

## New Streamlined Professional Renewal Announced at PDC

March 17, 2016 – Pacific Dental Conference, Vancouver BC

Starting in 2017, a new streamlined professional renewal process will be put in place that will see all practicing dental hygienists in British Columbia pay fees to the College of Dental Hygienists of BC (CDHBC), the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA), and the British Columbia Dental Hygienists Association (BCDHA) at one time.

During the Dental Hygiene Forum at the Pacific Dental Conference it was announced that CDHBC, CDHA, and BCDHA have entered into an agreement that will align the renewal year of the Associations with CDHBC and as such, the College will collect all professional fees from all practicing dental hygienists in BC during the College renewal period.

The new streamlined process will be integrated so that dental hygienists will enter their information and pay all their professional fees only on the College website at the same time each year.

This new streamlined professional renewal process will have significant benefits for the public and dental hygienists:

- The public will be assured that all practicing dental hygienists in BC will automatically have access to comprehensive and continuous professional liability insurance coverage
- All dental hygienists will have access to the resources offered by the Associations, such as education opportunities and other support systems, to meet their obligations to the College and ensure they are providing competent and ethical care to the public
- BC dental hygienists will only have one deadline to remember and one place to renew
- BC dental hygienists will no longer have to send proof of professional liability insurance to the College
- BC dental hygienists will only need to contact the College to update their contact information if it changes

### Did you know?

- Over 1000 registrants did not have proof of professional liability insurance on file with the College on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016
- Practicing without professional liability insurance is considered professional misconduct and puts both you and your clients at risk
- Not all professional liability insurance policies are created equally
- In a recent Mustel Survey, members of the public overwhelmingly agreed that it was very important for dental hygienists to have comprehensive and continuous professional liability insurance

As part of this new streamlined renewal process, a flexible financial installment plan has been established by the College for BC dental hygienists who wish to spread payments over a period of time. Starting on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016, BC dental hygienists will be able to make deposits toward their next year's renewal fees at any time and in any amount they wish throughout the year. The deposit is fully refundable should a registrant no longer wish to renew.

It is important to note that, after paying the fees, if BC dental hygienists wish to opt out of the Association membership(s) and/or the insurance for that registration year, there will be avenues to do so; however, paid fees are not refundable.

CDHBC, CDHA, and BCDHA are pleased to have reached this agreement to establish a streamlined renewal process and believe that this process will be beneficial for both the public and the profession.

[Please click here for an FAQ on the new streamlined renewal process](#)