

## **Dr. Sonica Singhal - Welcome to the CAPHD Annual Meeting!**

Dr. O'Keefe: On September 20th and 21st this year in Toronto, the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry or CAPHD will be holding its annual conference. To give us a preview and an overview for public health leaders and anybody else who wishes to attend can expect, I've invited Dr. Sonica Singhal, president-elect of CAPHD and chief organizer of the conference to fill us in on the essentials of this meeting.

Dr. Singhal: Sonica you're the president-elect of the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry and you're the chief organizer of this year's annual CAPHD conference. What's the theme you've chosen for the conference?

Dr. Singhal: Well, first of all, I would like to thank you, John, for inviting me here today to talk about the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry Conference, which is upcoming in September 2019 on 20th and 21st of September. It will be in Toronto at Chestnut residence, very close to the faculty of dentistry and the University of Toronto. The theme for this year's conference is the body, the mind, and the mouth - collaborative community health; and the team itself suggests that it's not just about oral health, but it's about overall health and the role of oral health professionals as health professionals and how they fit into the big picture.

Dr. O'Keefe: And what's there at your conference for general dentists and other specialists?

Speaker 3: For this year's conference we have tried to put in a lot of topical issues which would be helpful for dentists, for their professional development. One of the issues we all know is about cannabis, the legalization of cannabis, which has recently happened, and we know a lot of dental professionals still do not understand the legalization around it or the oral health implications of it. All this will be covered in the conference by Dr. Christian Schütz from University of British Columbia. Another topic which we have included in this conference is about human papilloma virus infections and its implications on oral health such as oral cancers, which we know are on the rise in Canada. So again, we will get to know a lot of information about those infections and related [inaudible] cancers. Dr. Scott Tomar would be flying in from University of Florida to talk about that. And he's a renowned speaker. He designed it and researched it as an academic world-known fame. So, I think that he'd be, that can be a greater input for the conference.

Dr. Singhal: Mental health and wellbeing. I think that is something we all as professionals are trying to have a better understanding whether it is for our patients or for ourselves. So, that's another important thing and we really wanted to bring that for the conference, and we are very lucky that Dr. Elisabeth Lin, who is a researcher with the Center for addiction and mental health. So, she is coming in

to talk about mental health and wellbeing. I think a number of health professionals would be very interested in knowing about it. And then infection prevention and control. That's another major issue which we all have faced in the past few years. So, we are having a lecture on that as well. And this is important because this was right now in Ontario, but it's a national conference. So, people, directors from other provinces as well would be benefited from this topic. Then another thing is seniors' oral health and we know there's a senior dental program coming up in Ontario in the near future. So, we have also included a session on seniors' oral health. So, I think that again would be very, very helpful for dentists.

Dr. O'Keefe: Sounds like an interesting program with lots for a broad range of professionals.

Dr. Singhal: Yeah. So, that's the idea and I hope everyone will be benefited from this conference.

Dr. O'Keefe: Where do we get more information?

Dr. Singhal: Yes. So, the Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry website. It's very straightforward and you can just log into the conference page. It's very easy to register as well. The fees \$350. You can pay by Paypal or Mastercard or visa. And the early bird is until, I think end of July. So yes. So, it's very easy to get.

Dr. O'Keefe: And we will be making sure to give that link to everybody, right.

Dr. Singhal: Sure, yeah, you can give the link to everyone. Thank you,

Dr. O'Keefe: Dr Sonica Singhal thank you so much for coming in.

Dr. Singhal: Thank you very much for inviting me, John, and I hope to see you all there.