

## Where are services delivered?

Services may be delivered in the following:

- Nursing stations
- Health centers
- Aboriginal Head Start program facilities
- Schools
- Daycare centers
- Health clinics/facilities
- Immunization clinics
- Client's homes
- Health fairs
- Dental clinics

## Contact Information

For more information about the COHS program and how it can benefit communities, contact:

**1-800-O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)**

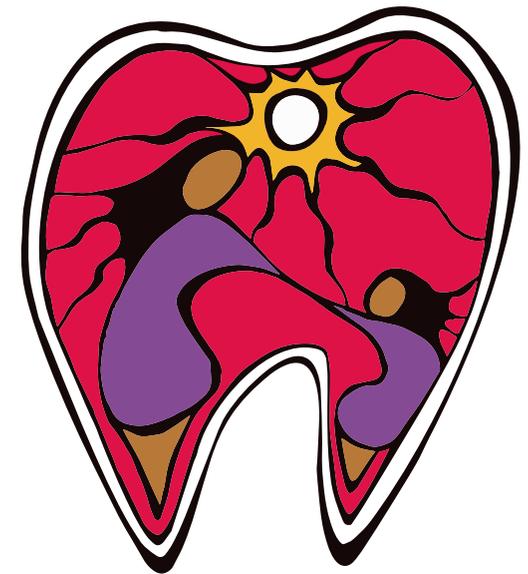
This publication is also available in French under the title:

**Services communautaires en santé buccodentaire (SCSB)**

# Community Oral Health Services (COHS)

**Healthy teeth, healthy communities!**

Providing safe, non-traumatic culturally appropriate access to oral health services in First Nations and Inuit communities



## Community Oral Health Services (COHS)

- Provides access to culturally appropriate oral health services in First Nations and Inuit communities.
- Bridges the gap through community-based oral health aides, who serve as an essential link to the communities.

### What are the goals of COHS?

- **Addressing oral health needs**, reducing oral health disparities experienced by First Nations and Inuit individuals across their lifespan
- **Improving access to preventive services** to prevent cavities and gum disease
- **Enhancing treatment services** by improving access to necessary treatments
- **Early risk detection** to identify early risk factors for cavities
- **Reducing the need for treatment under general anesthetic**
- **Providing health guidance** by supporting children and families about healthy choices for good oral health, general health and nutrition

## What are the benefits of COHS for community members?

- **Positive oral health experience** by ensuring a welcoming and comfortable experience in accessing oral health services, by listening to the client and their needs
- **Reduced pain**, prevents and reduces pain related to teeth and gums
- **Reduced need for tooth extraction** by promoting the retention of teeth by taking care of them from a young age
- **Enhanced appearance of smiles** by supporting healthy hygiene practices and the retention of teeth
- **Boosted self-esteem** by improving self-confidence through better oral health
- **Enhanced speech** by improving speech clarity
- **Improved overall health** by promoting healthier gums and teeth, leading to better general health and quality of life

## What kind of oral health services are offered?

- ① Oral screening
- ② Fluoride varnish applications
- ③ Dental sealant placement
- ④ Temporary fillings
- ⑤ Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) applications
- ⑥ Health education sessions (individual and group)
- ⑦ Client-specific treatment plans, based on individual need

### How are services delivered?

COHS are delivered by ISC employees, contractors and teams employed by First Nations and Inuit communities directly. This includes:

- Dentists
- Dental Therapists
- Dental Hygienists
- Dental Assistants
- Trained Community Members (COHS aides)
- Community Health Nurses
- Community based dental support staff such as Community Health Representatives or Educators