

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association  
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## **LOCAL RESIDENT ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF THE ONTARIO DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION**

**Burlington, ON:** Rozina Bhimji, RRDH, a resident of Burlington, has been elected as the President of the Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association (ODHA), a not-for-profit organization with over 8,000 members. Her term of office is one year, effective May 26, 2023.

With 30 years of experience as a registered, self-initiated restorative dental hygienist, Rozina brings a wealth of clinical expertise and knowledge to her new role. Rozina began her career after completing the dental hygiene program at Algonquin College and furthered her education by obtaining a diploma in restorative dental hygiene from George Brown College in 1993. She was initially elected to the ODHA Board of Directors in 2017, representing Region F – Toronto area. Rozina has been volunteering for over three decades in her community, empowering many individuals to improve quality of life. She enjoys helping others and giving back to the community.

During her term as President, Rozina is excited to collaborate with the Board of Directors, a team of professionals committed to advancing the dental hygiene profession, promoting public awareness about the importance of oral health for overall well-being, and advocating for access to oral health care for all Ontarians. President Rozina aims to advocate to fulfill the mission and vision of ODHA.

As essential health care team members, dental hygienists play a crucial role in preventing oral diseases and promoting oral health. This positions dental hygiene as an integral part of Ontario's primary health care system.

Dental hygienists serve in various public and private health care settings. With over 300 independent dental hygiene clinics and mobile practices across the province, the public now has increased access to affordable dental hygiene services. This particularly benefits low-income families, the uninsured, individuals who are physically unable to visit a dental office, such as the sick or homebound, residents in long-term care homes, and those living in remote areas.

### **About Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association (ODHA)**

Established in 1963, the ODHA represents the interests and needs of dental hygienists in Ontario and is leading advocate for the dental hygiene profession.

Dental hygiene is one of the largest regulated health care professions in the province. In Ontario, all dental hygienists are registered with the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario, which regulates the profession to ensure the public receives safe and comprehensive oral health care.

**Photo Caption:** Rozina Bhimji, 2023-2024 ODHA President