Hygiene in Canada

BC

‘In BC, the legislation also permits a dental hygienist to own and operate his/her own dental hygiene practice. Private practices enable dental hygienists to establish different practice settings, helping the public to obtain oral care services from the most appropriate professional, when and where they need it.  For example, mobile practices bring dental hygiene services to remote communities and housebound clients, while storefront locations provide ease of access.’

AB

Alberta hygienists have had the power to set up their own practices since 2006, yet relatively few have taken advantage of the opportunity. The College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Alberta reports that of its 3,000 members, it knows of only about 100 who have declared themselves independent practitioners.

Alberta bylaws allow dental hygienists to work outside of a traditional dental office, without the direct supervision of a dentist; New Brunswick, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland have similar bylaws, while Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia have regulations with some restrictions.

MB

Manitoba allows hygienists to apply to work on their own after 3,000 hours, or about a year and a half, working directly with a dentist.

Ontario

Independent since 2007. Have set up numerous member-based organizations to help spread independent hygiene throughout the province and to advocate for the independent model. 500 independent dental hygienists in Canada, a majority would be in ON.