



HALDIMAND-NORFOLK HEALTH UNIT

PEARLY WRITES

A dental public health newsletter for Haldimand and Norfolk Dental Offices.



Preventive Dental Clinics Now Open

In 2008 Pearly Writes was very excited to announce that the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit would be receiving money to open new preventive dental clinics. It has been two years since the last edition of Pearly Writes and the Preventive clinics are now open and running at the Simcoe Health Unit and Dunnville Health Unit. These clinics are providing preventive care for children without dental insurance whose families are finding it difficult to afford dental treatment for their children. Since February the preventive clinics have treated over 100 children from Haldimand-Norfolk who otherwise could not access preventive services.

Who can access the preventive dental clinics and how?

When a parent calls the Health Unit, we first determine which program they qualify for. If a family is above the \$20,000 net family income cut off for Healthy Smiles Ontario, a dental screening is booked to determine if the child qualifies for the Children In Need of Treatment program. If the child has obvious decay they are referred to a general practice dental

office where an exam and the needed restorative treatment is completed. Children who are screened and not placed on CINOT are booked to have a preventive appointment at the Health Unit Preventive Clinic.

The new clinics provide services such as: fluoride (usually varnish), sealants, selective polish, scaling, oral hygiene instruction and information on nutrition and its relationship to dental health. Medium and high risk clients are placed on a 3 month varnish routine. We are hoping to mimic the treatment a client on the Healthy Smiles Ontario Program would receive by providing preventive care for clients at regular intervals and referring to dental offices when restorative needs develop. We are informing clients our preventive appointments and CINOT screenings do not replace an exam and radiographs by a dentist. We are recommending that clients see a Dentist for a quick dental exam and an x-ray appointment every 18-24 months.

I would like to thank the dental offices in Haldimand-Norfolk for their cooperation

with the dental programs administered through the Health Unit and the number of referrals we receive from dental offices to our programs. Dental offices in our county really do care about the welfare of their community and are providing exceptional care to clients from Health Unit programs. Early childhood dental decay rates are rising, but the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit is optimistic that our recently opened free preventive dental clinics will help reverse that trend.

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Meet Our Dental Staff

Dr. Wayne McKay

Dr. McKay is the Dental Consultant at the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit. He graduated from the University of Toronto in 1966 with a DDS degree and received his Master of Dental Public Health degree from the University of Alabama in 1992. He is married with two grown children and one grandson. Dr. McKay has worked at the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit for the past 17 years as well as working at three other Health Units. Dr. McKay reviews program treatment plans sent in by dental offices

Rose Huyge

Rose is the Health Unit's Clinical Services Program Coordinator. The dental program is part of the clinical services team. She oversees the dental staff and the dental program budget.

Barb McCabe

Barb is the dental program assistant at the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit. Barb started working in the office of Simcoe Public Health in February 1970. Barb came to the Dental Team in the fall of 1987 along with the new dental treatment program we

Emergency CINOT

There is a difference between CINOT and emergency CINOT. If a child comes to your dental office in dental pain and the family reports that they cannot afford dental treatment, but would like their child's dental needs addressed, they can access emergency CINOT. While the child is "in the dental chair" you can contact the health unit. If a Dental Hygienist is available we will often recommend that the family come to the health unit after the dental appointment to apply for "regular" CINOT. If a Dental Hygienist is unavailable, or the family cannot come to the Health Unit after the dental appointment, contact Barb McCabe and the child can be placed on emergency CINOT. Only the tooth causing pain is to be addressed and the family will have to come to the Health Unit for a screening in order to sign up for "regular" CINOT to receive an exam and address all of their restorative needs.

know as CINOT. Contact Barb with questions regarding dental claims.

Shana Wingrove

Shana is the preventive dental assistant at the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit. She has worked for the Health Unit for seven years. She graduated in 1988 from Career Canada as a certified dental assistant. In 1993, she attended the University of Western Ontario to receive her preventive dental assistant diploma. She has worked in private practices as a chair-side assistant, dental receptionist and as a preventive dental assistant. She currently lives in Tillsonburg with her husband Scott and their four children. She enjoys working in

public health and finds it very rewarding. Contact Shana if you have questions about Healthy Smiles Ontario.

Danielle Smale

Danielle is the Dental Hygienist with the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit. Danielle graduated from the University of Western Ontario in 2004 with a Bachelor of Science and received her diploma in Dental Hygiene in 2006 from Georgian College in Orillia. She has worked in orthodontic and general practices and has thoroughly enjoyed the past year with the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit. She is married and has 4 cats, much to the annoyance of her husband.



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