

REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

DATE: September 23-24, 2024

SUBJECT: Registrar's Report

Highlights:

- Government Relations and Approved Regulations
- New Ministry of Health reporting requirements
- Staffing
- External Relations
 - Event dates
- Collaboration Efforts
- Space Sharing Initiative
- Summer Policy and Administrative Work

Government Relations and Approved Regulations:

With both the updated Registration & Exams Regulation as well as the Professional Misconduct Regulations coming into effect on July 1st of this year, the College has spent considerable time in informing the required stakeholders as well as creating supporting information for the website and social media platforms.

Several policies are being reviewed to align with regulation changes. The College has seen an increase in the number of calls and emails received by registrants who are currently suspended and/or retired as the new regulation requires revoking opticians suspended over three years. Options such as the new Inactive Class are being shared with these registrants as they decide how to proceed.

We are continuing to work with the Ministry of Health, with the support of Counsel Public Affairs, for our request for an exemption for Spousal Treatment.

New Ministry of Health Reporting Requirements

The Ministry of Health has implemented new quarterly registration reporting requirements as of July 2024. Required data includes the following statistics for Ontario Educated Applicants, Labour Mobility Applicants, Canadian Educated Applicants and Internationally Educated Applicants:

- Submitted Applications
- Registrations Issued

- Average Number of Days from Submitted Application to Registration
- Applications Denied
- Average Number of Days from Submitted Application to Denial
- Applications Pending Decision

These quarterly reports are required over and above the annual Health Professions Data Base report (HPDB), the College Performance Measurements Framework report (CPMF) and the annual Office of the Fairness Commissioner report (OFC).

Staffing:

Ms. Blessing Adebimpe has joined the administrative team to provide maternity leave relief for Ms. Fizza Asad in our accounting department. Ms. Raj Bhatti has returned from her leave and Ms. Emma Brooks, Senior Coordinator Registration, is on leave till September. As we approach our 2025 strategic planning session, the College will once again be bringing on a research student on contract to assist with planning and research.

External Relations:

Typically, the summer is a quieter season for the College with regards to external events and activity ramps up in the fall. Below is a list of events attended since the last report as well as upcoming events in the fall:

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

August 20, 2024: Durham Region Low Income Seniors Healthcare Fair

September 15, 2024: OOA CE Show Ottawa

October 6, 2024: OOA CE Show London

October 7-8, 2024: CNAR Regulatory Symposium, Ottawa

October 9, 2024: National Meetings, Ottawa

November 2, 2024: OOA Student Night

November 3, 2024: OOA CE Show Toronto



OOA CE Event and Tradeshow-Ottawa

The College will leverage the Ontario Opticians Association’s multiple city road show that will include London, Sudbury, and Ottawa to spread awareness of changes to the incoming Registration Regulation as well as the Professional Misconduct Regulation.



OOA CE Event and Tradeshow-Sudbury

The Sudbury OOA event provided an excellent opportunity to meet with our registrants from the northern regions of the province as well as interact with some members of the public as the event was held at Science North in Sudbury. The Ottawa OOA event had an excellent turn out as well, giving the College a chance to connect with registrants from the eastern region of Ontario. The OOA provided live translation service during our presentation to accommodate French speaking opticians.

Durham Region Low-Income Seniors Healthcare Fair:



Durham Region Low Income Seniors Healthcare Fair

The Registrar and Deputy Registrar represented the College at a low-income senior's health event hosted by the Region of Durham. Representatives from Service Canada and the Oral Health team from Durham Public Health were also present. Ms. Shan Khan, RO along with 2 student opticians conducted an eyewear clinic where over 30 low-income seniors with no eyewear benefits were provided free eyeglasses. Public facing information on the role of opticians and the College was distributed at the College booth. The Region of Durham was grateful for the clinic put on by Ms. Khan and for the College's participation in their health education day.

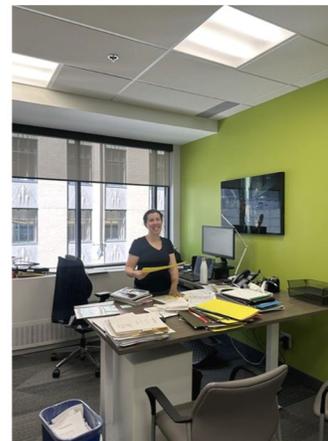
Collaboration Efforts

The COO and the College of Optometrists have received a summary report based on information gathered at facilitated meetings on March 21st and April 26th with several members of the Indigenous community to better understand the challenges and experiences this community has faced as patients seeking eye care. This project is a cornerstone of the College's strategic initiative around diversity, equity, and inclusion with an end goal of developing a standard of practice which guides the registrants regarding Cultural Safety and Humility. This collaborative effort has not only resulted in cost sharing, but it is also aimed at developing aligned standards which would benefit both professions and ultimately the patient.

Both Colleges are working together to determine next steps to act upon the information gathered.

Space Sharing Initiative:

The COO is finalizing a space sharing contract with the College of Respiratory Therapists who are expected to move in as of October 1, 2024. In preparation for the co-sharing arrangement, the COO has undertaken considerable efforts internally including facilitation of CRTO internet and printer infrastructure, ensuring adequate protection of COO data systems, conversion of workstations to hoteling stations that will allow either team to access stations equipped with multiple monitors and peripherals, updating corporate signage, installation of storage lockers for the new tenant as well as purging and sending unneeded paper files for storage. File storage has been a large effort as the last major filing project was undertaken in 2017 when the College moved premises. Preparations are on



Staff hard at work on filing day to get ready to share the space.

track for the CRTO move-in in October.

Summer Policy and Administrative Work:

While there are typically minimal committee meetings over the summer, the Clinical Practice Committee has met several times to work through a full Standards review. Background work to support reviewing the Board and Committee Honorarium Policy review was completed to come to the Finance committee and Board in the fall. Several meetings were conducted with our social media support vendor to plan for creating several short videos around practice advice as well as supporting our national efforts for promoting the PLAR process.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fazal Khan, RO
CEO, Registrar