

ODHA STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROFILE – Nell Peterson

SCHOOL: Algonquin College



What made you want to become a dental hygienist?

After the completion of my undergraduate degree at Queen's University, I began working at a pediatric dental office as an administrator. After two years, I decided that I wanted to take it a step further, and be more hands on with client care. With several family members already established in the dental field, I was intrigued by the idea of becoming a dental hygienist and supporting my community as a health care provider. I am so glad that I made this decision and pursued my dental hygiene education at Algonquin College.

What type of practice setting do you hope to work in?

As a new graduate, I'd like to start my career in a general practice. This will be a great stepping stone prior to exploring dental hygiene in orthodontic offices as well as periodontal offices. At this time, networking with local dental offices has proven to be very promising for the beginning of my career.

How will you celebrate your graduation?

I look forward to celebrating my graduation with my fellow classmates, my family and my partner. Without their combined support I would not be where I am today! After completing the condensed two year program at Algonquin College, I am also ready to treat myself to a spa day!

What do you think dental hygiene students should know about their free student membership?

My ODHA membership was an extremely useful tool when navigating and understanding the post graduate requirements and procedures before becoming registered with the CDHO. The ODHA website was also a useful source of information during client care and my studies.

For more information on the ODHA student ambassador program, visit

<https://odha.on.ca/students/student-ambassador-program/>