



# Federal Leadership on Oral Health



Leadership from the federal government could greatly reduce dental treatment costs, putting money back in Canadians' pockets.

Canadians pay out of pocket for 94% of all oral health care costs. Government programs cover the remaining 6% of costs. Targeted federal investments in oral health promotion and disease prevention initiatives will significantly reduce the costs incurred by Canadians for treating oral diseases after they arise, while also improving workplace productivity.

The federal government has a key role to play in public health, particularly among populations under federal jurisdiction such as First Nations and Inuit peoples and veterans. Leadership from the federal government could greatly reduce treatment and transportation costs, putting money back in Canadians' pockets, while improving the overall health and well-being of the populations that it serves.

## What the Federal Government Can Do

The federal government should improve the health care services that it provides for populations under its jurisdiction by supporting and investing in programs that include oral health promotion and disease prevention strategies.