

REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

DATE: December 8, 2020

SUBJECT: Registrar's Report

Highlights:

- Registration Exams
- Physical Premises
- Remote Operations
- External Relations
 - Collaboration with other Regulators
 - External Events
 - Optometry Job Action
 - MOH Meeting re CPMF
- Georgian College Advisory Meeting
- Board and staff member update

Registration Examinations:

With the cancellation of the Spring Exam session and the Georgian College campus not being available to host the fall examinations session, the fall exam session was held at Seneca College. To ensure proper social distancing and to observe on-campus safety requirements, the College extended the normal session from 2 days to 5 days and processed smaller groups of candidates. Extensive measures were taken including creating PPE kits for all instructors and having ample hand sanitization stations provided. Approximately 100 candidates were processed and we received very positive feedback from the team, examiners and candidates.

Physical Premises:

The College office is equipped with hand sanitization dispensers throughout the office and the office has had 2 HEPA air filtration units installed. The College is in the process of installing higher cubicle separators in the staff area for added safety precautions.

Remote Operations:

The College continues to operate remotely with no impediment to timelines or workflow. Return to office protocols are complete and the staff are adhering to social distancing requirements when coming in to the office.

External Relations:*Collaboration with Regulators and Other Stakeholders:*

The College staff continue to participate in regular board meetings of HPRO - Health Professions Regulators of Ontario (formerly FHRCO) with the current focus on the pandemic and coordinating with the Ministry of Health.

With impending release of the College Performance Measurements Framework from the Ministry of Health, the College is working with a collaborative working group of approximately 10 other colleges to combine resources to effectively take on the new requirements from the MOH.

External Events:

- The College participated in two Continuing Education seminars. The Ontario Opticians Association was held October 18th and the Academy of Ophthalmic Education event was on November 15th. The College's presentation was accredited for 1 PG (personal growth) hour of learning.
- The College attended the Georgian College Advisory Meeting on October 27th.
- The NACOR meetings will be held November 26th.
- The College Chair, Registrar and Deputy Registrar met with the MOH regarding the implementation of the College Performance Measurements Framework (CPMF). The College's initial submission was well received with feedback given from the MOH team.

Optometry Job Action:

The Optometry Association of Ontario (OAO) commenced a 'Job Action' program in an effort to start a dialogue with the Ministry of Health over funding concerns under the OHIP program. Currently children up to age 19 and seniors over the age of 64 are covered under OHIP for eye examinations this past spring. Under the job action, patients in these two groups are being directed to emergency rooms for eye care or are facing delayed availability whereas patients who are paying directly for their eye exam are being seen much more quickly. With the surge in cases of COVID19, the Association has suspended the job action.

Georgian College Advisory Committee Meeting

The College was invited to attend the Georgian College Advisory Committee meeting on October 27th. The College updated the committee on policy changes to assist students in attaining their practical fittings to fulfill registration requirements. The changes were well received by the committee but there was some concern expressed by the school that it would not be able to leverage some of the peer to peer opportunities with capacity issues on their end.

Student committee members expressed concern regarding difficulties in acquiring field placement during the pandemic and welcomed the efforts put forth by the COO. Georgian faculty updated the committee that new refracting equipment had been installed and that program updates were in place to meet new regulatory competency requirements.

Board Member and Staffing Update

The Office of the Public Secretariat has re-appointed Ms. Diana Bristow for a three-year term ending in November 2023.

Nominations and elections are complete for District 1, 5 and 8. The results are as follows:

District 1 (Southern)
Current incumbent- Mr. Ed Viveiros
Acclaimed for 2021-2023 Ms. Elsa Lee

District 5 (Toronto)
Current incumbent Ms. Dorina Reiz
Elected for 2021-2023 term, Ms. Dorina Reiz

District 8 (Central)
Current incumbent Ms. Neda Mohammadzadeh
Acclaimed for 2021-2023 Ms. Neda Mohammadzadeh

At the staff level, Ms. Melanie Woodbeck is now on maternity leave and Ms. Amy Stein is our Acting Deputy Registrar.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fazal Khan, RO
Registrar, CEO