for charts, paperwork and information pamphlets. All this equipment fits into my van. I purchased my sonic scaler and sundries from a local supplier.

**Unison:** How do you find clients and do you accept referrals?

**Joanne:** I visit retirement/assisted living facilities and leave my brochures with the activity directors. I spend time educating the staff and residents about my services and the importance of regular dental hygiene care. The CDHA has excellent brochures that I purchased which explain the oral health-systemic link. I provide these for distribution. Clients are referred by word of mouth and by families looking for care for their elderly parents. Of course I accept referrals!

**Unison:** How do you know what fees to charge?

**Joanne:** Well, I use the CDHA dental hygiene billing codes to create a charge and adjust it to my level of service. I always start with a full hour to do an initial exam, at a base price, and OHI, of course. With a full health history/ dental history/consent and oral assessment done, I schedule an appointment for scaling, and make any necessary referrals. The family members are often involved as they are the ones to request and pay for the services especially with individuals who require another to consent to their treatment.

**Unison:** How long did it take you to get all the details worked out and actually get rolling?

**Joanne:** From registering my business name, research, consultations with professionals for business advice and marketing to seeing my first client, the total time for set up was approximately 18 months.

**Unison:** Are you enjoying this new venture?

**Joanne:** It is such a satisfying experience, it's difficult to describe. It can be very difficult work physically, moving heavy equipment, more so than a day at a regular office, but so rewarding. I have a soft spot for seniors and they are definitely in need of comprehensive dental hygiene care. All of the clients that I have seen thus far have been very appreciative. It's not for the faint of heart; there are hurdles. But I truly love it!

**Unison:** How have you found the experiences to be so far?

**Joanne:** So far, a very positive experience all around! It is a lot of work, but clearly there is a demand for and an appreciation of the service by everyone I have encountered.

You can visit Joanne's website at [www.essentialdentalhygiene.com](http://www.essentialdentalhygiene.com)  
For more information on how to get started with your own independent practice,  
go to [www.cdha.ca](http://www.cdha.ca) and log in.

Click on the Tab entitled "The Profession" and find  
"Independent Practice: Your Guide to Opening a Dental Hygiene Practice".  
This site contains information on claim forms, advisors, business  
plans, financing, market research and more.



*For a related story about another Dalhousie University dental hygiene alumni, in independent practice, Liz-Ann Munro Lamarre featured in the Dalumni go to: <http://www.dentistry.dal.ca/index.html>*

The Nova Scotia Department of Health and the Nova Scotia Department of Health Promotion and Protection have agreed to establish a Chief Dental Officer (CDO) position for the province. Stay tuned for future details.

Dalhousie University Faculty of Dentistry Policies & Guidelines are published online at [www.dentistry.dal.ca](http://www.dentistry.dal.ca)

### **CDHNS MEMBERSHIP COMMENTARY SURVEY**

THE CDHNS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE IS INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM YOU.

How would you like to see the CDHNS provide support to its membership?  
Do you have suggestions or ideas? We want to hear them. Some ideas already submitted include having the College produce a new CDHNS pin for each member. Also suggested, 'Mentors For New Members' program that would see seasoned members volunteer to mentor new grads. Do you wish to see a members manual loaded with easy to read protocol, policy, legislative items and case scenarios? Should the AGM include a CPR recertification session vs. other CE?  
The membership committee projects will be financed by your fees. Have a say in how the monies could be used to support you as a health care professional in your community and a member of your College.

Send your suggestions or comments about the ideas above to  
[info@unisonnews.ca](mailto:info@unisonnews.ca) with 'Membership Survey' in the Subject line.  
Or mail your ideas now to the CDHNS, attention to Membership Committee Ideas.

Send Us Your Ideas! We Want To Hear From You!

## CDHNS Committee Updates

The College of Dental Hygienists of NS is required by Legislation, namely the Dental Hygienists Act, to create a Credentials Committee, an Investigation Committee and a Hearing Committee. These committees, as well as a Continuing Competency Committee have been struck and are each hard at work on terms of reference, strategic planning, policy development, budget development and appointment of chairs, vice-chair's and public members.

The Credentials Committee members are:

- Sara Harding (CDHNS Council Liaison /Chair/Member)
- Lynn Myra (Vice-Chair/ Member)
- Robyn Killen-Maillet (Member)
- Joanne Noye (Member)
- Mary Jane Kiley (Public Representative)

The CC mandate includes, assessing an applicant's educational qualifications to practice dental hygiene in Nova Scotia in a manner equitable and consistent with the CDHNS policies and further ensures that the requirements as set out in the Dental Hygiene Act and Regulations are met. (pending final approval) Cases are either referred to the CC by the Registrar or the applicant.

The Continuing Competency Committee members are:

- Wendy Stewart (CDHNS Council Liaison/Member)
- Jackie White (CDHNS Council Liaison/Member)
- Allison Craig (Member)
- Cheryl d'Entremont (Member)
- Oddette d'Eon (Member)

The CCC is to develop guidelines for continuing competency and quality assurance and review these aspects on a regular basis.

There has been a great deal of discussion within the committee around the mandatory requirement of Category 3 (Non-scientific/non-clinical experiences) points for Continuing Education. This requirement was to encourage intradisciplinary communication as well as interdisciplinary networking with other health professions. Category 3 credits include the following:

1. Volunteering with the fluoride mouth rinse programs in schools.
2. Attendance/participation at registered study club/society meetings.
3. Attendance at other health profession's AGMs.
4. Some CDHA web site courses

The CCC thanks you for your patience and understanding as we work through the first year or two of our cycles.

The Investigation Committee members are:

- Terry Mitchell (Chair/Member)
- Heather Bell (Vice-Chair/Member)
- Mary MacLeod (Member)
- Collene Sand (Member)
- Rosemary Bourque (CDHNS Council Liaison/Member)
- Leslie Ebert (Public Representative)
- Laurene MacDonald (Public Representative)

The mandate of this committee is to investigate matters referred to the committee regarding a dental hygienist's conduct, competency and/or ability to practice safely and ethically, or for matters related to persons believed to be in violation of the Dental Hygienists Act. (pending final approval)

The Hearing Committee Members are:

- Beth Derible (Member)
- Dianne Landry (Member)
- Sue MacIntosh (Member)
- David Purdy (Member)
- Cara Tax (Member)
- Public Representative yet to be assigned.

The Hearing Committee would conduct a more formal hearing process. The Hearing Committee process would take place when either the member or the Investigation Committee is dissatisfied with the outcome of the Investigation Committee proceedings. (pending final approval)

Remember, the CDHNS always needs members to volunteer to participate on committees.  
Contact the CDHNS office to submit your name for consideration on a committee.

Introducing the June 5, 2010 CDHNS AGM Speakers

For schedule details go to [www.cdhns.ca](http://www.cdhns.ca). Click on Members, Publications, Unison Vol 38 Winter.

Presentation: TOHAP: The Oral Health of Our Aging Population – A Nova Scotia Survey

Speaker: Dr. Debora Matthews

Dr. Debora Matthews is Chair of the Department of Dental Clinical Sciences at Dalhousie Faculty of Dentistry. She is a clinical epidemiologist with a specialty in Periodontics and evidence-based dentistry. Currently, Dr Matthews is Principle Investigator of an epidemiologic study of the oral health of 1100 Nova Scotia adults aged 45 and older, living in the community and long term care, in rural and urban centres. She is Co-PI on one, and investigator of a second of 4 CIHR seed grants to examine access to oral health care for vulnerable populations. She is collaborator on a project to integrate oral health care actions in continuing care settings in Nova Scotia. She has contributed to 2 books, written or co-authored 28 articles in peer-reviewed publications, done likewise with 49 peer-reviewed abstracts and 11 reports. She has chaired or co-chaired 11 conferences or workshops and presented 50 times to various groups and organizations, and serves on the editorial boards of three peer reviewed journals. She is a Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Dental Research, a member of the International Association of Dental Research Council, and a founding member of the Canadian Collaboration for Clinical Practice Guidelines in Dentistry.

Presentation: Soft Tissue Management of Dental Implants

Speaker: Dr. Terri Logue

Dr. Terrie Logue graduated from Dalhousie Dental School in 1985, and obtained a Certificate in Periodontology from Dalhousie in 1991. She has worked in general practice in Digby and Wolfville and has been in private practice in Periodontics in Dartmouth since 1991 as an associate to Dr. Noel Andrews until 1996. Currently, Dr. Logue is in practice with Dr. Debora Matthews and Dr. Tamara Wright. Dr. Logue held a position as part-time Clinical Instructor at Dalhousie from 1991 till 2009, and is currently the President – Elect of the NSDA. She is also a Past-President of the Canadian Academy of Periodontology (2001).

Presentation: Dental Lasers and Periodontal Treatment: What Does the EVIDENCE Say?

Speaker: Dr. Tammy Wright

Dr. Wright received her dental degree from the University of Manitoba in 1990 and practiced as a dental officer with the Canadian Armed Forces until 1994. She then studied at the University of Toronto where she obtained her periodontal specialty training. Dr. Wright opened a solo periodontal practice in Belleville, Ontario where she practiced for 12 years. She now holds the position of Associate Professor at the Faculty of Dentistry at Dalhousie University and is in private periodontal practice part time. Dr. Wright has been active throughout her dental career both as a community volunteer and in organized dentistry and is a Past President of the Canadian Academy of Periodontology.

Presentation: Dentures & Denture Care: Adding Value to Denture Patients Lives.

Speaker: Mr. Tim Dixon

Mr. Dixon has been working with the leading pharmaceutical company Glaxo-Smith-Kline for 18 years and is the Atlantic Canada Dental Division Manager. Over this time he has spoken to thousands of dentists and dental hygienists throughout Atlantic Canada on Dentin Hypersensitivity and Acid Erosion as well as patient denture care. Tim lectures at Dalhousie University and Oulton's Dental Hygiene School. In 2004 Tim received his "Council for Pharmaceutical Education" (CCPE) Accreditation, which consisted of about 300 hours of study. Many of us recognize Tim's expertise and are grateful for his ability and willingness to keep us up to date on product science and innovation.

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CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO CDHNS. \$30.00 FEE FOR NSF CHEQUES. PAYMENT WILL NOT BE DEPOSITED BEFORE THE JUNE 5TH EVENT. CONTINUING EDUCATION VERIFICATION WILL BE ISSUED AT THE END OF EACH SESSION ONLY.

- CDHNS Members: \$49.00 before May 10, 2010
- Registration after May 10 and at the door: \$55.00
- Non members: \$100.00
- CDHNS Member AGM only 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. no charge.

**Please mail to:** CDHNS 2010 AGM  
PO Box 29114  
Halifax Shopping Centre RPO  
Halifax, NS B3L 4T8

Early Bird  
DEADLINE  
May 10, 2010

College of  
**Dental Hygienists  
of Nova Scotia**

UNISON

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS OF NOVA SCOTIA  
VOLUME 38                                      ISSUE 3                                      SPRING 2010

The Unison Newsletter  
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