

REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

DATE: December 5 and 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Registrar's Report

Highlights:

- Remote Operations
- Government Relations and Pending Regulations
- MOH
 - College Performance Measurements Framework
 - Bill 106
- External Relations
- Elections
- Space Planning

Remote Operations:

The College continues to operate remotely with no impediment to timelines or workflow. Staff have now entered Phase 2 of our return to office program with a mandatory twice/week attendance by department to ease the return to office and promote collaboration.

Over and above the expected 2 days per week in-office attendance, staff are prepared to support the Board and its committees with any in-person meetings.

Again, we continue to monitor the environment for any uptake in COVID numbers as we approach the cooler indoor season. Staff continue to be consulted as we return to the office.

Government Relations and Pending Regulations:

Internal bi-weekly update meetings are being held with Counsel Government Relations. Counsel is actively following up on pending regulation updates as well as monitoring the landscape for possible governance and regulatory model changes.

The Registrar had a conversation with Allison Henry of the MOH regarding the Registration Regulation to resolve any points that may be holding up the approval of the regulation. This was a positive conversation pointing to a possible 2023 release of the amendments to our Registration Regulation.

Ministry of Health:

College Performance Measurements Framework (CPMF)

The Ministry has released the latest template of the CPMF reporting framework and has started meeting with Colleges on a one on one basis to review results of the 2021 report and looking forward to the 2022 reporting cycle.

Bill 106 – Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness Act, 2022

On April 14, 2022, the Ontario government enacted Bill 106, the Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness Act, 2022. Bill 106 amended the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA) to add new requirements to the Health Professions Procedural Code (Code) and to grant the power for the government to pass further regulations relating to:

- Language proficiency requirements
- Canadian experience requirements
- Time limits for registration decisions
- The establishment of an emergency class of registration

Now that this has come into effect, the staff have been exploring impacts on application processes, timelines and impacts on staffing.

External Relations:

The Fall has been busy with external in-person events for the College. As organizations begin to return to in-person for events, the College has been invited to participate in speaking engagements, trade shows and national events. This includes:

October 2nd: Ontario Opticians Association AGM-Virtual speaking invitation. The College presented a Regulatory Update with a large focus on practice advice to an audience of approximately 250 online attendees. Feedback was excellent.

October 16th: AOE Optifair, trade show booth and speaking initiation. The Registrar and Deputy Registrar co-presented the Regulatory Update at this live event of approximately 400 in-person attendees. The College also had a booth at the event which was well attended by registrants. Several Public appointees of the College attended the event to learn more about the industry.

October 21-23: COO Examinations. A large group of approximately 140 candidates was run successfully at Georgian College in Barrie. This is the first time since the pandemic that the College has returned to Georgian College. The College will be holding a bilingual exam in Ottawa on the 20th of November.

October 25-26: CNAR Symposium. The Deputy Registrar and Manager of Conduct attended the Canadian National Association of Regulators show on behalf of the College. There were several excellent regulatory topics/trends and the event provided an opportunity to network with other regulatory partners.

November 5th/6th: Ontario Opticians Association student night and trade show. The Registrar and Manager of Registration attended the Association's student event on November 5th followed by the CE event and tradeshow on November 6th. The student event was an excellent opportunity to engage with future opticians. There was a large number of international students who attended the event and were able to learn about the College. The tradeshow was extremely well attended with over 450 opticians present and several visitors to the College booth.

November 16-17: NACOR National meetings in Toronto. The Chair, Vice Chair, Registrar and Deputy Registrar attended the national meetings which were held for the first time since the pandemic in-person in Toronto. November 16th was the regular NACOR meeting day where the College participated in a day long collaborative session with other regulators from across Canada. The College assisted in organizing a Profession Round Table which was held on November 17th. Attendees included regulators, educators, associations, and industry members from across Canada. This was a facilitated session with over 60 attendees who participated. Further details can be found in the NACOR Report.

Elections

The nominations and elections session have concluded for District 4 (Western), District 6 (Ontario/Contact Lens Mentor) and District 7 (Central Western). The Screening Committee has completed the screening of all eligible candidates. District 4 and 6 have been acclaimed and District 7 had an election that closed October 28th. All of those who are acclaimed and/or elected will start their term January 1, 2023, for a three-year period.

District 4 (Western)—Acclaimed. Ms. Tonya Nahmabin (currently held by Mr. Mike Smart).

District 6 (Ontario/Contact Lens Mentor)—Acclaimed. Mr. Rob Vezina (currently held by Ms. Amber Fournier).

District 7 (Central Western)—Re-Elected, Mr. Samir Modhera

Space Planning

The College administration team has been engaged in high level meetings to explore the possibility of space sharing with some Colleges that have moved to a permanent virtual operation and may be looking for occasional use of facilities. Several models are being explored. While the College lease still has approximately 5 more years left, the College administration team is actively exploring all options.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fazal Khan, RO
CEO, Registrar