



Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia

Chair:
Russell MacSween, DDS

Registrar:
Doug Mackey, DDS

Deputy Registrar
Curtis Gregoire, DDS,
MD, MSc

Suite 103, 210 Waterfront Drive
Bedford, Nova Scotia B4A0H3

Tel: (902) 420-0083
Fax: (902) 492-0301

The Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)

The Provincial Dental Board of Nova Scotia (PDBNS) is the organization in Nova Scotia whose legislated role is to regulate dentistry and to protect the public interest when it comes to dental care.

We do this mainly by:

- ensuring that only qualified people are licensed as dentists and dental assistants,
- establishing and maintaining standards of care, and
- dealing with complaints related to standards of care.

The federal government, working with Sun Life Insurance, is rolling out a dental plan which Health Canada says [on its website](#) “will help ease financial barriers to accessing oral health care for eligible Canadian residents”.

The Provincial Dental Board is not involved in the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP).

As we understand it, this plan requires dentists to enroll and sign a contract with Sun Life in order to be part of this plan. A dentist will not be able to bill Sun Life for patients enrolled in this plan unless the dentist has signed that contract.

Dentists are free to make their own decision regarding whether to enroll in this plan. The Provincial Dental Board has no power to make dentists sign this contract with Sun Life.

The Provincial Dental Board supports steps to increase access to oral health care for Nova Scotians. However, it cannot compel dentists to be part of a program or sign a contract with a third party like an insurance company. The PDBNS does not know all the details of the plan or the contract - dentists have to decide for themselves if it is feasible for them to join.

If you have questions about this plan, we encourage you to:

- talk to your dentist,
- go to the [CDCP page of the Health Canada website](#), or
- reach out to the [Nova Scotia Dental Association \(NSDA\)](#) which is more knowledgeable about the CDCP and is helping inform dentists about the particulars of the plan.

Sincerely,

Dr. Doug Mackey DDS
Registrar