

**TO:** Council

**FROM:** Quality Assurance Committee

**DATE:** December 2 and 3, 2019

**SUBJECT:** 6.0 Proposed Changes to the Quality Assurance Program

## BRIEFING NOTE

☒ For Decision ☐ For Information ☐ Monitoring Report

### Purpose:

To review the Quality Assurance (QA) Committee's proposed changes to the current program.

### Background:

The College's current Quality Assurance program was developed and implemented in 2014. By the end of 2019, all opticians will have been selected to participate in the Competency Review and Evaluation (CRE) process at least once. The Committee has committed to conducting an evaluation of the current QA program to determine whether changes to the program are necessary.

At the October council meeting, the proposed changes<sup>1</sup> and transition plan were reviewed and approved for circulation for stakeholder feedback. The key changes can be summarized as follows:

Current Requirement	Proposed Requirement
4 accredited Contact Lens (CL) Hours 4 accredited Eyeglass (EG) Hours 8 Self Directed Hours pertaining to a goal	4 accredited Contact Lens (CL) Hours 4 accredited Eyeglass (EG) Hours 4 accredited Professional Growth (PG) Hours 4 Self Directed Hours ( <b>goal not required</b> )
Jurisprudence Chapter 1: Professional Boundaries and Sexual Abuse Prevention required once every three years.	Jurisprudence Chapter 1: Professional Boundaries and Sexual Abuse Prevention required once every three years <b>and</b> count as a Professional Growth activity.
Members with Refracting status to complete an additional 2 hours pertaining to EG/CL/RF	Members with Refracting status to complete an additional 2 hours pertaining to EG/CL/RF

The committee and council agreed that a transition plan for opticians would be necessary for 2020. The proposed transition plan would allow members to complete 8 self-directed hours or any combination of self-directed hours and accredited professional growth hours in 2020.

<sup>1</sup>For more information, please refer to Council materials regarding the QAC Program Review, [available here](#)

Members were invited to participate in an anonymous survey from October 17 through November 16, 2019. A total of 311 responses were received.

A highlight of the proposed changes was presented to members in attendance at the Ontario Opticians Association Specialty Symposium on October 20, 2019 and at the Academy of Ophthalmic Education October 27, 2019.

### **For Consideration**

On review of the stakeholder feedback at its meeting on November 19, 2019 the committee noted most of the feedback received was positive. In general, the majority of respondents indicated that they agreed or strongly agreed with the proposed changes to the Professional Portfolio requirements.

Graphs showing a tally of the responses received to the survey questions are attached.

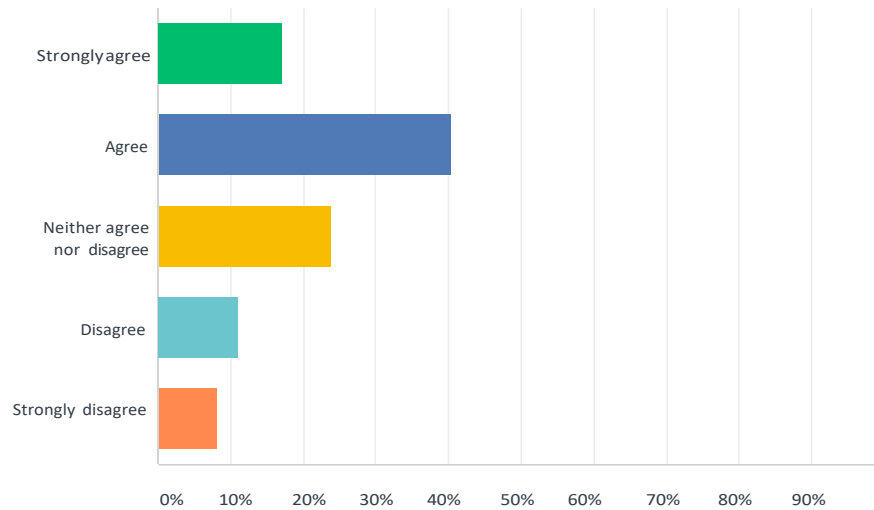
### **Recommendation/Action Required:**

That council approve the proposed changes to the Professional Portfolio requirements for 2020, as recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee.

### Responses to Stakeholder Feedback

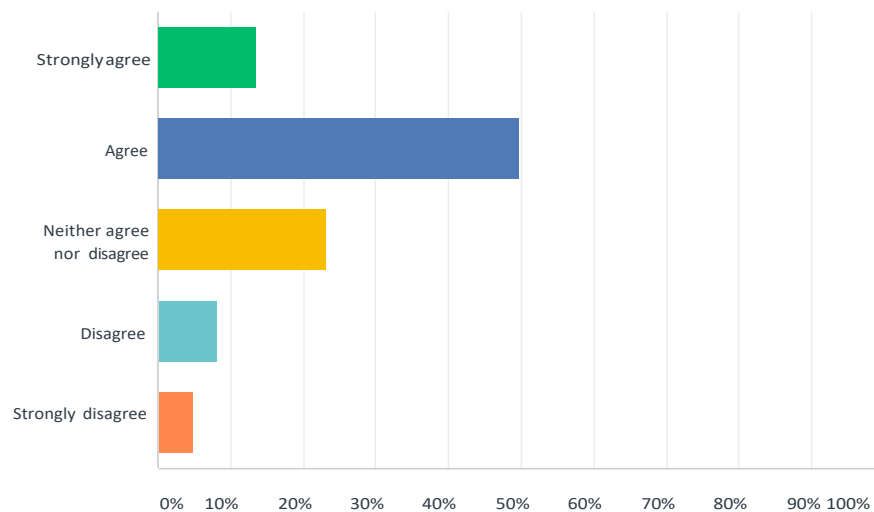
Q1 The College is proposing a new breakdown of 4 self-directed hours and 4 Professional Growth hours each year. Please rate your agreement with the proposed change.

Answered: 309 Skipped: 0



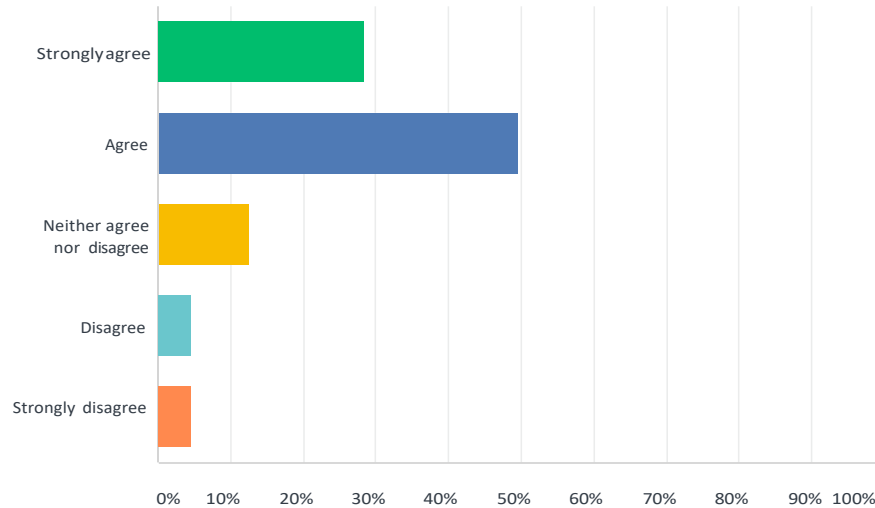
Q2 The learning topics covered in the Professional Growth CE Category will be of value to my continued professional development.

Answered: 309 Skipped: 0



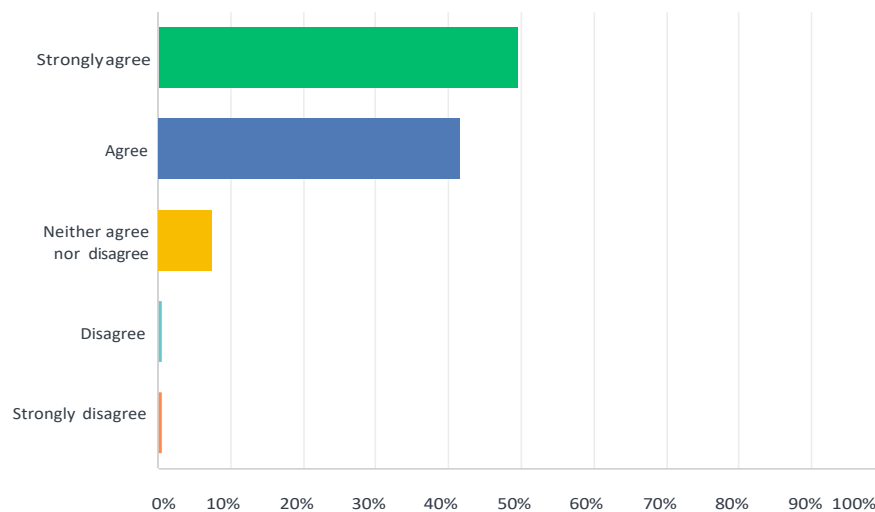
**Q3 The College is proposing including the Jurisprudence module as one of the 4 required Professional Growth hours the year in which it is completed. Please rate your agreement with the proposed change.**

Answered: 309 Skipped: 0



**Q4 Removing "Goal Setting" from Form 3 will allow more flexibility in completing the required unaccredited hours.**

Answered: 307 Skipped: 2



Q5 The proposed transition plan for completion of the 2020 portfolio is fair.

Answered: 309 Skipped: 0

