



Terms of Reference

Mission

Through a unified voice, the Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition works collaboratively with dedicated partners to improve the oral and overall health of Saskatchewan residents.

The Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition is an inter-disciplinary group striving to identify and address the needs of vulnerable populations, using evidence based decision making, through advocacy, education, prevention and standards.

Purpose

To promote and improve oral health of Saskatchewan residents by working together with a diverse group of individuals and agencies.

Background: Saskatoon Oral Health Coalition started in 2010 based on best practice literature, which states that developing a coalition focused on oral health and including community partners and stakeholders is an excellent practice to expand the importance of oral health to a diverse group. By 2012, there was a shift in direction to expand the importance of oral health to a diverse group. By 2012, there was a shift in direction for the coalition driven by the Saskatoon OHC members and it was voted to change the name of the coalition to the Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition (SOHC) and broaden the reach to include the province. The focus is on oral health issues and concerns related to populations at high risk of oral disease and low/minimum access to oral care.

Values

- Accountable
- Collaborative
- Common Goals (short and long term)
- Dedicated
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Focus on Overall Wellbeing

Goals

- To increase oral health literacy in Saskatchewan, by increasing oral health awareness
- To change perceptions regarding oral health and disease so that oral health becomes an integral component of health policies and programs in Saskatchewan, through interpersonal collaboration
- Advocate for oral health education, prevention and accessible- affordable oral health care for Saskatchewan residents
- To initiate activities to improve the oral health of all Saskatchewan residents, using evidence-based public health initiatives
- To promote increased access to oral health care for vulnerable population

Types of Members

SOHC membership is open to oral health professionals, primary health professionals, health professionals, provincial and federal government officials, First Nations Tribal Councils, advocacy and provider organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), school divisions, post-secondary education institutions and any individual or group who has a keen interest in oral health.

Responsibilities of Coalition Members

- To promote oral health and the SOHC
- To attend Coalition meetings (semi-annual)
- To contribute to focus group work as required
- To collaborate with other Coalition members
- To provide feedback and direction to the leadership team
- To support the leadership team in fulfilling its responsibilities

Membership

Membership is open to all, and runs from January to December.

Membership Benefits:

- Positive impact on oral health policy
- Connect to a province wide network of Coalition members and advocates concerned about the oral health of Saskatchewan
- Receive notifications on important issues, media coverage and legislation impacting the oral health of Saskatchewan residents
- Participate in opportunities to server on issue focus groups
- Receive invitations to meeting and events
- Participate in opportunities to impact legislation and policy

Membership Levels:

1. Individual members and Students (full-time)

Individual members can vote on coalition decisions including policy priorities and other coalition related decisions. You are invited to attend all coalition meetings and activities and take part in coalition workgroups. You will also have the opportunity to receive Continuing Education (CE) credits through attending coalition meetings. Your membership dues provide resources to support semi-annual coalition meetings, policies and programs to increase access to high quality oral health care for all populations in Saskatchewan

- Individual Member (Voting Member) – Annual dues of \$25
- Student Individual Member (Voting Member) – Annual dues of \$0 (must be a full-time student)

2. Organizational members

Number of members from Non-profit organization– 5 members (maximum)

Number of members from Business/For-profit organization – 5 members (maximum)

Organizational members receive one vote per entity and can vote on coalition decisions including policy priorities and other coalition related decisions. Organizational members are invited to attend all coalition meetings and activities. Your membership dues provide resources to support annual coalition meetings and policies and programs to increase access to high quality oral health care for all populations in Saskatchewan. Each member of the organization will also have the

opportunity to receive Continuing Education (CE) credits through attending coalition meetings. Your logos will appear on various publications, promotional materials and related documents as an organizational member of the coalition.

- Non-profit organization – Annual dues of \$75
- For-profit organization – Annual dues of \$100

Leadership Team

- The Saskatchewan Oral Health Coalition (SOHC) Leadership Team (LT) works collaboratively with SOHC members to coordinate, develop, facilitate and support SOHC initiatives
- The executive includes the chair and treasurer who are volunteers from the larger SOHC membership and several other SOHC members
- For more details refer to *SOHC Leadership Team – Terms of Reference*

Meetings

- SOHC meetings are held semi-annually and are open to individuals and agencies interested in the coalition
- Semi-annual SOHC meeting, will be held in summer and fall season each year, at a date or a place to be fixed by the leadership team and approved by SOHC members
- The Coalition Administrator shall give meeting notice at least one month prior to the date of the meeting

Decision Making

- Decisions are reached through consensus
- When consensus is not possible, decisions are reached through majority ballot vote of those in attendance at the meeting. The chair votes only in the event of a tie
- Motions are recorded

Accountability

- SOHC terms of reference will be reviewed annually or more often as needed
- Members are accountable to the SOHC to complete tasks or initiatives identified by the group