

FOR RELEASE
May 19, 2017

Yukon government seeking input on proposed changes to the Dental Profession Act

The Government of Yukon is seeking input from dental professionals and the general public from May 19 to June 26 on proposed changes to the *Dental Profession Act* and *Dental Profession Regulations*. The proposed changes to the Act would allow dental hygienists to provide services that they are already trained in, both in dental clinics and in schools as part of the Yukon Children's Dental Program.

Amendments to the *Dental Profession Act* and *Dental Profession Regulations* would clarify and expand the scope of practice for dental hygienists in Yukon, and would enable them to provide specific services in preparation for examination by a dentist.

Quotes

"We would like to hear from dental professionals and interested members of the public to ensure we are on the right track with changes proposed to the *Dental Profession Act*."

"All Yukon children deserve good dental health. Clarifying and expanding the scope of practice for the territory's dental hygienists will ensure the Government of Yukon can continue providing the Yukon Children's Dental Program to meet the needs of Yukon families, making lives better."

—Minister of Community Services John Streicker

Quick facts

- Under the current legislation, the list of services dental hygienists can provide in Yukon requires clarification and is currently much more restrictive than in other parts of Canada. For example, most Canadian jurisdictions permit dental hygienists to take X-rays before the patient is examined by a dentist.
- Under the current legislation, only dental therapists can provide certain services for the Yukon Children's Dental Program. Only two dental therapists remain in Yukon and training for this profession ceased nationally in 2011. Dental hygienists in modern practice are now trained to deliver these services.

Learn more: Invitation to comment on changes to the *Dental Profession Act* and *Dental Profession Regulations*

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News Release #17-109



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