

REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

DATE: June 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Registrar's Report

Highlights:

- Government Relations
 - Regulations
 - Pending legislation: As of Right
- Staffing
- Special Projects
- External Relations
 - Event dates
- Collaboration Efforts

Government Relations:

Regulations

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. The Ministry was in contact with us during the first week of January to discuss possible in-force dates for the new regulation. This likely indicates final stages for the new regulation.

Pending Legislation

The provincial government, as part of its initiatives to reduce internal trade barriers has tabled an expansion of the As of Right legislation that initially came into effect in 2023, impacting physicians, nurses, medical technologists and respiratory therapists working in a hospital setting. The ministry opened a condensed 6-day consultation period to seek input around the expansion of this legislation to several other regulators in Ontario including our college and the College of Optometrists. While details are pending, the concept allows for registrants in good standing in their home jurisdiction to enter Ontario and begin practicing immediately while their applicant in Ontario is pending approval.

As the consultation period was truncated, the administrative team at the College made a submission

prior to the deadline, flagging some logistical concerns, possible unintended consequences and reiterating the importance of safety measures such as registrants holding professional liability insurance that is valid in Ontario. We are working with our government relations firm as well as through the GR firm contracted by HPRO to monitor progress on this legislation.

Staffing:

Ms. Anna Jeremian, Director of the Registration Committee moved on from the College at the end of April. After an extensive search, we are pleased to announce that Ms. Stephanie Jung will be joining the team as of June 9th as our new Director of Registration. We look forward to the new addition to the team.

Special Projects:

The College, in partnership with NACOR, co-hosted another successful Industry Round Table on May 8th. The team worked tirelessly for the past 18 months to organize and execute the day that brought together members of the optical community including participants from across the country including regulators, educators, industry and associations. Data was collected and shared regarding enrollment and licensure trends. Most notably, the round table participants were given a presentation around a public awareness program targeted both domestically and nationally to educate potential applicants on the various pathways to licensure. A series of videos and infographics were shared with the group in hopes of gaining financial support to help disseminate the content through a series of media purchases in target markets.

External Relations:

Below is a list of events attended/engaged in since the last report as well as upcoming events leading into the summer:

March 23, 2025: AOE Trade Show, Markham
April 3, 2025: HPRO Board Meeting
April 6, 2025: OOA Trade Show, Richmond Hill
April 15, 2025: NACOR virtual meeting
April 28, 2025: Free Registrant DEI Webinar
May 6, 2025: COO Elections Info Webinar
May 8, 2025: Industry Round Table, Toronto
May 15, 2025: Seneca Program Advisory Committee meeting
June 22, 2025: OOA Trade Show, Sudbury

Collaboration Efforts

Aside from the above-mentioned Industry Round Table, held May 8th that saw the College bring together system partners from all four corners of the profession at a national level, the College continues to collaborate provincially with other regulatory partners.

The College, in partnership with the College of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists, co-hosted its second of two free DEI education events on April 28th.

The College hosted a joint Facilitative Chair training session on Monday May 5th at the College office. Hosting a private session at the office allowed a savings of almost 50% over individual colleges sending their board members for training to a public session.

Fazal Khan, RO

Registrar, CEO