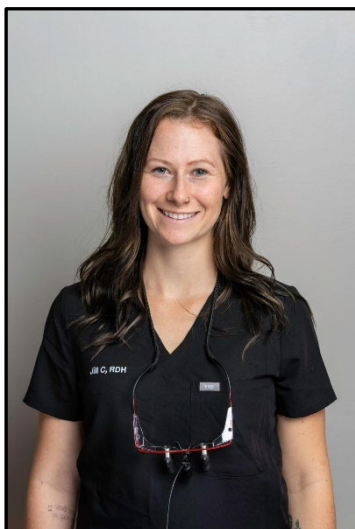


ODHA STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROFILE – Jill Clark



SCHOOL: Canadian National Institute of Health

What made you want to become a dental hygienist?

Having practiced as a Dental Assistant and gaining exposure to a diverse range of treatments, I ended up developing a passion for the preventive side of dentistry. Witnessing firsthand the consequences of insufficient preventive measures in the face of dental diseases, I became quickly aware of the potential harm that could come to individuals. I have come to understand that dental care is not solely about tending to teeth and gums. The intricate connections between the mouth, bacteria, and our overall systemic health are profound. My objective is to empower individuals with heightened awareness, guiding them to lead healthier lives. I am committed to keeping up with new technologies and continuing education to provide the highest care. I also aim to create a positive and comfortable patient experience to the best of my abilities. Through professionalism, clear and empathetic communication, critical thinking, advocacy,

and being a coordinator, clinical therapist, oral health educator and promoter, I aim to ensure patients feel motivated to make informed decisions about their oral health. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to a healthier society, and I am confident that my dedication, compassion, and continuous pursuit of excellence will define my success in the field of dental hygiene.

Now that you've graduated, what type of practice setting will you be working in, or do you envision yourself working in? If you do already have a job lined up, tell us a little about it!

Now that I have graduated, I can see myself working in a general practice office to start and am open to other opportunities as well. I currently do not have job lined up but will be heading back out west to my hometown.

How will you celebrate your graduation?

I went with family to a spa and dinner after graduation. I also have been celebrating by planning my wedding in Mexico, rock climbing, and enjoying the outdoors more now that it is springtime!

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

I think it is important for students to take advantage of the resources that can be used such as fact sheets and professional guidance!

For more information on the ODHA student ambassador program, visit

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