



**College of Alberta
Dental Assistants**

College Connect

December 5, 2022

Introduction & Housekeeping

Presenters

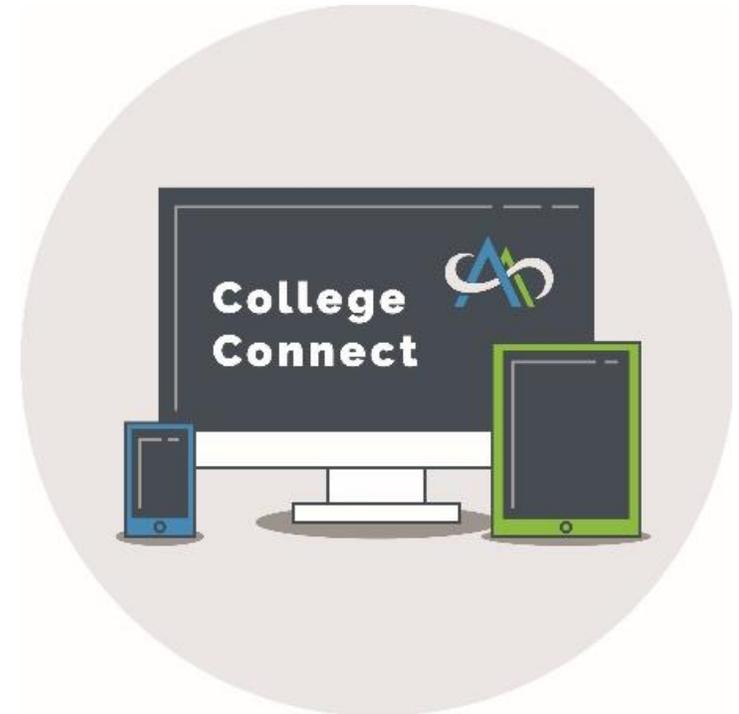
- **April Slotsve**, Education and Practice Director
- **Jennifer Tewes**, Registrar

Housekeeping

- **Connection issues** try reconnecting using same link, check your email
- Use the **Questions feature** to submit questions live or to make comments
- Length **45 minutes**
- Session **not recorded**

Content

- What has the College been doing lately?
- What does it mean to be a regulated member of the College?
- Professionalism and why should you care?



College Highlights

- Annual Report
- Bylaw changes
- Annual Renewal
- New merit-based regulated member councillor appointments
- Increased Evaluation and Innovation Fund
- Two new Councillors
- Council met in September and November
- CCP Policies Consultation

Regulator Role VS Association Role

Regulator

(College of Alberta Dental Assistants)



Association

(regional, provincial and national dental assisting associations)



Regulation = Patient Protection

The Regulatory Contract

The Government gives

- Restricted Activities
- Protected Titles
- Mandatory Practice
- Public Members
- Co-regulation

The Profession gives

- Program Approval
- Qualified Dental Assistants (registration requirements)
- Ethical and Practice Standards
- Complaints and Discipline
- Continuing Competence

Being a dental assistant is a privilege

Patient and **Public Trust**
in the profession
and dental assistants

- Regulated member
- Professional status
- Practice Permit
- Right to use protected titles
- Authorized practice
- Better remuneration

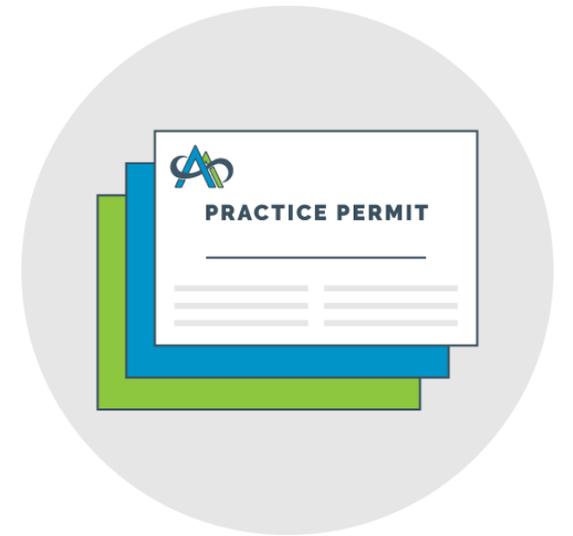
What do we expect in our experiences with Professionals?

- Competence
- Reliability
- Efficiency
- Honesty
- Good Communication
- Accountability



Do we identify as professionals?

- Having a sense of professional identity supports quality.
- However, just having a practice permit does not mean we are professionals.
- The identity we possess is greatly influenced by our peers.



How do we exhibit Professionalism?

- Do we offer the traits that we expect of other professionals?



Do we practice professionally with patients and employers?

Patients

- collect consent
- follow Standards/Policies
- treat patients with respect
- work competently and in patient's best interest
- professional liability insurance

Employers

- work efficiently
- communicate respectfully
- understand and follow office policies
- work as a team
- compensation agreement
- work safely

Do we display professionalism in our interactions with the College?

College

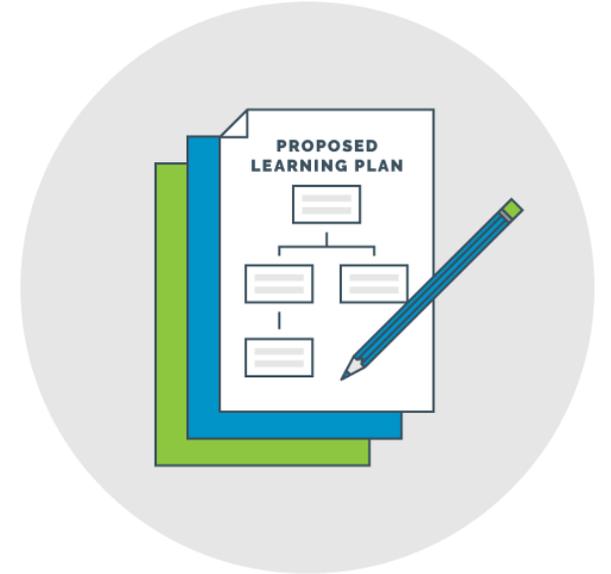
- ethical practice
- declarations
- CCP (professional development)
- stay updated with College communications
- maintain practice permit
- report harm or illegal practice



Continuing Competence

An example of regulatory oversight

- All Alberta Health Colleges (such as nurses, doctors, physiotherapists) must have a continuing competence program for registrants.
- Most registrants are likely learning and growing annually.
- A continuing competence program helps assure the public this is happening.





- Accidents happen because humans make errors - that's inevitable.
- Policy and procedures can decrease chance of errors which increases positive patient experience.
- Working in a professional manner and identifying as a professional decrease the amount of regulation needed.

Professionalism

It's not the job you do,
It's how you do the job.



**What questions do
you have for us?**





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Dental Assistants**

Thank you for attending

Next College Connect – March 7, 2023