



Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Alberta Dental Association and College (ADA&C) has created a program called 'Start School Smiling' that we would like to share with you.

Start School Smiling is designed to promote dental health to all Grade One students. Volunteer ADA&C member dentists will provide a free examination, with bitewing x-rays if needed, from September 15 to October 31, 2018. There is no cost to you to participate in the Start School Smiling program — simply book an exam for your Grade One child with a participating practice within that time frame. You can find a list of participating practices via the main page of our website, [www.dentalhealthalberta.ca](http://www.dentalhealthalberta.ca), starting September 5.

Included with this letter, you will find a colouring sheet and toothbrush for your child. On the back of this letter, there is information on how you can access dental care through various community dental clinics, should you need it.

Developing good oral health habits early can last a lifetime! And we'd like to help find a dental home for your child, if they do not already have one.

For further information about Start School Smiling, and to see the list of participating practices near you, please visit [www.dentalhealthalberta.ca](http://www.dentalhealthalberta.ca).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Van Tassel".

Sarah Van Tassel  
Director of Communications  
Alberta Dental Association and College

Alberta dentists provide dental services at reduced fees for Albertans through various social programs. Whether or not you are experiencing hardship, discuss payment options with your dentist. As health professionals, dentists are committed to caring for your health. The following are some Community Dental Clinics that can be of help:

#### Alberta Children's Hospital – Pediatric Dental Clinic – Calgary

This service provides dental treatment to special needs children who are medically, mentally or physically challenged. Private dental insurance & government programs (ACHB, NIHB, AISH) are accepted. They can assist with additional funding requests (FSCD, Cleft Indemnity Program, OMSD). *Phone Number: 403-955-7211*

#### Alex Dental Health Bus – Calgary

The Alex Dental Health Bus provides essential preventative oral health services and support primarily to children and youth at schools in identified high-need areas. All clinics are scheduled at The Alex partner agency locations and are open to children and youth ages 6-24. Youth ages 13-24 may also refer to The Alex Youth Health Centre for eligibility. *Phone Number: 403-520-6270*

#### Boyle McCauley Health Centre – Edmonton

The BMHC dental team which includes dentist, dental assistant & dental receptionist provide dental care 5 days per week for those who cannot access care due to: health (mental illness, addictions), social status (homelessness, literacy challenges), and financial hardship (those receiving Alberta Works, AISH, & those with a low annual income who do not have access to dental benefits). *Phone Number: 780-422-7333*

#### Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS)

CUPS and its partners will assist adults and families in Calgary living with the adversity of poverty and traumatic events. Dental Extraction Clinic Eligibility criteria: Patients must be low-income and have NO dental insurance plan. Prior to their extraction, patients need to see a CUPS nurse to determine eligibility and have a dental assessment completed. *Phone Number 403-221-8780*

#### Dental Outreach of Red Deer (DOoR) – Red Deer

DOoR offers free urgent dental care services for clients aged 5 – 18 years who have no dental insurance, lower income or trouble paying; and, who have pain, infection, visible decay or broken teeth. Services offered are income eligible and include: free dental treatment services (i.e. x-rays, fillings, extractions), free prevention services (i.e. sealants, fluoride, cleanings) and free education to reduce risk of cavities. *Phone Number: 403-356-6302*

#### Public Health – Dental Treatment Services – Calgary

Sheldon Chumir Dental Clinic & Northeast Dental Clinic provide reduced-fee dental treatment services by qualified dentists to families in financial need and without access to dental insurance. Fees are approximately 20% of the Alberta Usual and Customary Fee Guide for Dental Services. *Phone Numbers: Sheldon Chumir Dental Clinic 403-955-6200 and Northeast Dental Clinic 403-944-9999*

#### SHINE Dental Clinic – Edmonton

The SHINE (Student Health Initiative for the Needs of Edmonton) Dental Clinic is a student run organization established through the University of Alberta. Based out of the Boyle McCauley Centre, the organization provides dental care for youth in need at no cost to patients. *Phone Number: (see Boyle McCauley Health Centre)*

#### U of A School of Dentistry Patient Clinics – Edmonton

The School of Dentistry offers a full range of general and specialty dental services for the public at affordable and competitive prices. *Phone Number: 780-407-5550*

More information on each of these services can be found at [www.dentalhealthalberta.ca](http://www.dentalhealthalberta.ca) → Public Protection → Help for low income Albertans.

Additionally, if none of the above are accessible for you, you can apply to the *Alberta Child Health Benefit* which covers children's health expenses, including dental care, for families with low incomes. For more information, go to

[www.alberta.ca/alberta-child-health-benefit.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/alberta-child-health-benefit.aspx).