

BRIEFING NOTE

TO: Council

FROM: Standards of Practice Ad Hoc Committee

DATE: December 2 and 3, 2019

SUBJECT: 16.0 Draft Standards of Professional Practice

☒ For Decision

☐ For Information

☐ Monitoring Report

Purpose:

To review proposed updates to the Standards of Practice following stakeholder consultation.

Background:

In 2018, the College struck an ad-hoc Standards of Practice Committee to conduct a fulsome review of the College's Standards of Practice and the accompanying guidelines.

Council approved proposed updates to the Draft Standards of Practice be circulated for stakeholder feedback at the October 7, 2019 council meeting. Council also provided feedback at the meeting on some of the proposed updates.

From October 17 through November 16, registrants and other industry stakeholders were invited to participate in an anonymous survey regarding the proposed updates. A total of 147 responses were received. The committee considered the feedback at their meeting November 20, 2019.

A highlight of the proposed updates 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.

The Standards of Practice were also put before the Citizen's Advisory Group (CAG) for their feedback at a meeting that took place on November 2, 2019. The CAG is made up of patients from across Ontario who meet in small groups of 10-15 participants for facilitated discussions on issues put forward by various health regulatory colleges.

The CAG expressed overall positive feedback for the proposed updates, noting that they felt that they would protect the public very well. The group gave particularly positive feedback on the delivery and telepractice guidelines, which they identified as "progressive" and a "bold

step” by the College. The group also expressed that they felt it was important for there to be alignment between this College and other jurisdictions, or other Ontario colleges. After considering some of the potential risks, such as challenges for first-time progressive eyeglass wearers, the majority of group members were strongly in favour of the College moving forward with the proposed changes (11 in favour, 0 opposed, 1 unsure).

For Consideration:

A summary of the feedback received from registrants and other stakeholders is attached as **Appendix A**. The chart also provides a summary of the further changes that the Committee has proposed to the Draft Standards of Practice in light of that feedback.

A full draft with changes tracked, and new proposed changes highlighted in yellow, can be viewed at **Appendix B**.

For a clean copy, please refer to **Appendix C**.

Recommendations/Action Required:

That council review and approve the proposed updates to the Draft Standard of Practice and Practice Guidelines.