

Opportunities are provided at all EDAA events for members to meet and greet old friends and catch up on their news. Welcome Back Social Night, the NDAW Awards Banquet, Family Fun Days and Wine & Cheese Socials are just some of the "FUN TIMES" the EDAA provides to you.

### **BUSINESS MEETINGS**

As a registered professional association the EDAA is required by law to have Bylaws which govern our operation, meetings which inform you about the business matters we are involved in and approval from our membership to act on your behalf. As a member you have the right and responsibility to be informed about association business and to participate in the decision making process through discussion and voting. EDAA members elect a Board of Directors to conduct the day to day business of the organization based on an approved set of Bylaws & Special Rules and an approved Budget. As a member of a Local association you have easy access to information and the opportunity to make your views known to your Board. They are always eager to have your input and participation at the General and Annual Meetings and encourage you to become involved in your association through volunteer service. There are committee positions that give you a chance to learn about your association and to contribute the amount of time you feel comfortable with. The more you put into your association the more benefits you will realize and the more you will appreciate the importance of membership in the EDAA.

### **REPRESENTATION**

Our President and President Elect are your association representatives at the College of Alberta Dental Assistants Annual Meeting. In case of our absence, they attend on our behalf to hear the stories behind the decisions and to bring matters of importance to our attention. They will ensure that issues

affecting our Local association are brought to us for discussion and, if necessary, a plan of action. Please let them know about matters of concern to you as they, along with the Board of Directors, are working for the good of all members of the EDAA.

### **DENTAL IMPRESSIONS NEWSLETTER**

The EDAA publishes a professional newsletter for our members. Since few members are able to attend every meeting and event the Dental Impressions is your link to all of the events and activities sponsored by our association. The priorities of publication ensure that you receive regular updates, current Continuing Education opportunities, Events information and registration forms, a current Board Directory, news of interest about fellow members, access to Employment opportunities, articles and a forum to speak to us all through Letters to the Editor. Your membership dues entitle you to receive this newsletter bimonthly. You can access a lot of information anytime you wish on our website [www.edaa.ab.ca](http://www.edaa.ab.ca)

### **EMPLOYMENT REGISTRY**

The Employment Registry is fully funded and operated by the EDAA as a membership service. If you are looking for a change in jobs, a new job or for someone to fill a job in your office, we are here to serve you. You may contact the Registry and request a listing on a monthly basis. This listing is sent free of charge to all employers who contact the EDAA with an employment opportunity. We also provide a Job Listing to members who are looking for work but choose not to be on our Registry. A Starting Salary Guideline has been approved by the Board for members to use in negotiating when they are considering a new position. Many employers have indicated that they prefer to hire from the Registry than to place an ad in the newspaper and have to deal with all the resumes they receive. The job market is constantly changing and it is nice to know that your EDAA membership dues provide you with a better chance to find a job when you need it.

**CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION!**



# **EDMONTON DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION**

# **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

**EDAA MESSAGE CENTRE**

**PH/FAX 780-987-2022**

**EMAIL: [edaa@interbaun.com](mailto:edaa@interbaun.com)**

**WEBSITE: [www.edaa.ab.ca](http://www.edaa.ab.ca)**



## E.D.A.A. Membership Benefits

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Registered Dental Assistants in Alberta are encouraged to maintain membership in a Local Association, the National Association in addition to registration with the Provincial College . These 3 organizations are separate and distinct entities, which operate under their own Bylaws, have their own Mission, their own Budgets, membership dues and membership services.

Association with all 3 levels ensures you that Dental Assistants are able to present a unified, professional image to the public and within the Dental & Health Community. By supporting these organizations with your dues and with volunteer service you are enabling RDA's to maintain credibility as Dental Health Professionals and you are contributing to the progress of Dental Assistants within the field of health care. As a united group through association membership we will continue to advance the goals and initiatives of Dental Assistants in the local, provincial and national communities. Each organization provides you with unique opportunities and benefits.

### **IDENTITY AS A MEMBER OF A PROFESSION**

Belonging to a professional association identifies you as a professional. The EDAA provides its members with an accessible local forum to meet, interact, network and debate issues of importance to Dental Assistants. Your membership status tells others that you are concerned about the future of your profession and your career, that you are willing to participate in bringing progress and success to your profession and that you want to uphold the professional status of Registered Dental Assistants.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

The EDAA provides its members with numerous opportunities for Continuing Education. Evening speakers are brought in for our September, November and January General Meetings, a 6 hour Conference is held in February each year and a 3 hour Seminar is held in conjunction with National Dental Assistants Week activities in March. There are additional opportunities offered throughout the year that will contribute towards fulfilling your Continuing Competency Program requirements. Your membership dues entitle you to attend and obtain over 12 hours of Continuing Education per year. Members who volunteer on the Board or Committees of the EDAA can receive CCP credit for this as well. The EDAA also offers Home Study courses members can use for fulfilling CCP requirements.

### **CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**

EDAA members have numerous opportunities throughout the year to contribute to our community through participation in Food Bank Drives, Santa's Anonymous, Open Wide clinics, donations to various Women's Shelters, the Youth Emergency Shelter Society, Health Foundations and a variety of other worthwhile projects and groups. These donations presented from the EDAA as a group allow us to raise the profile of our professional association within the Edmonton area and to make a bigger impact than we could as individuals.

### **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

EDAA members are eligible for nomination for several association awards. Student members who meet our criteria are eligible to receive the EDAA Student Member Award. There is 1 Student Member award available for presentation to an EDAA member from the NAIT Day Program, the NAIT Independent Study Program and the KDM

Day Program each year. This award consists of an engraved keepsake and a cheque for \$150. Only EDAA student members are eligible for these awards. We also have a Service Award, Special Recognition Award, Honorary Member Award, Supportive Member Award, 25 year Member Awards and National Dental Assistants Week Certificates available for presentation. These awards were established so that the EDAA could recognise those members who have made outstanding contributions to our profession and our Local Association. National Dental Assistants Week activities celebrate the contribution we all make as integral members of the Dental Health Care Team and promotes recognition of Registered Dental Assistants as trained professionals dedicated to Oral Health.

### **DENTAL HEALTH MONTH PROMOTIONS**

The EDAA has budgeted substantial funds for use in projects promoting Dental Health to the public. Each year Dental Health Month focuses on a different group or topic in their campaign. A committee of volunteers from our association plan and carry out these projects on behalf of the EDAA. Members have the opportunity to become involved in this public service. DHM activities are another way that the EDAA raises the profile of Dental Assistant's in the community. They allow us to present RDA's as professional, well organized and public service minded members of the Dental Health Team.

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

The EDAA provides its members with a variety of social activities throughout the year. As an EDAA member you are part of the professional family of Dental Assistants. Social interaction with members of your profession fosters good relationships, provides networking opportunities and contributes to making new friendships, feelings of belonging and support.