



Fellow dentists,

Another year brings another opportunity to keep the voice of dentistry represented on the Washington Dental Service (WDS)/Delta Dental of Washington (DDWA) Boards of Directors. DDWA is rare among dental benefits carriers in having a substantial number of dentists serving as full voting board members, and as one of the four, I can assure you that we consistently bring the perspective of dentists, patients, and practices into the Board's decisions.

This year, I am running for reelection to a two-year term and would very much appreciate your positive vote. My goal is to continue using my voice, alongside Drs. Hakes, Maynard, and Pickel, to improve how WDS/DDWA works for our patients, our practices, and our profession. Below are several significant wins for dentists over the past four years, beginning with the most important.

- **Provider reimbursement:** With input from the Member Advisory Panel and Member Directors, the Provider Reimbursement Model has continued to evolve and improve since its inception, and the work to strengthen it will continue.

Since 2020, no fees have been reduced, and the most requested procedure codes will have increased an average of 20% when the 2027 increase takes effect in January. Participation also continues to grow, with 92% of eligible providers now participating in the PRM.

While Member Directors do not sit directly on the Provider Compensation Committee, we remain a consistent and trusted voice for the cost of running a dental office and challenging economics impacting our industry.

- **Workforce shortages:** Workforce training opportunities are expanding across the state because of the focused efforts of many partners, including DDWA's Board, and that progress is essential to supporting practices and patients.

The new dental hygiene program at Peninsula College is now a reality, with its first class beginning in fall 2026; I supported the approval of a grant to help launch this program and am encouraged by the continued pursuit of additional programs and expansions.

DDWA's legislative team is also supporting thoughtful policy changes that could expand the dental career ladder and help both practices and the patients we serve every day.



I fully support the Dental Careers Discovery Program that exposes students, often from underserved areas, to what working in dentistry is like and the opportunities it provides. This is real hands-on exposure and creates very positive responses while reaching more than 2000 youth annually.

Finally, as a Member Director, I'm very proud to have supported the WDS/DDWA investment in the state's second dental school, Pacific Northwest University School of Dental Medicine. As the second class has started, the inaugural class heads out to the three community clinics to move from simulators to real world delivery of care. Here in Tri Cities, Yakima Valley Farm Workers dental clinic has a waiting list of over a thousand patients wanting dental care, and the need is real.

- **Public Health Dedication:** WDS/DDWA continues to contribute significant resources to expand public health relating to oral and overall health. Through Arcora Foundation, we continue to support a wide range of community programs in under-resourced areas across the state.

I truly enjoy representing my profession on the Board of Directors at DDWA and would really appreciate a positive vote from you to continue to speak on our behalf in the board room. There are many issues that need the voices of dentists at the table, like we have now, and I hope to continue to be part of that voice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Bradshaw", written in a cursive style.

Dennis Bradshaw