



Dr. Vageesh Sabharwal

I wish to bring to Council the many experiences and lessons gained over my two-and-a-half-decade career in dentistry -- perspectives that can contribute to effective governance, public protection and confidence in dental regulation. Dentistry has been more than my profession -- it has been a journey that has shaped how I lead, communicate, make decisions and serve my community. As a clinician, owner of multiple practices and leader of multiple dental teams, I understand firsthand the complexities of providing high-quality, ethical patient care in an evolving health-care environment. My experience has taught me that professional knowledge alone is not sufficient for good governance. Good governance requires sound judgement, financial literacy, analytical thinking, the willingness to ask difficult questions and the ability to listen carefully without prejudice. Managing diverse practices and dental teams has required me to make consequential decisions, resolve disagreements and build consensus among individuals with different perspectives. I have also served as President of the North Indian Medical and Dental Association of Canada, where I helped guide the organization through an important period of transition during its twenty-fifth anniversary year. That experience reinforced in my mind the value of respecting institutional heritage while remaining open and receptive to new ideas and changing times. I bring strong communication and public-speaking skills, an aptitude for quantitative modelling and financial analysis and a keen interest in public policy and health-care governance. Practising within the GTA's most diverse communities has allowed me to appreciate the varying circumstances and expectations patients bring to dental care. Experience and maturity, independence of thought and judgement, clear and effective communication, a collaborative consensus-building approach: these are the assets I would bring to Council. Above all, I recognize that effective professional regulation must place public interest and public protection at the centre of its decision-making, all the while sustaining public confidence in the regulation of dentistry.