

# FILLING YOU IN

Calgary Dental Assistants Association

September 2007



## Calgary Dental Assistants Association

### CDA

Executive Committee 07/08

**President:**

Maureen (Max) Cross  
Cell: 808-4432  
maxcross59@yahoo.ca

**Past President:**

Angela Johnson  
[angjohn44@hotmail.com](mailto:angjohn44@hotmail.com)

**President Elect:**

Tina Beaman  
[tina.beaman@hotmail.com](mailto:tina.beaman@hotmail.com)  
933-0724

**Secretary:**

Karen Allen

**Treasurer:**

Brandy Bradford  
[brandy-bradford@hotmail.com](mailto:brandy-bradford@hotmail.com)

**Education Chairperson:**

Vacant

**DA Week Rep:**

Brenda Mikkelsen-Frostad

**D.H. Month Rep:**

Donna Ahern

**Newsletter Editor:**

Veronica Chung  
[veronica.chung@hotmail.com](mailto:veronica.chung@hotmail.com)

**Hospitality Chairperson:**

Ghada Abu Laada

**School Advisory Rep**

Tara Rosendal

**Parliamentarian**

Lynn Roesenthal

**Archivist:**

Linda Hohm

**Employment Registrar:**

Danelle Fulawka  
Phone/Fax: 217-6165

[www.calgarydentalassistants.ca](http://www.calgarydentalassistants.ca)

**GENERAL MEETINGS:**

MONDAY September 17, 2007

MONDAY November 19, 2007

MONDAY January 21, 2008

MONDAY March 17, 2008

**Greenwood Inn**

3515-26th Street NE  
Calgary, Alberta  
6:30pm-9:00pm

**Fall Seminar:**

SATURDAY October 20, 2007

Venue: Inn on Macleod Trail

**Spring Seminar:**

SATURDAY April 19, 2007

Venue: TBA

## President's Message

As we begin the next year of meetings and Seminars, I want to acknowledge all of the Board members that have returned and welcome the new additions to our team. We are still one short though, and I would encourage all of you to look at helping us out in the role of Education Chairperson. Volunteer to work on one meeting or help plan the spring seminar. It's a great way to serve your Association and add some new skills to your resume or round out your competency plan.

One of the big topics on everyone's mind is **Continuing Competency**. This looks like a big scary change over the Continuing Education points system we now have. So, with that in mind, I have asked Susan vander Heide of the CADA to present her workshop at this fall's seminar. Seating will be limited at the seminar so fill out your registration form and send it in right away.

As I look forward to the next year, I am excited by the opportunities that lay ahead to meet as many of you as possible and discuss what your local association can do for you. Please feel free to speak to me at any meeting or contact me with your ideas for improving the Calgary Dental Assistants Association.

Sincerely,

Maureen (Max) Cross, RDA

# Continuing Competence – What Does It Mean?

We have been hearing for years that under the Health Professions Act things are going to change for dental assistants – and yes, they are changing. Being included as one of over 30 regulated health professions covered by this legislation validates dental assisting as a profession. It also means that certain expectations must be met to maintain our professional status.

The HPA requires similar things of all the regulated health professions such as registration process, complaints process, alternate complaint

resolution process and the legislation states very clearly that all professions under the Act MUST implement a Continuing Competence Program.

What is the purpose of the Continuing Competence Program (CCP)? With this new legislation, there has been diversifying of professional roles. Rather than defining a scope of practice, restricted activities are permitted for professions according to their education, training and area of practice. There has been recent media coverage of the expanded role of pharmacists, hygienists now have the right to independent practice, dental assistants with formal training may provide limited scaling for appropriately screened patients... All of this means greater access to care for Albertans. The role of the CCP is to ensure the care is quality care regardless of who provides the service.

So what does competence' mean? The legislation defines competence as the knowledge, skills, attitudes and critical judgments inherent in providing professional services. In other words, it goes beyond the skill in your hands to the theory behind the skill as well as the values and ethics applied in providing care for patients.

How will the CCP differ from the Continuing Education model that we have had in place for many years? There are three main areas that change. The first is that you will be required to complete a self-assessment every year. The self-assessment is confidential. It is not shared with your employer or even on an individual basis with CADA. This information will help you to develop a learning plan. This is the second change. Each year, for registration renewal, you will submit your renewal form and fees and a learning plan (based on your self-assessment) with a minimum of 2 learning objectives. It is important to note that your learning plan can change throughout the year, but you need to have some education objectives. That is a professional

### **Three main areas will change:**

1. Required to complete a self-assessment every year.
2. Each year for registration renewal, you will submit your renewal form and fees and a learning plan with a minimum of two learning objectives.
3. You will retain your record of learning activities completed until requested for review, about once every five years.

obligation – continuous or lifelong learning. You will then pursue learning activities to fulfill your learning plan or revise your learning plan if different and relevant learning opportunities present themselves. The third change is the review process. You will retain your records of learning activities completed until requested for review, about once every 5 years. In the years between review years, you will be asked to sign a declaration that you have completed a minimum of two learning objectives for the year just ended.

One of the main shortfalls of the Con Ed system has been a lack of accountability for what we learn – just warming the seat is no longer enough. Part of our role as responsible professionals is to be able to identify and put into practice what we learn. There are some tutorials online to help you with this and we will be building more tools and providing time during workshops to help you with this. What did I learn and how am I using it?

The Continuing Competence Program is supported by online or hard copy tools. The online application keeps track of everything except your verification of learning, so one small binder to hold your papers, brochures, etc is all you should need. The online system also allows for real data in real time. In other words if 200 dental assistants in Calgary indicate a need for education in one particular area, we can advise the local association of that need and they can then allocate their education resources to providing the information that members want instead of trying to guess.

**2008 is a voluntary participation year for Continuing Competence Program (CCP). The CCP program will become MANDATORY for all registered dental assistants with 2009 renewals**

2008 is a voluntary participation year for the Continuing Competence Program. Every member will receive a CD with all the Competence documents this fall in their renewal packages. Workshops are scheduled around the province in all the locals and Fort McMurray for September and October. More workshops will be held in the spring as well, so if you can't make it to the ones scheduled near you in the fall, you may choose to attend the spring activities. The Continuing Competence Program will become MANDATORY for all registered dental assistants with 2009 renewals.

The new program is personal and flexible. It should reflect you and your practice as a health care professional. Please take the time to learn more about this program and what it means to you as an individual and what it means to the dental assisting profession.

If you would like more information or have questions please contact:

Susan vander Heide, Continuing Competence Coordinator at 1-800-355-8940 or [svanderheide@abrda.ca](mailto:svanderheide@abrda.ca)

# BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

## MAUREEN (MAX) CROSS      PRESIDENT

I work as the Hygiene Coordinator at a busy office just outside of downtown Calgary. In addition to greeting and exiting patients, booking appointments and taking x-rays and impressions, I also do the occasional chair-side stint. Dental Assisting is not my first career. I have also been an Accountant in the O & G service industry and a Project Manager for a large phone company. This career definitely provides more people plus opportunities. By that I mean, the chance to make someone's day better with a smile, or a knowing nod, or even holding their hand. I love hearing the stories and seeing them leave with a smile

## TINA BEAMAN      PRESIDENT ELECT

My name is Tina Beaman, President Elect for the Calgary Dental Assistants Association. I recently graduated from Columbia College and am currently a chairside assistant at Marlborough Dental Centre. I was a student representative on the executive board of the Calgary Dental Assistants Association during my education at Columbia. I was able to learn about the association and pass on my knowledge to my fellow classmates and facilitators as well as the members on the executive. I enjoyed being on the board and have therefore decided to remain and continue to volunteer and learn from other dental assistants in the city. I have taken on the role of President Elect and would like to be able to learn and grow in this profession with the help and communication of the association and its members.

I can be reached by email ([tina.beaman@hotmail.com](mailto:tina.beaman@hotmail.com)) or by phone 993-0724 if anyone has any questions or advice for me as I begin this journey

## Congratulations!

Big congratulations to our new mothers:

Candida Stashko and the birth of her baby girl named Mia!

Ghada Abu Laada on the birth of her baby girl named Serena!



## Prizes and winners from Spring Seminar 2007

Patio Lites and Candles  
Boy Garden Ornament  
Girl Garden Ornament  
Body Shop Grad Bag  
Margarita Party  
BBQ Boss set  
Leather Coasters (Henry Schein)  
Garden tools and Watering Can  
Italian Dinner set up  
Slow Cooker  
Ipod Nano (Patterson)  
Bistro Set  
Membership dues for 07/08

Kathy Boyd  
Erica Born  
Cindi Woodthorpe  
Linda Holm  
Tara Rosendal  
Astra  
Sharon  
Tina Beaman  
Elizabeth Deatrich  
Shelly Jarman  
Donna Vollerling-Parchewski  
Linda Ripley  
Louise Tveter

Winners of Oral B Triumph ETB (P&G)  
Linda Ripley  
Veronica Chung  
Kim Fleming

Topic for the  
September General  
Meeting

# Access to Care

Presented by the Calgary Health Region

# Calgary Dental Assistants Association October 20, 2007 Fall Seminar

Inn on Macleod Trail  
4206 Macleod Trail S.  
(Near LRT 39<sup>th</sup> Ave Station)

8:00 - 9:00 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 12:00 am	<b>“Continuing Competence”</b> Susan vander Heide
12:00 - 1:00 pm	LUNCH
1:00 – 4:00 pm	“TBA”

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Mail Cheque or Money Order payable to the  
**“Calgary Dental Assistants Association”**

to: Brandy Bradford;  
615B 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Calgary, AB T2E 0J9  
*An additional service fee of \$15 will be added to all NSF cheques*

	Full Day		Half Day <small>(includes lunch)</small>	AM or PM <small>(please circle)</small>
\$50	<input type="checkbox"/>	Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25
\$60	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30
\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Students	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (Required): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ RDA #: \_\_\_\_\_

## Come to the Fall Seminar to learn more about Continuing Competence

### Notice! Bylaw Change!

The Executive and Committee members have reviewed our bylaws and feel there are amendments needed, in order to better suit our direction and goals. In keeping with proper protocol, the membership (that's you!) needs the chance to consider any bylaw change before the meeting at which the change will be voted on (as stated in Bylaw #12, Article 1). The following bylaw change will be voted on at our first September General Meeting.

Bylaw 2, Article 3 states,

"The Bylaws shall be made available to the members at each General Meeting. The President shall read the Bylaws at the September meeting."

The new bylaw, if passed will read.

"The Bylaws shall be made available to the members at each General Meeting."

The purpose of changing this bylaw comes as a result of considering the amount of time required to verbally review the bylaws, which interferes with continuing education time - one of our main priorities. (Not to mention the fact that listening to bylaws is rarely exciting). We will be introducing other proposed changes to our bylaws at the September meeting; however will only be voting on the above. See you in September



## April was Dental Health Month

By  
Donna Ahearn CDA  
(Dental Health Month representative)

As a newcomer to Calgary, what a wonderful way to be part of a great organization, the Calgary Dental Assistant Association. To hold the position for Dental Health Month, I was not only part of a great group of ladies, but also able to share and spread the benefits of Oral Health.



This year's motto was "Show the World Your Smile!" a Celebration of Families. With this in mind, I contacted Butler and was able to get 250 toothbrushes and floss samples for free, as well as stickers from the

College of Dental Assistants, and pamphlets from the Calgary Health Region with perfect information on brushing and flossing. I then assembled "loot bag" type packages to hand out.

With the help of Dina, a fellow dental assistant, we headed to the Calgary Zoo entrance to come face to face with about 150 families enjoying their day. We were very well received with lots of smiles and interest. Dina wore our "Tooth Fairy" costume, which was not to be missed.



A very successful afternoon and just think we touched many children with our fun filled "loot bags" and information.

The remainder of the toothbrushes and floss, I donated to the Mustard Seed. Again so pleased with our concern, this organization happily received our toothbrushes and floss to spread amongst the needy.

Success, for a few hours of work, publicity to the Calgary Dental Assistants and dental health. It doesn't take much to make a difference and do it for something we all strive for, good oral health.

## DENTAL ASSISTING FACILITATORS

Columbia College is a young exciting accredited educational institution that was established in 1986. It offers a broad range of high-quality and accelerated innovative pre-career and professional programs that support continued adult learning and development. Columbia offers a wide range of intensive occupationally focused certificate and diploma programs where students obtain up to two years of highly valued and recognized college/university education in a compressed period (as little as twelve months).



The College is currently seeking highly energetic, knowledgeable and caring clinical facilitators for the next academic year. Candidates must be flexible and willing to work part-time up to 300 hours in a six month period. Peak periods for Dental Assisting facilitators at Columbia College are May, June, July and November, December, January. Candidates must possess CADA registration and have over 3 years current industry experience. Experience as a facilitator is not required, although candidates must be willing to develop highly effective facilitation skills in order to support quality student learning. Courses of assignment may include:

Orientation to the Dental Profession  
Dental Sciences  
Dental Records  
Clinical Support Procedures  
Pre-Clinical Science  
Clinical Chairside Procedures

Preventive Dentistry & Nutrition  
Selective Coronal Polishing  
Specialty Procedures  
Laboratory Procedures  
Dental Radiographs  
Interim Restorations  
Administrative Dental Assistant

Please visit our website at [www.columbia.ab.ca](http://www.columbia.ab.ca) to learn more about the College, the program of study and a description of the courses listed above.

Interested candidates should submit a resume with a cover letter indicating date of availability, four work related references and salary expectations.

Address to: Cathy Johnson, RDA  
Program Manager  
Dental Assistant Program  
Columbia College  
802 Manning Road NE  
Calgary, AB T2E 7N8  
Email: [cathyj@columbia.ab.ca](mailto:cathyj@columbia.ab.ca)

Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

### Education Chair Position Available

This position is available and is a wonderful opportunity. This person is responsible for finding the venues and speakers for the general meetings and the spring and fall seminars. They must also provide information to all the members to give them opportunity to attend.

## CUPS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Please utilize your skills to help Calgary's Homeless with their dental needs.  
Please contact  
Dr. Kuen Chow, DDS 607-7768