

Petition to the Government of Saskatchewan

We, the undersigned, residents of the province of Saskatchewan, wish to bring to your attention the following:

- That the citizens of Saskatchewan are extremely concerned that our province has the third highest rate of day surgeries for treating oral disease in Canada – only behind Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, costing the provincial government 3.3 million health care dollars each year;
- That rates of oral disease will only increase in our province, as a result of the closure of the last dental therapy school and an increasing number of oral health human resources vacancies in the North;
- That Saskatchewan's 650 registered dental hygienists are highly educated primary health care providers committed to addressing the unmet oral health needs of the residents;
- That the *Dental Disciplines Act* severely limits the ability of registered dental hygienists to deliver many necessary services directly to the people of Saskatchewan; and
- That preventing and managing oral diseases will reduce the burden on emergency rooms, reduce backlogs for acute care services, improve productivity, and enhance the overall health and well-being of residents of Saskatchewan;

We, in the prayer that reads as follows, respectfully request the Government of Saskatchewan to:

Take the necessary steps and actions to address the oral health needs of the people of Saskatchewan by updating the *Dental Disciplines Act* to remove restrictions and expand the dental hygiene profession's scope of practice.

Date: _____

	NAME (print)	ADDRESS (print)	SIGNATURE
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____