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### **Giant Step forward for Dental Hygiene Research: New Master's Award**

Ottawa, August 5, 2008 — The Canadian Foundation for Dental Hygiene Research and Education (CFDHRE) presents a new Master's Award in partnership with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). This is a breakthrough opportunity which celebrates the unique perspective dental hygienists apply to oral health research – a focus on prevention and health promotion.

This award will significantly influence the dental hygiene research community in Canada by securing funding for dental hygiene research projects at a Master's degree level. Previously dental hygienists competed with other healthcare researchers for grants and awards with some notable success. However, a growing need exists to study dental hygiene topics, including best practices for preventative care and health promotion, in order to improve the oral health of Canadians.

“The Master's Award is a giant step forward in the development of dental hygiene research in Canada,” says Susan Ziebarth, Executive Director of CFDHRE. “This opportunity will expand the existing body of professional knowledge which will in turn improve the oral and overall health of the population.”

The CFDHRE established this award to build the capacity for innovative research within the Canadian dental hygiene community and encourage investigation by future stewards of the profession. The award is being offered through CIHR's Small Health Organization Partnership Program.

This Master's Award provides funding to a maximum of \$17,500 for a 1-year term to support the development of the recipient's research project. Deadline for application is February 2, 2009. For more information about the application processes, please visit the Call for Proposals section of the CFDHRE website at [http://www.cfdhre.com/call\\_for\\_proposals.asp](http://www.cfdhre.com/call_for_proposals.asp).

To learn more about the CFDHRE's mission and objectives visit <http://www.cfdhre.com/about.asp>.

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