

# *Saskatchewan Dental Assistants' Association*



***REGULATION VS. MEMBERSHIP***

# OUR MISSION



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“The Saskatchewan Dental Assistants’  
Association:

provides public protection through the regulation  
of qualified professionals, promotes  
excellence in oral health care and  
advocates for the health, safety and well being  
of dental assistants.”

September 2023



# *OUR VISION*



“Respected, Responsible,  
Oral Health Professionals  
Striving for Excellence”

September, 2023

# *What is a Regulatory Body?*

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- ▶ A Regulatory Body exists to protect the public



# *What legislation pertains to the way SDAA licenses Dental Assistants?*



- ▶ Labour Mobility and Fair Registrations Practices Act, 2022
- ▶ The Miscellaneous Statutes (Health Professions) Amendment Act, 2022
- ▶ Dental Disciplines Act, 1997

# *Which jurisdictions in Canada have regulated Dental Assistants?*



- ▶ Dental Assistants are regulated in the following provinces:
  - ▶ British Columbia
  - ▶ Alberta
  - ▶ Saskatchewan
  - ▶ Manitoba
  - ▶ New Brunswick
  - ▶ Nova Scotia
  - ▶ PEI
  - ▶ Newfoundland



# *What is Self-Regulation?*



- ▶ Self –regulation is:
- ▶ *The ability to protect the public interest by setting standards of competency and conduct, and disciplines members that fail to meet them. Self-regulating professions have the right and responsibility to license and discipline members.*

# *What is Self-Regulation? (cont'd)*



- ▶ Independent of other regulated professions
- ▶ For example – SDAA only focuses on regulating dental assisting in Saskatchewan; we do not report through the College of Dental Surgeons
- ▶ There are only two self-regulating dental assisting jurisdictions in Canada – Alberta and Saskatchewan
- ▶ All other regulated dental assisting jurisdictions fall under the Colleges of Dentistry in their respective provinces



# *Are there any unregulated dental assisting jurisdictions in Canada?*

- ▶ Yes!
- ▶ Unregulated dental assisting jurisdictions in Canada:
- ▶ Ontario
- ▶ Quebec
- ▶ Yukon
- ▶ Northwest Territories
- ▶ Nunavit



# *How is licensing in an unregulated jurisdiction different from licensing in a regulated jurisdiction like Saskatchewan?*

- ▶ Dental assistants practicing in unregulated jurisdictions do not need to:
  - ▶ Complete an accredited dental assisting program
  - ▶ Successfully pass a national board exam (NDAEB exam)
  - ▶ Meet minimum annual educational standards so they remain current in their profession



***What is it like being registered in another Canadian province where Dental Assisting is regulated?***



- British Columbia – regulated (not self-regulated)
- Must meet established requirements in order to renew
- Must purchase liability insurance separately from license

# *What is a Membership Organization (an Association)?*



An association represents its members, to serve the interests of the members.

An association gets its authority and direction from its membership





# *Examples of Membership Roles*

- ▶ Oral Health Initiatives Support
- ▶ Public Education / Lobbying / Public Interest in Dental
- ▶ Assisting Profession

# *Examples of Membership Roles*

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- ▶ Member Support and Encouragement
- ▶ Relationship with stakeholders



# *Examples of Membership Roles*

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- ▶ Job Board Postings
- ▶ Employer Grievance Support

# *Examples of Membership Roles*

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- ▶ Liability Insurance
- ▶ Professional Development Offerings
- ▶ Recognition and Awards



# *Who will take over Membership tasks?*



- ▶ A new provincial association can form
- ▶ No new group takes over and some requirements are covered in other ways, ie., direct purchase of liability insurance, and some tasks are lost



▶ *Questions?*





*Thank you for  
your time*