



# **Saskatchewan Dental Therapists Association**

## **ANNUAL REPORTS 2022-2023**

Annual General Meeting  
9:00am-12:00pm  
Sunday, April 30, 2023  
Grant Hall Hotel  
401 Main Street North, Moose Jaw SK

**Saskatchewan Dental Therapists Association**  
**49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**  
**April 30, 2023**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order: Welcome/Introduction
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting
4. Officers' Reports
  - 4.1 President – Mary-Lou Sanderson
  - 4.2 Vice-President – Adam Heimbecker
  - 4.3 Executive Director – Cindy G. Reed
  - 4.4 Registrar – Cindy G. Reed
  - 4.5 Treasurer - Cindy G. Reed
5. Election of Council
6. Committee Reports
  - 6.1 Executive Committee – Mary-Lou Sanderson
  - 6.2 Professional Conduct Committee – Jennifer Pituley
  - 6.3 Discipline Committee – Margaret Morin
  - 6.4 Credentials Committee/Professional Development Grant – Sarah Griffin
  - 6.5 Continuing Education – Petra Beaven
  - 6.6 SDTA Conference/Election – Patricia Gottselig/Glenda Burnouf
  - 6.7 Communications Committee – Cyerra Powder
  - 6.8 Canadian Dental Therapists Association – Cyerra Powder
7. Other Business/Discussion
  - 7.1 Audit – Cindy G. Reed
  - 7.2 USask Bachelor of Science Dental Therapy - Cindy G. Reed
  - 7.3 “50 Years of Dental Therapy in Canada” – Petra Beaven
8. Reports of Election Results
9. Adjournment

**SASKATCHEWAN DENTAL THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL REPORTS 2022-2023**

**PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Welcome to the Saskatchewan Dental Therapists Association's 49th Annual General Meeting!

I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the traditional lands, referred to as Treaty 4 Territory and that the city of Moose Jaw is located on Treaty 4 territory, the original lands of the Cree, Ojibwe (OJIB-WĒ), Saulteaux (SO-TO), Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.

We are dedicated to ensuring that the spirit of Reconciliation and Treaty 4 is honoured and respected. We respect and honour the Treaties that were made on all territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we are committed to move forward in partnership with Indigenous Nations in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

I have completed my first year as the newly elected President and it has been a very humbling and rewarding experience thus far. I can report to you that the Executive Director, Council Members, and I are working diligently to advocate and represent our profession of dental therapy.

I would like to express my gratitude to our Council Members for the work done during this past year. Completing their term on Council are Rose Mercredi-Zinck, Petra Beaven, Jennifer Pituley, Cyerra Powder, and Adam Heimbecker. Continuing their term are Sarah Griffin, Patricia Skalicky, Amy Laliberte, and Margaret Morin.

Thank you to our public representatives Marlo Dunlop, Elena Chernoussenko, and Luz Marina Dominguez for your guidance and voice for the public. Through their participation, the appointed public representatives are helping to ensure accountability and the maintenance of the public interest on Council and committees for our self-regulated dental therapy profession.

**Retirement of Long-standing Executive Director/Registrar Cindy Reed:**

As the newly elected President, one of my priorities is to find a successor for the Executive Director-Registrar position. When you think of the SDTA, you automatically think of Cindy Reed. Cindy has been our matriarch, leader, and fierce advocate for dental therapy. Her passion and commitment to our profession and members has been unwavering and steadfast for the past 30 years. Cindy this is not goodbye as your work legacy will forever be imprinted in the SDTA as you have been the foundation of this association.

Cindy has lived and breathed our great profession and forged a solid path for us as we head into the 50th year of dental therapy in Canada. As quoted by Maya Angelou, "If you're going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can't be erased". Thank you, Cindy for your never-ending commitment to dental therapy that will forever be engraved as we move into a new era. You will be greatly missed!

**New Executive Director/Registrar for the SDTA!**

I am pleased to announce the SDTA has found a strong and dedicated individual to support and guide the SDTA as we enter into this next chapter. Effective April 17, 2023, Wendy Thienes is the new Executive Director & Registrar. Cindy has graciously offered to remain with the SDTA until mid-June so she's on board and will be providing orientation and guiding Wendy in her new role. Welcome Wendy! We are looking forward to working with you!

Below is Wendy's biography that highlights her background and work experience:

My name is Wendy Thienes. I'm an administrative professional with 30 years of experience in the health care and cultural sectors. After serving in a variety of roles with arts organizations, I returned to the health care sector last year as Executive Administrator for the Canadian Massage

Therapist Association. While I continue to be an advocate for the arts, my career began in administration and health promotion for the local health district, followed by fundraising for the MS Society of Canada. My return to health care feels like the right fit at the right time.

The arts provided me with valuable experiences including a 6-year tenure as Program Manager with the national charity, Business, and the Arts. I connected with colleagues across Canada and Saskatchewan, nurturing relationships with more than 100 cultural organizations in their journey through sponsorship, marketing, and board governance. This was preceded by 10 years as Programmer and Director at our local museum/art gallery in Shaunavon, the Grand Coteau Heritage & Cultural Centre. My first role as Executive Director was with the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association. For two seasons I had the unique privilege of being Program Supervisor at the T.rex Discovery Centre, home of Scotty the T.rex; talk about teeth!! For my work in the arts, I was a proud recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

My volunteer involvement in the community has been extensive and allowed me to further develop managerial and relationship-building skills acquired throughout my career. Currently, I am Treasurer for our local Arts Council and was recently Chairperson for a task force on Aging in Place. In the past I have been a director for Saskatchewan Music Festival Association and Shaunavon Credit Union. Having experience as a board member gives me a well-rounded view of board operations from both a volunteer and staff perspective.

I live in Shaunavon with my husband Michael and our pandemic pet project, a cat named Neo. We have two children who are both attending university. In my leisure time I enjoy reading, baking, curling, camping, and playing piano. I'm a retired piano and Kindermusik teacher. Since 2021 I have penned a weekly column, 'Views from an Empty Nest', for the local newspaper.

I grew up in a small town and have lived in rural Saskatchewan my whole life. I value cooperation, shared vision, passion, and professionalism. I'm looking forward to serving the members of SDTA and to learning about and supporting your endeavours.

### **Dental Therapy is back!**

Since the closure of the National School of Dental Therapy in 2011, the access to oral health services have been greatly impacted particularly those in rural and remote locations where the dental therapy professionals have aged. The future of our profession was in jeopardy as it is estimated that over 30% of our workforce is over 55 years of age and less than 4% are under the age of 35!

The SDTA is celebrating the announcement of a new dental therapy program at the University of Saskatchewan! The Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA), University of Saskatchewan, and Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Northlands College partnered to establish the Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy which begins in August 2023 and will be Canada's only dental therapy program.

### **Top Priorities for the SDTA:**

Each professional regulatory body has a governing council or board, with members being elected by the general membership as well as government-appointed public representatives. The council acts on behalf of the regulatory body and is responsible for applying the legislation.

Regulatory bodies are responsible for protecting the public by:

- setting entrance qualifications;
- establishing standards of practice;
- establishing continuing education and/or competency requirements; and
- administering an investigation and disciplinary process to adjudicate complaints of professional incompetence or misconduct.

The regulatory body is responsible to the government and ultimately the public. As the governing body which ensures protection of the public interest, the SDTA council needs to be responsive and open to public views.

I want to highlight the top priorities the SDTA will need to action this upcoming year to ensure we meet our responsibilities as a self-regulated profession:

1. Develop a SDTA Strategic Plan (2023-2028); The plan is a strategic roadmap that defines our future vision and how we get there. It guides us in an organized, flexible, and aligned manner for the delivery of our mandate. The vision, values, mandate, and strategic priorities will hold the SDTA accountable as a regulatory body, which is responsible to the government and ultimately the public.
2. Review and implement changes to The Dental Disciplines Act 1997. This legislation is written law that provides rules of conduct. To become law, legislation must be approved by Parliament. Proposed legislation is introduced in Parliament in the form of a bill which provides the basis to amend or repeal existing laws or put new ones in place.
3. Review and amend, as necessary, the SDTA Regulatory Bylaws which focus on how regulators govern the profession for which they are responsible. The bylaws are connected to the regulators mandate of public protection and cover issues such as registration requirements, continuing education, code of conduct/ethics, licensure, etc. Regulatory bylaws are submitted to the Ministry for review and require approval by the Minister of Health.
4. Review and amend, as necessary, the SDTA Administrative Bylaws. Administrative bylaws focus on issues related to the regulators internal day-to-day operations and membership services. Administrative bylaws are filed with Information Services Corporation and do not need approval by the Minister of Health.
5. Several Bills have received Royal Assent by the Saskatchewan Legislature. The SDTA will be required to amend or repeal existing legislation to comply with the following:
  - Bill 62 - Dental Disciplines Amendment Act 2021, Section 25; Amended to allow dental hygienists, dental therapists, and dental assistants to practice independently within their scope of practice. The SDTA will promote the progress and strengthen the position of independent practitioners in Saskatchewan to practice independently in accordance with their regulatory body. Supporting independent practitioners is a high priority for the association.
  - Bill 81 - The Labour Mobility and Fair Registration Practices Act; New legislation supports attracting skilled workers to Saskatchewan. The Act will make Saskatchewan the best place in Canada to re-locate to from within the country or abroad for skilled workers. The Act will reduce barriers to working in the province to ensure skilled workers can have their skills and credentials recognized, while assisting employers in filling jobs across a number of key sectors, such as healthcare, construction, and IT.
  - Bill 120 – The Miscellaneous Statutes (Health Professions) Amendment Act, 2022; An Act to standardize certain provisions of the Health Profession Acts of Saskatchewan and to make consequential amendments to other Act (Affected Act, D-4.1 - The Dental Disciplines Act). These changes will streamline the process to regulate new health professions, provide stronger oversight, provide more consistent discipline across the professions, acting in the public interest and protecting patient care in the province while also laying the groundwork to further reduce the total number of regulatory colleges.

As a self-governing regulatory body, we set the standards of practices and qualifications for the dental therapy profession and for the future graduates that will practice in the province. The SDTA plays an integral role to establish, monitor and enforce standards of practice with the intent of protecting the public. It is the responsibility of the SDTA to ensure the public has trust in the dental therapy profession.

As President, it is my duty to highlight the work that needs to be actioned and completed. We have a commitment to govern in the public interest and the cost associated to upholding this responsibility is funded by our annual licensing fees. The SDTA will be required to increase the annual licensing to implement the SDTA priorities and meet our responsibilities as a regulated profession.

I am 100% dedicated to going above and beyond when it comes to fulfilling my responsibilities as President. I am working hard and committed to adding value and reaching our goals with the best results possible.

Thank you to all the SDTA members for electing me to serve and represent the association and our great profession.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary-Lou Sanderson*

SDTA President

## **VICE-PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT**

As another year on council swiftly comes to a close with conference and AGM I look back on the year and wonder where it went. I feel as though of all my years on council 2022-2023 held the biggest news, the most change and the potential for the most amazing, exciting projects. The news of the Dental Therapy Education Program officially launching in the fall has been such a huge announcement for our association and the future of Dental Therapy. I can't explain how much this excites me along with others on council, in our association, not to mention in our communities. Some very exciting, yet anxious and sad news comes not necessarily to our profession but more to our association; this is the retirement of our long time and very true to our profession, Executive Director Cindy Reed. As she aims her wheels happily into retirement, I can't express how deserving she is of the transition. Cindy served and excelled in her position over 30 years, and I can assure you with no hesitation she was a platform of knowledge and resource to my time on council. Thank you, Cindy! With this brings a new Executive Director with new ideas and new insight or as Cindy would say fresh new eyes. There have been so many new projects brought to council and our association that the next months and years hold very promising times for our association and profession.

My main job as Vice President over my terms was to assist the committees in their work as needed and provide direction if required. The committees this year all were very happy to be back in face-to-face meetings making council much more efficient and effective. This year we were able to have some repeat council members who were able to slide into chair positions and make the job look effortless and there were others that were getting a handle on council processes and their committees; the similarity everyone showed is that all council members jumped in full stride and did all they could for their chosen committees. This provided me with the need to give very little direction and enabled me to focus my time on other projects within council. As Vice President I can not express to our members enough how fun, rewarding, and valuable a position on council is. Take pride and ownership in your profession and association, consider putting your name forward for a term on council, you will not regret it.

As I finish my term as Vice President, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my fellow council members both continuing and completing their terms on council, it has been an absolute delectation working with each and everyone of you. Thanks to our President, Mary-Lou Sanderson, for working along side me for the last year, not every decision in life and council

needs to be agreed on by each other the first time and sometimes needs to be looked at deeper or from another perspective. This is why I really enjoyed working with Mary-Lou this term, we challenge each other, come up with the absolute best option or decision and we make it happen; for this we are a great team. Special thanks to Glenda Burnouf and Cindy Reed, as both of these ladies I have worked countless hours and they truly have both been pillars to this association in my eyes. Lastly, I would like to thank Trish Gottselig, she encouraged me, although I was anxious and had my reservations, many years ago to join council. As I chaired the Professional Conduct Committee, she was always open to questions and direction, enabling me to grow a vast knowledge of our scope of practice and legal protocols and processes within our profession.

Once again, I can not express enough how it continues to be both a pleasure and honour to be part of council, this association, and the profession of Dental Therapy.

Respectfully submitted,

*Adam Heimbecker*

SDTA Vice-President

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the SDTA 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting. Moose Jaw conferences are always full of surprises.

This will be my last Annual General Meeting as Executive Director/Registrar of the SDTA and my last address to the general membership.

I would like to thank all the council members I have had the pleasure of working with over the years. I especially want to thank those incredibly dedicated dental therapists that helped mold the profession in those early years. I've had the opportunity to meet and work with many of them over the years and they were truly my inspiration for this job.

I want to thank SDTA President Mary-Lou Sanderson for her contribution to council and our profession. This past year, the president position had a narrow focus, which was the replacement of the EDR. Going forward Mary-Lou is bringing her own vision and direction for the future of the association. With a new school opening this will be more important than ever. Mary-Lou is committed to taking us forward to develop our strategic plan and following it through.

Adam Heimbecker will be completing his 2<sup>nd</sup> term on council. It has been great working with Adam over the past 4 years. Adam was a little hesitant about coming on council but I think he enjoyed it and I am thankful for his contribution. I am sure he will be back.

I have worked with Glenda Burnouf for the last seven years as president and then Past-President. Over the years she has been my sounding board many times. She is a professional, compassionate and thoughtful person. She is a great representative of our profession, and I am glad to have her as my friend.

We had a good mix of members on our council this year and it has worked out well. Thank you out going members, Petra Beaven, Jennifer Pituley, Cyerra Powder, and Rose Mercredi-Zinck. And thank you to those who are staying on for another year, Sarah Griffin, Amy Laliberte, Margaret Morin, and Patricia Skalicky. And thank you to our Public Representatives, Marlo Dunlop, Luz-Marina Dominguez and Olena Schemenauer.

Savannah Hryhor is our Trade-A-Tooth coordinator. I would like to thank her for her volunteer work with the Trade-A-Tooth Program. She silently keeps kids happy, playing the Tooth Fairy, and delivering her packages. The Trade-a-Tooth program has been part of the SDTA since the 1970's. If you want to know more about the program let us know.

Thank you to Meagan Kachur our Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition representative. Meagan reports that on October 5, 2022, SOHC members received notification that SOHC Inc. had received Charitable Organization status. A full day of Professional Development was held on Monday November 7, in Saskatoon at the Willows Golf and Country Club. Despite the winter weather conditions it was well attended and so wonderful to be in person at an educational event. The AGM is going to be May 8th 9-10 am (virtual). An invite will be coming. There will be no Professional Development this day just the Annual General Meeting.

Thank you to Loretta Singh, our Saskatchewan Coalition for Tobacco Reduction representative. They halted their work during the pandemic but it is hoped that they will resume their work soon.

This past year I have attended meetings of the Network of Interprovincial Regulatory Organizations (NIRO). NIRO is a Saskatchewan based network of health regulators, The website which provides health profession information for the public is <https://www.nirosask.ca/>

Saskatchewan Oral Health Professions Forum, which is a forum for the 6 dental professions in the province, Dentists, Denturists, Dental Technicians, Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants and Dental Therapists. The forum meets twice a year and have discussed issues relating to regulation, scope, sedation guidelines, IPC, Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics, Jurisprudence and Bylaw submissions.

The positions of Vice-President and 4 Members at Large are up for election. Nominations can be made at the AGM or can be made in advance. The nomination form and more information can be found on the SDTA website at <http://www.sdta.ca/agm.html>. Nomination forms will also be available from any council member throughout the conference weekend.

I started as Registrar of the SDTA in 1993 so yes it has been 30 years. I took over the position from Janet Keene who took it over from Susan Seidel. I was given a Tandy computer, 2 filing cabinets and about 20,000 sheets of letterhead. I was excited when I was able to get permission from the council to purchase a fax machine. A few years later, I was able to purchase a brand-new IBM computer and Microsoft Office Professional software. It took 24-2 ½ inch discs and 3 hours to load the program! The position of Registrar has evolved over the years to become Executive Director/Registrar/Treasurer/Secretary. Finally in 2005, I outgrew my spare bedroom and moved the SDTA office to downtown Gull Lake. It will soon, if it hasn't already, move down the road to Shaunavon.

Things have changed over the years. Some good changes, some bad. We have certainly seen many challenges over the years but through it we have remained a strong profession. The announcement of the new school of dental therapy has increased the interest of the profession exponentially. I've been flooded with phone calls and emails, all interested in the new school of therapy. I've been contacted by high school students, dental aides, dental assistants, dental hygienists, employers, etc. from Saskatchewan, across Canada, and out of country too. Dental therapy is still an exciting, rewarding, and to some a fascinating profession.

I hope everyone has had a chance to meet Wendy Thienes the new SDTA EDR. Wendy brings a wealth of experience to the position, and I think the transition will be a smooth one. I will remain for another month or two to assist Wendy and tidy up loose ends at the office.

Lastly, I would like to see everyone next year at the "50 Years of Dental Therapy in Canada" conference in Saskatoon, April 26-28, 2024. There will be dental therapists and dental professionals from across the country attending. It will be a great time! See you there!

Respectfully submitted,

*Cindy G. Reed SDT*

Executive Director



## **REGISTRAR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

I compiled information for and filed our Annual Reports 2022 that is required to be filed with the Minister of Justice and Department of Health, according to Section 49 of the Dental Disciplines Act.

In accordance with Bylaw II Section 2 of the Saskatchewan Dental Therapists Association Bylaws, on January 31, 2022, the names of 9 dental therapists were removed from the register as they no longer met the requirements for registration. In accordance with Section 19 of The Dental Disciplines Act, there are currently 177 dental therapists registered with the Saskatchewan Dental Therapists Council.

There are currently 162 Practicing Memberships (licenses) issued to date for the licensing year 2023 (February 1, 2023-January 31, 2024). There are 156 members with a clinical restorative practice and 5 members with a public health preventive practice. There were 169 Practicing Memberships in 2022.

There are 15 Non-Practicing Memberships issued to date for the year 2023. There were 16 Non-Practicing Memberships issued in 2022.

There are 23 Affiliates issued to date for the year 2023. There were 2 Affiliates with a clinical restorative practice MLI policy. There were 28 Affiliates issued in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cindy G. Reed SDT*

Registrar

## **TREASURERS ANNUAL REPORT**

I presented treasurers reports at each council meeting which consisted of a comparative statement of operations to date. I also prepared a comparative statement of our yearly audits. Once again, this past year our yearly audit was prepared by Stark & Marsh CPR LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cindy G. Reed SDT*

Registrar

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

Committee Chairperson: Mary-Lou Sanderson (President)

Committee Members: Adam Heimbecker (Vice President), Marlo Dunlop (Public Representative), Cindy Reed (Executive Director non-voting)

Activities:

The Executive Committee established an Interview Committee to assist with the work to recruit for the Executive Director & Registrar position. The council members that participated in the selection process were Cindy Reed, Glenda Burnouf, Patricia Skalicky, and myself.

Terms of Reference circulated and reviewed.

Recommendations:

Review Terms of Reference annually.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Lou Sanderson*

Chairperson

## PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Chairperson: Jennifer Pituley

Committee Members: Lacey Evanochko, Patricia Gottselig, Adam Heimbecker,

Public Representative: Olena Schemenauer

The PCC has just concluded one case. We did not send any cases to discipline this past year. This Annual Report concludes my time as chair of the PCC. I learned many things while part of this committee. With that, I would like to round out my time here by sharing a summary of the important highlights and reminders for us all. As oral health professionals we must remain diligent in our practices while seeking to include continuing education opportunities in the areas of ethics, informed consent, cultural safety, and confidentiality. These topics are a weak rival to the more popular and admittedly more exciting subjects like new materials, state of the art equipment and rewarding new clinical techniques and procedures. Providing high quality care begins with the fundamentals. These repetitive yet essential steps of our daily practices ensure that the people we provide care for remain safe and comfortable.

The PCC strongly recommends all members practice diligence in diagnosis, case presentation, and documentation while recognizing their duty as a clinician to ensure proper disclosure and information to assist clients in making informed decisions about their care.

As oral health professionals, we have a responsibility to not only measure our success with our own device but to ensure we understand how others perceive their experiences with us. This is defined as *Cultural Safety: An approach that considers how social and historical contexts, as well as structural and interpersonal power imbalances, shape health and health care experiences. Practitioners shall remain self-reflective/self-aware with regards to their position of power and the impact of this role in relation to clients. "Safety" is defined by those who receive the service, NOT those who provide it.* (Cheryl Ward (MSW,RSW,EdDcandidate), Chelsey Branch (Med, MA, PhD student) and Alycia Fridkin (MHSc, PhD) "Indigenous People" issue of Visions Journal, 2016 11(4), p. 29)

Each of us have the legal, professional, and ethical obligation as healthcare professionals to maintain patient confidentiality. This means the sharing or use of any personal information outside of a need to know situation is prohibited. This is further defined as direct involvement in a client's care or the gathering or sharing of information pertaining to or affecting the care you provide.

By placing these four practice cornerstones; Ethics, Informed Consent, Cultural Safety and Confidentiality permanently on our professional practice dashboards, and applying same with each and every patient encounter, we fulfill our professional responsibility to ensure a safe and optimal outcome for the patient and provider.

Thank you to those who have served on the committee with me, for the hours of time devoted to supporting me in my role as chair.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Pituley*

Professional Conduct Committee Chairperson

## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Co-Chairpersons: Margaret Morin

Committee Members: Marlo Dunlop (Public Representative), Janice Johnson, Amy Laliberte, Patricia Skalicky, Leanne Ziolkoski

### Activities

-Reviewed the Terms of Reference

-No matters were referred to the Discipline Committee from the Professional Conduct Committee for consideration.

### Recommendations

Review Terms of Reference annually.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Morin*

Discipline Committee Chairperson

## CREDENTIALS/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Committee chairpersons: Sarah Griffin

Committee Members: June Hanson, Meagan Kachur, Sehlile Peters, Amy Read.

### Activities

Since being elected May of 2022, I have been learning the ropes of sitting on the SDTA Council and it has been a great learning experience for sure. Cindy and I sat down and went through the terms of reference of the Credential Committee.

Cindy consulted with me that there was a member that didn't meet the CE requirements and was stricken from the register but was reinstated after being out of work for a week.

Cindy and I discussed and updated the Professional Development Grant application. There has been one application brought forth so far.

Oct. 1, 2022, meeting was actioned that I research Cultural Sensitivity courses that can be circulated with the Council for now until it is made mandatory for our members to have this training as part of the CE requirements.

### Recommendations

1. All credits must be obtained by members by the end of the 3-year reporting period to maintain a license with the SDTA, making sure you have your updated CPR or BSL as required.
2. I will review the Professional Development Grant applications as they arrive. The recipients(s) will be announced at the Annual General Meeting.
3. Encourage members to take Cultural Sensitivity Courses. There are numerous places where the CS courses can be taken, either in person or online. Courses can be taken through the University of Albert.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sarah Griffin*

Chairperson

## CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Chairperson: Petra Beaven

Committee Members: Jaylynn Parenteau, Cyerra Powder, Lory Haeusler

### Activities:

Members have had many options available to them this year in regard to Continuing Education sessions be it online or as offered and provided by different dental product suppliers.

This year the SDTA is having the annual conference in Moose Jaw and speakers lined up are as follows:

- Dr. McKinstry-Aboriginal Discourse Continued from 2023.
- Travis Eveleigh-TMJ Pain and Postural Strains and Mechanical Stress.
- Jada Smith-Yukon Pediatric Dentistry.
- Oral Science-Terri Archibald on Dental Caries or Xerostomia

I hope that members attending the SDTA Conference are pleased with the variety of continuing education that is being offered this year.

### Recommendations:

I have a list of 20 different speaker options for the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and have already been making inquiries as to speaker availability for the dates of April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Should any members attend sessions with engaging speakers that would be of value to our membership, then please feel free to email those suggestions to [petrabeaven@gmail.com](mailto:petrabeaven@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

*Petra Beaven*

Chairperson

## SDTA 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Co-Chairpersons: Patricia Gottselig/Glenda Burnouf

Conference Committee Members: The notorious committee consists of: Matt Rostotski, Diane Schiltroth, Anne Cherney, Arleen Champion, Shirley Matheson, Joan Cathcart, Rachel Oracz, Jennifer Pituley, Brooke Karst, Michelle Pearce, Chelsea Blaczcsock, Stacy Lynnes

The Notorious group of Dental Therapists from Moose Jaw (and a few stellar dental assistants) met in September 2022 to begin planning and pick a date for the 2023 Moose Jaw Conference.

A venue, theme and entertainment company were chosen as well preliminary duties for each therapist.

Subsequent meetings were held in January, March and April to finalize plans. As chair I was most inspired by the participation of two retired therapists! (Thank you to Joan and Shirley).

A time-consuming task was seeking, asking, receiving and communicating with sponsors. This is a relatively new addition to our conferences and as chairperson, I felt unsure of the best practise for proceeding. I could not have moved forward with success without the incredible, unending, never complaining assistance of Cindy Reed. I miss her already.

### Recommendations:

- 1) That the SDTA Council develop guidelines for futures chairs to follow around sponsorship and the chairs responsibilities to request, receive and acknowledge for sponsors. It will go a long way to ensuring we treat our sponsors equally and the same from year to year.

- 2) That the Continuing Education Committee and Conference Committee communicate with about any local speakers that may be willing, well known, familiar and possibly less expensive than speakers from out of town to potentially assist them in procuring speaker(s) for their committee. The goal being to work together and maximizing local talent, if possible. And, of course to take some of the possible workload off that committee to find speakers, it is a really tough job.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia Gottselig / Glenda Burnouf*

Co-Chairpersons

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Chairperson: Cyerra Powder

Committee Members: Patricia Skalicky Amy Laliberte

[sdtacommunications@sasktel.net](mailto:sdtacommunications@sasktel.net) created solely for the use of maintaining the social media platforms.

The **sdtacommunications** instagram page has been created, actively engaging with followers.

**Saskatchewan Dental Therapists Association** facebook page

[sdtacommunications@sasktel.net](mailto:sdtacommunications@sasktel.net) added to admin, actively engaging on facebook.

Emailed the Saskatchewan Minister of Health requesting Proclamation of Dental Therapy Recognition of Week April 23-29, 2023. Received the April 23-29, 2023 Proclamation via email and hard copy via mail from Saskatchewan's Minister of Health. Emailed to council and will post on social media pages on April 23, 2023.

SDTAc communications purchased *Canva Teams* account to further enhance oral health translation content.

### **Recommendations**

Increase SDTAc communications capacity by attending future courses in marketing.

Research WIX website design / look into a marketing team to update the SDTA website.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cyerra Powder*

Chairperson

## TRADE-A-TOOTH ANNUAL REPORT

Coordinator: Savannah Hryhor

### Activities

1. Some great letters have been received this year and all were returned with packages. We have received letters from all over Saskatchewan, and a few from Alberta.
2. An average of 2 were received per month which is near what we received last year.
3. Packages include a toothbrush, pencil, stickers, floss sticks, brushing chart with stickers, dental information for parents, and dental activity sheets.
4. Cindy Reed distributes the Trade-a-Tooth posters.

## Recommendations

1. I didn't receive any classroom letters this year, so I encourage all dental therapists and dental health educators to get as many classrooms involved as possible.
2. A post on SDTA's social media (Instagram) might help getting the word about Trade-a-tooth out!
3. As always, we would love for teeth to be cavity free!

Respectfully submitted,

*Savannah Hryhor*

Trade-a-Tooth Coordinator

## CANADIAN DENTAL THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

**June 16 2022** The Canadian Dental Therapists Association met with The Ministerial Roundtable and the National Oral Health Care Professional Associations hosted by The Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos the Canadian Minister of Health to discuss the Federal Dental Plan. Held via zoom.

**October 18 2022** The Canadian Dental Therapists Association met with The Ministerial Roundtable and the National Oral Health Care Professional Associations hosted by The Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos the Canadian Minister of Health to discuss the Federal Dental Plan in a technical briefing. Held via zoom

**October 26 2022** Meeting held at the House of Commons with the National Oral Health Professions - the CDTA was excluded from this event, no invitation was received. Held in person at the House of Commons.

**November 07 2022** The Canadian Dental Therapists Association attended Professional Development Day hosted by the Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition in Saskatoon at the Willows.

The CDTA regretfully declined an invitation to attend the Oral Health Policy Lab in Ottawa on November 14th & 15th 2022 located at the Lord Elgin hotel hosted by the Alliance for a Cavity-Free Future. Contacted Ashley White to attend on behalf of the CDTA however was unable to attend due to prior obligations. Read materials sent from the ACFF as an oral health briefing pack.

**November 17 2022** Bill C-31 received *Royal Assent* enacting the *Dental Benefit Act*. The news of a federal dental plan officially becoming Law is an exciting and historic moment in oral health history within Canada. The Canadian Dental Benefit is set to become available on December 1 2022.

**December 02 2022** The Canadian Dental Therapists Association met with The Ministerial Roundtable and the National Oral Health Care Professional Associations hosted by The Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos the Canadian Minister of Health to discuss the Federal Dental Plan after receiving Royal Assent. Specifically seeking insights towards human health resources challenges facing oral health professions, support that is needed for professional education, barriers faced in providing services in rural, remote and other underserved areas. A key priority that the Government seeks is to ensure equity, inclusion, and cultural safety to begin the transformation of the existing oral health care needs for all peoples residing in what is now commonly called Canada. Held via zoom.

Virtually attended the ***Launch of the World Health Organization Oral Health Status Report***

Reviewed the *World Health Organization Global Oral Health Status Report*

Reviewed questionnaire from the Canadian Health Measures Survey Cycle 7- data collection began November 2022

Virtually attended the **CRA Information Session on the Canada Dental Benefit for oral health professionals** on November 29 2022

Emailed the **Canada Revenue Agency Canada Dental Benefit Resources** to CDTA members

Reviewed **Moving Towards Improving the Health of Indigenous Peoples in Canada: Accessibility and Administration of the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program** - Report of the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs Hon. Marc Garneau Chair

Emailed the latest **Dental Therapy Resource Guide** to members from the American Dental Education Association.

Virtually attended the webinar **Dental Care in Canada: The path to expanding access** hosted by the Globe and Mail on December 07 2022.

Researched The Extended Health Care Professionals Coalition - Chair Odina Love CDHA CEO is also the Chair of the EHPC however it is only open to regulation professions to join this coalition. Odina Love recommended to join HEAL Organizations for Health Action

**December 13 2022** The Canadian Dental Therapists Association attended CDA meeting with the 5 national dental professions hosted by **Michel Breau Head of Advocacy and Governance of the Canadian Dental Association**. The national dental associations met in preparation for the Minister of Health's Oral Health Roundtable pre-discussion to create an overview of key priority issues mentioned below. Read the following emailed from the CDA. Held via zoom.

- Pre-budget submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
- Pre-budget submission by the Extended Healthcare Professionals Coalition

**December 14 2022** The Canadian Dental Therapists Association participated in the Minister of Health's Roundtable with Oral Health Care Associations and key stakeholders to help inform the development and implementation of a planned national dental care program hosted by The Minister of Health The Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos to discuss the Federal Dental Plan. The federal dental plan is 5.3 billion within 5 years and is estimated to be 1.7 billion afterwards. The CRA states nearly 100,000 people applied for the Canadian Dental Benefit as of December 14 2022. Held via zoom.

The Honorable Jean-Yves Duclos stated exploring increased funding to all oral health professions, will be in contact early 2023.

**March 18, 2023** Present to SDTA Council to join **HEAL – Organizations for Health Action**  
<https://www.healthaction.ca/>

**March 28 2023** The Federal Budget 2023 announced 13 billion for the Canadian Dental Plan.

**March 28-31 2023** The CDTA accepted an invite from the **Canadian Institutes of Health Research** hosted by UBC to begin the initial stages of a National Oral Health Research Strategy set to launch September 17, 2024. Expenses covered from UBC & CIHR included return flights, meals, mileage and hotel accommodations on March 28-31. Future meetings to be announced to proceed with the development of the National Oral Health Research Strategy.

Newly created *Canadian Dental Therapists Association logo* created.



As the CDTA is one of the six oral health associations in Canada, the CDTA was contacted by Margaret Fondong, *Senior Policy Advisor* from the Public Health Agency of Canada Office of the Chief Dental Officer of Canada to further recognize the dental therapists practicing across Canada. Updated draft to finalize recognition of Dental therapists on the Government of Canada website and social media platforms.

To further recognize the dental therapists working in various provinces and territories across Canada the CDTA would like to initiate the "*Inaugural National Dental Therapists Recognition week as April 23-29, 2023*". This national recognition week will remain the same week every year as the SK Dental Therapists week.

**April 12 2023** Introduction meeting with Helen Sabourin Heal Chair to discuss next steps on how the CDTA can join HEAL.

Helen recommended incorporating CDTA and to review **Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (S.C. 2009, c. 23)** <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-7.75/>

#### **Recommendations**

- Create a draft letter and finalize it to submit to various provinces and territories and send to the Minister of Health offices to recognize "*The Inaugural National Dental Therapist Week*".
- Create CDTA AdHoc / Steering Committee
- The CDTA requests from SDTA Council to purchase **The Politics of Dental Care in Canada - Carlos Quinonez** \$84.95 paperback on Amazon
- Review **Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (S.C. 2009, c. 23)** <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-7.75/>

In kind spirit,

*Cyerra Powder*

CDTAC Chairperson



**SASKATCHEWAN DENTAL THERAPISTS ASSOCIATION**  
**48<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**9:00 am-12:00 pm**  
**Sunday, May 1, 2022**  
**Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon Hotel**

**1. Call to Order: Welcome/Introduction**

Glenda Burnouf called the meeting to order. Council members were introduced.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Motion: Glenda Burnouf moved the agenda be adopted as circulated and amended. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

**3. Approval of Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting**

Glenda Burnouf moved the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

**4. Officer's Reports**

**4.1 President's Report – Glenda Burnouf**

Glenda Burnouf reviewed her Annual Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Glenda Burnouf moved her President's Report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

**4.2 Vice-President's Report – Adam Heimbecker**

The Vice-President's Annual Report was presented as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Adam Heimbecker moved the Vice-President's Report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

**4.3 Executive Director's Report – Cindy G. Reed**

Cindy G. Reed reviewed her Annual Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Cindy G. Reed moved her Executive Director's Report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

**4.4 Registrar's Report – Cindy G. Reed**

Cindy G. Reed reviewed her Annual Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Cindy G. Reed moved her Registrar's Report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

Discussion: due to the large number of members who routinely send in their membership application and fees late, a late fee and change of deadline were discussed. Council will discuss implementing a late fee and deadline change at their next council meeting.

**4.5 Treasurer's Report – Cindy G. Reed**

Cindy G. Reed presented members with an updated financial statement for the association.

Motion: Cindy G. Reed moved her Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

## **5. Election of Council**

Janis Johnson acted as Election Officer. Nominations were accepted for the positions of:

- President
- 4 two-year term positions for Members at Large
- 1 one-year term position for Member at Large.

An election was held for all positions and ballots were counted. Results were recorded and announced on 8. of the agenda.

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **6.1 Executive Committee – Glenda Burnouf**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Glenda Burnouf moved the Executive Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.2 Professional Conduct Committee – Jennifer Pituley**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Glenda Burnouf moved the Professional Conduct Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.3 Discipline Committee – Jaylynn Parenteau**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Jaylynn Parenteau moved the Discipline Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.4 Credentials Committee/Professional Development Grant – Meagan Kachur**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Glenda Burnouf moved the Credential Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.5 Continuing Education/Professional Development Committee – Jaylynn Parenteau**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Jaylynn Parenteau moved the Continuing Education Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.6 SDTA Annual Conference Committee/Election – Petra Beaven /Margaret Morin**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Petra Beaven moved the Conference Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.7 Communications Committee – Rhonda Krienke/Cindy G. Reed**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Glenda Burnouf moved the Communications Committee report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

### **6.8 Canadian Dental Therapists Association Committee – Cyerra Powder**

Report as circulated in the Annual Reports.

Motion: Cyerra Powder moved the Canadian Dental Therapists Association report be adopted as presented. Seconded. Passed by the membership.

## **7. Other Business/Discussion**

### **7.1 Audit – Cindy G. Reed**

Motion: I move that Stark and Marsh accountants be appointed as auditors to carry out the SDTA's yearly audit. According to the SDTA's bylaws Part II Admin Bylaws, Bylaw II Section II. Moved by Cindy G. Reed. Passed by the membership.

### **7.2 NFP Malpractice Liability Insurance – Cindy G. Reed**

The provider of our Malpractice Liability Insurance remains NFP Canada Corp. The premiums went up by approximately 5% for 2022. I encourage our members to go to the members section of the SDTA website and review the documents provided by the company.

- What Should You Report and What Should the Report Contain?
- What to Expect When You Report a Claim
- DAS Legal Helpline

### **7.3 Internationally Educated Dental Therapists Assessment – Cindy G. Reed**

The Internationally Educated Dental Therapists Pilot Program is progressing. We have been able to secure grants through the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training. The Calibration of Trainers clinic was held on March 12-13, 2022, at SK Polytechnic. The Pilot Program will be held May 13-15, 2022, at SK Polytechnic. Interested international dental therapists have been notified via email. SK Polytechnic will be adding the GAP training modules to their platform for access by international applicants.

### **7.4 Dental Therapy Training – Glenda Burnouf/Cindy G. Reed**

Dr. Doug Brothwell, Dean, College of Dentistry, University of Saskatchewan, spoke to attendees on the new Bachelor of Science of Dental Therapy University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Brothwell provided a detailed overview of the new program. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

### **7.5 Modules for Dental Therapists – Patricia Gottselig**

A space maintenance module is being developed by the SDTA. Once the module is available members will be notified. This module will be available for a short time only, so members are encouraged to take it as soon as possible.

### **7.6 Saskatchewan Oral Health Professions Forum (SOHP Forum) - Cindy G. Reed**

The Saskatchewan Oral Health Professions Forum met regularly during the first year of the Pandemic. The meetings have subsided now. The last update was July 11, 2021.

The group holds biannual meetings. Topics of discussion included sedation guidelines, IPC, Fee guides, Riva star, Standards of practice, Code of Ethics, Jurisprudence and Bylaw submissions.

### **7.7 Infection Prevention and Control Standards Document (IPC) – Patricia Skalicky**

Infection Prevention and Control Standards in the Oral Health Care Facility update

- Mandated to be updated every 3 years.
- Pandemic updates using broad language to encompass all practice settings. Will not be anything specific to Covid-19, but rather general pandemic updates.

Members included from CDSS, SDHA, SDTA, SDAA and Denturist Society of Saskatchewan  
Several collaborative meetings have taken place.  
The document is planned to be finalized by July 2022.

### **7.8 Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry – Cindy G. Reed**

Cindy G. Reed is a member of the board of the CAPHD. All meetings have been held virtually. The date and location of the 2022 annual conference has yet to be determined. The board is in the process of redesigning their website and other social media platforms.

### **7.9 Saskatchewan Coalition for Tobacco Reduction – Loretta Singh**

There have been no meeting or correspondence since the Covid 19 restrictions.

### **7.10 Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition (SOHC) – Meagan Kachur**

There have been no meeting or correspondence since the Covid 19 restrictions.

### **7.11 DDA – Amendments/Advocacy Plan – Cindy G. Reed/Glenda Burnouf**

The Dental Disciplines Act amendment (removal of Section 25) Bill 62 has had its third reading and is awaiting Royal Assent. The SDAA, SDHA and the SDTA will be meeting in May to discuss formal changes to each profession's bylaws.

Removal of Section 25 will eliminate the restriction of who can employ a dental therapist and the need for dental therapists to be employed by a dentist or by an employer that employs or has established a formal referral or consultation process with a dentist.

Once Royal Assent is given there will need to be changes to the SDTA Bylaws, Policy, and Procedures. Members will be notified as progress is made.

### **7.12 Pandemic Planning/Covid-19 - Cindy G. Reed**

Dental therapists in the province have much to be proud of in their effort to keep our families, friends, and communities safe. We have made many changes to our professional lives. We have had to be flexible, adaptable, and multi-talented during these times.

A Minister's Order was signed on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, under section 37.1 of *The Public Health Act, 1994* which enables the use of non-traditional immunizers for the purpose of the COVID-19 and influenza immunization programs. This order remains in effect until March 31, 2023.

### **7.13 Website Design – Cindy G. Reed**

The SDTA is looking at redesigning their website. Anyone who would like to assist with the changes, has suggestions, etc. please let me know.

## **8. Reports of Election Results**

Janis Johnson reviewed the election results.

President (two-year term)

Mary-Lou Sanderson has been elected SDTA President.

Members at Large (two-year terms)

Sarah Griffin

Amy Laliberte

Margaret Morin

Patricia Skalicky

Member at Large (one-year term)

Rose Mercredi-Zinck

**9. Adjournment**

Glenda Burnouf moved the meeting be adjourned.