



# Accent on Assisting

## Calendar of Events

Oral Health Professions Scientific Session	September 17-19
SDAA Annual General Meeting—Regina	September 19
CDAA Conference— Toronto	September 25-26
SDAA Fall P.D. Event— Saskatoon	November 7

**The SDAA Wage Survey will be open on our website during June and July. Please go on the website and complete the survey. The results are available immediately.**

### SASKATCHEWAN DENTAL ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 294  
Kenaston SK S0G 2N0

Monday to Thursday  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Phone: (306) 252-2769  
Fax: (306) 252-2089

email: [sdaa@sasktel.net](mailto:sdaa@sasktel.net)  
website: [www.sdaa.sk.ca](http://www.sdaa.sk.ca)

Office Location:  
603 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Kenaston SK

## President Calla Effa approved for second term

In accordance with section 7.1.2 of the SDAA Administrative Bylaws, Council has approved a second term for both President Calla Effa and President Elect Jo-Ann Chatterson. Congratulations Calla and Jo-Ann and thank you for your dedication to the profession of dental assisting.

## Mentoring: Our Solution

Sixty new members from the SIAST program, at least 8 from the University College of the North in The Pas Manitoba and a few new registrants from other jurisdictions will join the Saskatchewan dental assisting ranks in late June. With shortages of dental assistants being experienced throughout the province, every practising dental assistant should take the time to consider what we can contribute to the retention of these new dental assistants. Often our co-workers are the element that makes our day by day work enjoyable or a trial to face. Each of us has an opportunity and a responsibility to be a positive influence; provided we take the time to mentor these new additions. A new graduate has acquired a great deal of knowledge through their formal education however, it is through the daily practical application of this information that it truly becomes learned. Please be a mentor!

## 10 Years of Employment & Holidays

Section 30(1) of the Act states:

30(1) Every employee to whom this Act applies is entitled:

- (a) subject to clause (b), to an annual holiday of three weeks after each year of employment with any one employer;
- (b) to an annual holiday of four weeks after the completion of ten years of employment with one employer and after the completion of each subsequent year of employment with that employer.

So, it appears that employees become entitled to four weeks vacation as you reach 10 full years of employment with the same employer.

### Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 2009 AGM of the Saskatchewan Dental Assistants' Association

will be held on

**Saturday, September 19, 2009**

**from 12:00noon. to 2:00pm.**

LOMBARDY ROOM—DELTA REGINA - REGINA SK (1919 SASKATCHEWAN DRIVE)

*Annual Reports will be distributed approximately August 1, 2009*

## Changes to the Regulatory Bylaws

- The SDAA Regulatory Bylaw were recently revised to accommodate the proposed changes to Chapter 7 of the Agreement on Internal Trade. A secondary goal was to enhance the readability of the document.
- The “Registration” section was amended to now accommodate applicants from unregulated jurisdictions having graduated from CDAC accredited programs.
- Applicants who are in the process of meeting our requirements will now be registered on a Restricted licence (instead of a temporary list). They will continue to have an expiry date by which all outstanding requirements will need to be completed. Should the dental assistant not complete the outstanding requirements by the expiry date, the licence will be revoked. Any extensions will be related to extenuating circumstances.
- The 900 hours of practice was removed as dental assistants in Saskatchewan do not have a practice requirement.
- Our standard requirements are waived if the applicant is registered and in good standing in another Canadian jurisdiction (in most cases, these applicants will still meet our requirements).
- A supervision requirement was instituted for members working on a “Restricted Practising” licence. All members in this category will be notified.
- Lapsed members who have not held a practising licence for more than 3 years will need to meet re-entry requirements.
- Lapsed members must reinstate at a practising status in order to reestablish a practising date.
- Our Dental Assistant Program Approval requirement was aligned to CDAC site visits, namely 7 years.

## Dental Aides: What Services can they Provide in our Workplaces?

There appears to be shortages of dental assistants in Saskatchewan. We are recently hearing from dental office that have hired untrained personnel to work as dental aides. The big question is; what can an aide legally do, relative to patient contact? Unlicensed individual may suction, retract and use the air/water syringe. Sterilization remains in the public domain and while we as professionals may all question this, it remains responsibility of each employer to determine the appropriate qualifications of employees assigned to competently perform sterilization processes.

SDAA is encouraging those who join the dental team by this avenue to consider registering in the NAIT Independent Study Program. Once a student has successfully completed Level I (Term 1 & Term 2), they are eligible to begin intra oral training. As the various intra oral skills are successfully completed, and as each skill is listed with SDAA they can then be

performed in your place of employment. Completion of the course (not just enrolment in the course) is mandatory. These students will qualify for the newly expanded “Restricted” licence. Once the intra oral training is finished, these students will still need to successfully complete the NDAEB written examination prior to qualifying for a full practising licence.

Dental aides should ensure that their intra oral training is completed at a dental assistant program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.

## Confirm Your Skill List

Your skill list is included in this mailing. Please ensure that it is correct. Kindly notify the SDAA staff if there are concerns or questions.

## Display Certificate of Registration

The Regulatory Bylaws “Standards of Practice” requires that all registered dental assistants MUST display their “Certificate of Registration” in their place of employment. This demonstrates to the public that the dental assistant is registered and qualified to perform dental assisting intra oral procedures.

### Job Board

Visit the SDAA website to track new job opportunities

**[www.sdaa.sk.ca](http://www.sdaa.sk.ca)**

Click “Career” and select a board of your choice