

NORTH DAKOTA

Daniel Keith, President

Emerson Ehlis, Vice President

Jeremiah Danel, Secretary

North Dakota thanks **Dan Keith** for his years of service as North Dakota's director and wishes him the best as he steps in as the MSO Secretary-Treasurer.

The state has announced a second dental assisting and hygiene program will open in Minot, North Dakota. As is the case with many states, the dental assisting workforce supply of new graduates has not kept up with public needs in orthodontics and dentistry at large. This has been particularly the case in the western half of the state, which is geographically distanced from existing training programs. The new program in Minot fills a void for interested applicants that previously had to travel over 300 miles to the nearest training program. The assisting program is slated for opening in fall of 2023 and hygiene in 2024. The state dental association is currently working toward a third program with the goal of opening within the next five years.

Emerson Ehlis

Fargo, North Dakota