

TO: Council

FROM: Registration Committee

DATE: May 28, 2019

SUBJECT: 19.1 Currency Policy

Purpose: To advise Council on the Registration Committee's progress on developing a currency policy which would be implemented when the new Registration Regulation comes into force.

Background: The College of Opticians of Ontario (the College) is currently seeking significant changes to its Registration Regulation. One of the proposed changes is to establish a "currency" requirement for all practising opticians. The draft regulation would require all opticians in the "registered optician" class of registration to demonstrate, each year, that they have practised opticianry in the previous three years. An optician who is not actively practising will be permitted to register in the "inactive" registration class.

The draft regulation allows details about the currency requirement to be set out in policy. The currency policy should set out what currency means (e.g., whether it requires a certain number of practice hours or a certain number of fits, or something else) and what evidence of currency must be shown (e.g., a declaration on an annual renewal form).

A currency policy needs to be set before the new Registration Regulation can be enacted.

The Registration Committee is of the view that a consultation would be appropriate to help set the requirements for a currency policy. Staff has conducted an initial environmental scan and literature review.

Registration Committee intends to continue to research and consult on this issue in the coming months.

For information only.