



Dr. Raj Khanuja

I wish to serve on RCDSO Council because I believe effective professional regulation depends on thoughtful governance, public trust, evidence-informed decision-making and a clear commitment to protecting the public interest. I have practised dentistry in Ontario for more than 25 years and bring experience in clinical care, public health, scientific research, multi-site organizational leadership, professional education, and community service. My Master of Public Health in Health Policy and Management has shaped how I approach issues involving access, population health, policy and the broader health care system. As founder of National Dental Care Day, I have worked with dental clinics, municipalities, academic institutions, regulators and community organizations to improve access to oral health care for underserved Canadians. This experience has strengthened my ability to listen to different perspectives, build consensus, manage competing considerations and remain focused on a shared public-interest objective. My scientific and research background has reinforced the importance of critical analysis, questioning assumptions and making decisions based on evidence. Leading multiple dental practices has also provided extensive experience in financial oversight, risk management, human resources, strategic planning and organizational decision-making. My life and education across India, the United States and Canada have exposed me to different cultures, communities and health-care environments. These experiences have taught me to approach others with curiosity, respect and openness, and to consider how decisions may affect people differently. If elected, I would approach Council service with preparation, integrity, humility, independence of judgment and a commitment to placing the public interest ahead of personal or professional interests.