

REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

DATE: March 4, 2024

SUBJECT: Registrar's Report

Highlights:

- Government Relations and Approved/Pending Regulations
- Examinations Update
- External Relations
 - Event dates
- Collaboration Efforts

Government Relations and Approved/Pending Regulations:

The College's Registration Regulation has now received formal government approval and will be coming into force on July 1, 2024. Work is already underway to implement all the policies and processes necessary to support the new regulation and to communicate the upcoming changes to applicants, registrants, and other affected system partners.

We are continuing to work with the Ministry of Health, with the support of Counsel Public Affairs, to move pending amendments to the Professional Misconduct regulation forward. The College also asked that consideration be given to our request for an exemption for Spousal Treatment.

Examinations Update

The College has entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Alliance of Canadian Opticianry Regulators (NACOR) with respect to national examinations for opticians. Going forward, NACOR will be taking over full administration of the national examinations in Ontario, on behalf of the College. COO will continue to work collaboratively with NACOR during the transition period and beyond to ensure exams are timely, fair, and held to a high standard.

External Relations:

The College expects to have a busy season of external events this Spring. The College has been invited to participate in the following speaking engagements, trade shows and national events:

February 23rd: Georgian College Student presentation

March 24, 2024: AOE CE Day and Tradeshow.

March 25, 2024: Seneca Student Event

April 21, 2024: Ontario Opticians Association (OOA) CE Event and Tradeshow

May 1 & 2, 2024: NACOR national regulatory meeting (Halifax)

May 4-6, 2024: Registration Exams, Toronto

June 23, 2024: OOA CE Event and Tradeshow-Sudbury

With the approval of the amended Registration Regulation, the College will be conducting several webinars and social media campaign to educate our registrants and community partners with respect to the impact of the changes to them. The College will leverage the Ontario Opticians Association's multiple city road show that will include London, Sudbury, and Ottawa to spread awareness of pending changes to the incoming Registration Regulation.

Collaboration Efforts

The COO has partnered with the College of Optometrists on a strategic initiative to engage the Indigenous community. The engagement project is moving forward, and a facilitated discussion will be taking place in March to gauge considerations for a standard of practice on Cultural Safety and Humility which would guide both professions. This collaborative effort will not only result in costs sharing, but it is also aimed at developing aligned standards which would benefit both professions and ultimately the patient.

The COO is continuing to explore space sharing opportunities with the College of Respiratory Therapists. Dependent on the number of days and the number of partners, the College could realize premises cost savings of 20-40%. As part of the project, the College will incur some startup costs in the way of equipment upgrades at workstations as well as some cosmetic alterations to reflect a joint premises.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fazal Khan, RO
CEO, Registrar