Join CDHA and dental hygienists across Canada to put preventive oral care at the top of the national political agenda. By posting these messages on Facebook and Twitter, you can educate MPs and members of the public on the importance of equitable access to preventive oral care services. Feel free also to utilize the images and be sure to tag your local MP on your posts. [Political Twitter Handles are available online.](#)

**Facebook messages**

**Federal Leadership on Oral Health**

94% of all oral health care costs are privately covered by Canadians or their insurance plans. Government is responsible for just 6% of all oral health care costs. By encouraging federal leadership on oral health and promoting targeted investments in preventive care, the federal government would significantly reduce overall costs by treating oral diseases and conditions before they arise. Preventive care is the most cost effective care. Be a #voice4oralhealth

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**Canadian Seniors**

Canada's population is aging. By 2036 nearly 25% of us will be over age 65. This will place a greater pressure on long-term care facilities and our health care system. Seniors are 40% less likely to have private dental insurance than the rest of the population and many still have to care for their natural teeth. The federal government should play a leadership role and act alongside the provinces to ensure daily mouth care and professional oral health care services are supported in long-term care and homecare regulations. Be a #voice4oralhealth

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**First Nations and Inuit**

Dental services are the third most expensive funding category in the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program for First Nations and Inuit peoples. Yet the oral health of these populations is far worse than that of the general population. Better access to preventive oral care in First Nations and Inuit communities would improve outcomes and reduce costs. Be a #voice4oralhealth

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**Health Human Resources in Rural and Remote Communities**

The federal government provides numerous incentives to attract doctors and nurses to rural and remote communities. The federal government needs to build on these programs by expanding health human resources to attract and retain dental hygienists in these regions. Wage incentives, tax credits, student loan forgiveness, and educational funding in exchange for return-of-service agreements would go a long way to support the in-demand services provided by dental hygienists to these underserved areas. Be a #voice4oralhealth

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Tweet on Twitter with 140 Characters or less

**Federal Leadership on Oral Health Care**
Preventive oral care is the most effective oral care. It leads to better outcomes and lower health care costs for all Canadians. Be a #voice4oralhealth

**Canadian Seniors**
Many seniors lose oral care insurance coverage when they retire. Government must support oral care in long-term care facilities and through homecare regulations. Be a #voice4oralhealth

**First Nations and Inuit**
Indigenous youth deserve better access to oral care. Dental caries is the most common infectious disease among FN & Inuit youth. Be a #voice4oralhealth

**Health Human Resources in Rural and Remote Communities**
Dental hygienists are needed in rural & remote communities. Expanding loan forgiveness is a good first step for attracting DHs. Be a #voice4oralhealth