



July 7, 2010

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

I am pleased to write in support of the Oral Health, Total Health (OHTH) program initiated by students from the University of Toronto. It is important to note that this program was started and continues to grow entirely through the efforts of students from Canadian dental schools. Through the dedication of our students, the program supports and encourages sound oral health for a badly underserved population, children and adults with special needs. In so doing, they demonstrate the commitment to the oral health of our population we expect from our profession.

The three all day programs I have attended in Ontario exemplified the caring attitude and high ethical standard we expect of our students and the future promise of the dental profession. The students developed trusting relationships with the participants and comfort dealing with their issues. They created a relaxed and fun filled atmosphere while teaching them good oral home care. Through various other programs, they raise funds to ensure that high quality dental care is available to this unique population.

These students learn something through this program that we cannot teach them in the classroom. The result is graduates who take their role as advocates for oral health no matter what special needs exist. They become the kind of oral health professionals that we need and want. I strongly support this program and the students who work so hard to make it the success it is, and endorse it with no hesitation.

Yours sincerely,

David Mock, DDS, PhD, FRCD(C)
Professor & Dean
Faculty of Dentistry
University of Toronto