

## BRIEFING NOTE

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Executive Committee

**DATE:** July 27, 2020

**SUBJECT:** 5.0 Registration Fee By-Law Amendment

☒ For Decision

☐ For Information

☐ Monitoring Report

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### Purpose:

To consider the preliminary feedback of the stakeholder consultation regarding the proposed by-law amendment to reduce the 2021 Optician renewal fee in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Background:

At its meeting of May 11, the Board considered five potential options for registration fee relief in order to stimulate registrant renewal to ensure an ongoing supply of opticians to meet patient needs and to offset the impact of COVID-19 on registrants.<sup>1</sup>

The options considered included:

- 1) Issuing a fee rebate in 2020
- 2) Reducing registration fees for the 2021 renewal period
- 3) Deferring payment of 2021 renewal fees
- 4) Payment installments for 2021 renewal fees
- 5) Extending the 60-day late renewal period

The Board considered the Executive Committee's recommendation (option 2) to reduce the 2021 registration by \$200. The Board supported the recommendation and approved the proposed fee by-law amendment (s. 5.2) for 60-day stakeholder circulation. The Board further agreed to consider whether to restrict the fee reduction to 2020 registrants at the July meeting.

### For Consideration:

The preliminary results of the fee by-law stakeholder feedback are attached as **APPENDIX A**. As at July 15, 457 opticians have provided feedback. The consultation remains open until July 22.<sup>2</sup> The preliminary feedback was reviewed by the Executive Committee at its meeting on July 6, 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> To review the full materials and briefing note from the May 11 Board Meeting, [click here](#).

<sup>2</sup> Final survey results will be circulated following July 22. **458 Responses recieved, See**

### APPENDIX B.

### *Consideration 1: Potential effectiveness of the proposed initiative*

In terms of whether the initiative would serve its intended purpose, almost half (45.6%) of respondents indicated that the fee reduction would make them more likely to renew; while the other half (47.69%) indicated that the fee reduction does not impact their decision to renew. This feedback suggests that, overall, the initiative would likely be helpful in stimulating renewal in 2021.

Some registrants indicated that their fees are paid by employers. While a fee reduction would not impact some ROs directly, it may potentially provide relief to employers. This may have a trickle-down effect of improving the ability of employers to staff opticians, which would in turn, improve access to services for patients.

*Executive Committee Recommendation: To proceed with a fee reduction in 2021.*

### *Consideration 2: Amount of Reduction*

Based on the initial feedback, most respondents agreed with a fee reduction (88.25%), while others felt the amount of the reduction should be increased.

The College has financial reserves it can draw on to allow for business continuity while reducing the burden on registrants and patients. It should be noted that increasing the amount of the fee reduction would also increase the length of time needed to replenish the College's general reserve fund would increase, as below. It is important to note that any reduction beyond 25% would come close to depleting the general reserve fund for the College.

<b>2021 Adjustment % (\$992)</b>	<b>Discounted Amount</b>	<b>Approximate Total Deficit (n=3000)</b>	<b>Approx. Time Required to Replenish Reserve<sup>3</sup></b>
10%	\$ 99.20	\$297,600	2022
15%	\$148.80	\$446,400	2022 - 2023
20%	\$198.40	\$595,200	2023
25%	\$248.00	\$744,000	2023 - 2024
30%	\$297.60	\$892,800	2024

*Executive Committee Recommendation: Based on the feedback from opticians, however, the Executive Committee recommends that the board may wish to consider whether recommending that increase the reduction to \$250 (25.2%).*

### *Consideration 3: Eligibility for Fee Reduction*

The board indicated that it would consider whether to limit the fee reduction to 2020 registrants only, since these registrants were prohibited from practicing due to COVID-19.

<sup>3</sup> Assumes no program or project cuts

When asked whether opticians who were not registered in 2020 should be eligible for the reduced fee in 2021, the majority (46.99%) felt it should apply to all who wish to register in 2021; 28.70% said it should not apply and 24.31% were unsure.

From a technology perspective, it is possible to separate those who were/were not registered as ROs in 2020 and charge separate fees. Additional considerations include:

- To varying degrees, all have been affected by COVID-19. Those who did not renew in 2020 may have done so related to parental or sick leaves, or other personal reasons, and may still face barriers to 2021 renewal.
- Should new registrants be excluded from the fee reduction, this would also bar current intern opticians from accessing a fee reduction next year. In 2020, intern opticians have had practice restrictions imposed on them, had have faced delays in completing practicums, completing the national examinations, and becoming registered as ROs.
- The intention of the proposed fee reduction is to ensure ongoing patient access to opticianry services by stimulating RO renewal at current or greater levels. As suggested by the survey results, a fee reduction is a potentially a positive incentive to renewal. Allowing universal access to the fee reduction to all those ROs who wish to renew in 2021 may help to stimulate renewal and achieve the objective of ongoing supply of ROs who are able to provide services to patients.

*Executive Committee Recommendation: To apply the fee reduction to all opticians registering or renewing their registration in 2021.*

#### **Public Interest Consideration:**

Due to COVID-19, patients have been unable to access opticianry services for many months. Although opticians have now returned to practice, while the pandemic persists, many patients have chosen to continue to delay visits to optical dispensaries. The precautions necessary to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 may also serve to reduce the number of patients opticians can provide services to in a day. In short, opticians have faced significant hardship from the inability to practice and the reduction in patient visits, which could have unintended negative consequences for patients.

From a public interest perspective, it is important that patients have continued access to an adequate number of Registered Opticians in 2021, and that the 2021 College registration fee does not put an undue burden on Opticians and by extension, their patients.

#### **Recommendation:**

To approve the following by-law amendment to reduce registration fees by \$250 for Registered Opticians in 2021, as recommended by the Executive Committee.

## Proposed By-Law Amendment

### Current Language:

#### 5.2 Registration Fees

##### (a) Annual Registration Fees

Class	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Registered Optician	\$877	\$899	\$921	\$944	\$968	\$992
Registered Intern Optician	\$129	\$132	\$136	\$139	\$142	\$146
Registered Student Optician	\$129	\$132	\$136	\$139	\$142	\$146

### Proposed Language:

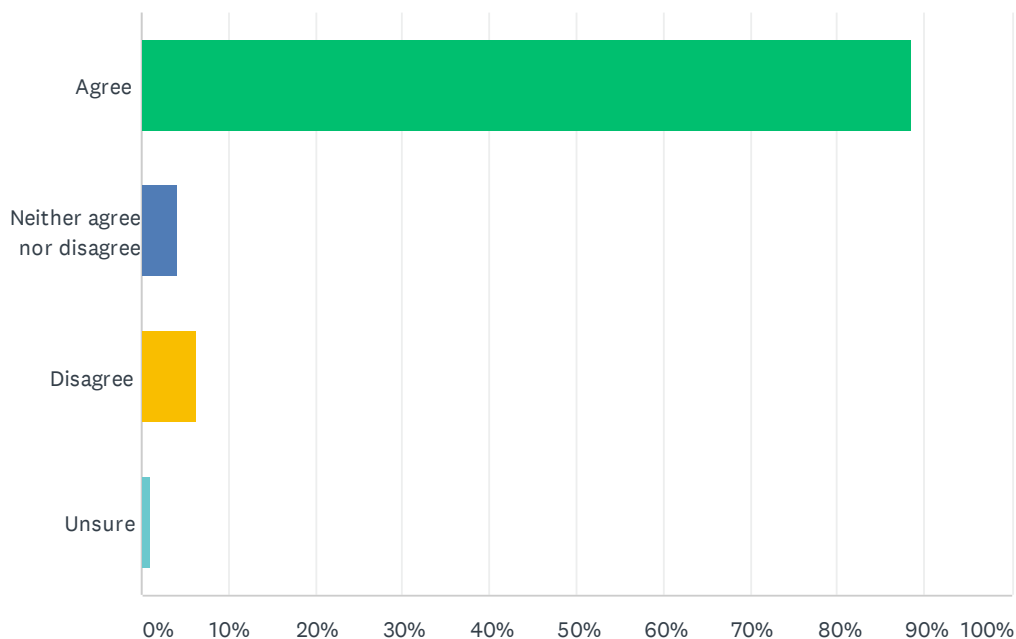
#### 5.2 Registration Fees

##### (a) Annual Registration Fees

Class	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Registered Optician	\$877	\$899	\$921	\$944	\$968	\$742
Registered Intern Optician	\$129	\$132	\$136	\$139	\$142	\$146
Registered Student Optician	\$129	\$132	\$136	\$139	\$142	\$146

# Q1 Do you agree with the College's proposal to reduce the 2021 annual fee for Registered Opticians from \$992 to \$792?

Answered: 457 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	88.40%	404
Neither agree nor disagree	4.16%	19
Disagree	6.35%	29
Unsure	1.09%	5
TOTAL		457

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	I am unclear as to how this will benefit the members, or the college. My hope is that during the pandemic the College will find great efficiencies that will reduce our member fees consistently, and by at least 30%.	6/24/2020 4:08 PM
2	I wish college could reduce more than \$200 reduction as if you split the 992.00 in 12 months= 82.66 \$ and see how many months we are not having to earn, then at least we should get a reduction for 5 months, which the reduction should be $5 \times 82.00 = 413.00$ \$ should be considered for reduction.	6/24/2020 8:06 AM
3	$992:12=82.7$ / month. So far opticians have not been practicing for 4months. So simple math $82.7 \times 4=330.80$ This should be the fair reduction of the fee.	6/22/2020 11:43 PM
4	It's already astronomical high and technically should be more of a deduction as most of us were not able to work for almost 12 weeks.	6/22/2020 8:56 AM
5	Yes, because of reduced hours, the fee should also be reduced.	6/21/2020 9:34 AM
6	I think we should deduct 30% since we already out of work for almost 3 months, our registration fee is quite expensive for us in this situation. Compared to other registry's, our registration fee is higher, even just compared to College of Optometrists, but they make way more money than Opticians.	6/20/2020 10:42 PM
7	Considering that a large number of opticians , such as myself, are still laid off and are receiving little to no income for the last 3 months +, I think the fee should be waived completely for this year and due to the strain both financially and personally we should not be penalized for not having portfolio completed this year.	6/20/2020 10:30 AM
8	I agree but a more substantial decrease would have been appreciated. Like a \$400 decrease min.	6/20/2020 10:04 AM
9	Yes, I think this will help maintain ROs in the coming year.	6/20/2020 9:50 AM
10	I am of the opinion that the reduction does not go far enough. A 50% reduction would be more appropriate considering the loss of income	6/20/2020 12:41 AM
11	Thank you for reducing renewal fee.	6/19/2020 4:36 PM
12	I agree as many of us were no practicing for several months.	6/19/2020 4:16 PM
13	I totally agree especially since I am an independent and funds are just not there.	6/19/2020 10:41 AM
14	Yes. It's been too high for too long	6/19/2020 10:37 AM
15	it could be even less.	6/19/2020 12:53 AM
16	N/a	6/18/2020 11:12 PM
17	makes sense since many did not/could not work during shutdown	6/18/2020 9:49 PM
18	Most opticians in Canada were off work for three months, it would make sense to me if the deduction reflected the three months that we were unable to practise...	6/18/2020 9:19 PM
19	That is a lot more reasonable, we aren't all made of gold.	6/18/2020 8:52 PM
20	my employer pays for my licensing fee, if we get credit towards seminar as an option to choose would be better. thank you	6/18/2020 8:50 PM
21	It should be reduced more	6/18/2020 6:36 PM
22	It is still a lot of money after GST. we have lost almost half a year income due to covid.	6/18/2020 5:57 PM
23	Yes I believe this is necessary!	6/18/2020 5:55 PM
24	We need every bit of help we can get financially! Thanks	6/18/2020 5:07 PM
25	Would be very beneficial. Thank you	6/18/2020 4:46 PM
26	I believe it should be reduced by more to help offset the financial burden that we all will pass through in this post Covid economy	6/18/2020 4:14 PM
27	It should be way less and on a permanent basis! Even registered nurses pay a waaaaaay	6/18/2020 4:08 PM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

	smaller registration fee	
28	Appreciate the thought put into this as we are all suffering financial loss from this pandemic.	6/18/2020 4:05 PM
29	It should be reduced by at least 50%	6/18/2020 4:04 PM
30	Reduction of fees should be a pro-rated amount based on the time frame that Opticians were mandated to reduce practice to emergency only. In Ontario, that equates to roughly 3 months, or about 25 percent of the year. This equals closer to \$250 in fee reduction.	6/18/2020 3:53 PM
31	Reduction should be 25% since many were unable to work for 3 months (25% of the year)	6/18/2020 3:51 PM
32	I think it should be reduced more	6/18/2020 3:50 PM
33	It should be permanently reduced and even less for those who are unemployed	6/18/2020 3:48 PM
34	Thank you! this will really help given that my bi-weekly after tax income has been reduced for 3 months now.	6/14/2020 5:51 PM
35	As my opinion, the payment that we did in year of 2020 should be reduced because many of dispensaries and business closed down, it is not fair for optician to pay fully amount of 2020 cause of COVID-19.	5/28/2020 3:29 PM
36	I think that's a great idea. Comparing our fees to other professorial earning a lot more then us I feel it has been way to high for a long time.	5/28/2020 10:17 AM
37	But, however, it should have a higher reduction . In light of this covid-19 pandemic, 50% amount would have been more sensible.	5/27/2020 9:29 PM
38	Thank you :-)	5/27/2020 6:10 PM
39	grateful College can do that during this time	5/27/2020 4:05 PM
40	For many opticians either they are out of work or theirs hours have been reduced quite a bit, so this decrease in fees will help.	5/27/2020 1:59 PM
41	Thank you for giving us a break on our fees.	5/27/2020 11:36 AM
42	Times are hard with the cost of everything going up, and a reduced renewal fee will be helpful	5/27/2020 11:21 AM
43	This is not a frod but this is not a bad thing	5/27/2020 11:05 AM
44	Maybe monthly cost can be prorated and work out how many months our license was on the shelf for in 2020, and calculate the reduction accordingly? For example, 2021 fee is \$992 divided by 12 is approximately \$83./month. Was unable to provide services for April, May and June 2020 prorate 2021 fee \$83. X 9 = \$747. Bottomline is any reduction in fee is helpful to anyone's financial situation. Any consideration is very much appreciated. Thank you.	5/26/2020 11:31 PM
45	It's a very nice gesture, however I feel the fee is overpriced.	5/26/2020 10:03 PM
46	We pay too much as it is	5/26/2020 9:04 PM
47	I totally agree that there should be a reduction of fees but \$200 is too little. Fees should be discounted by 50% at least.	5/26/2020 2:53 PM
48	Would like to see the fee reduced even further. I have not worked in over 2 months and counting.	5/26/2020 2:35 PM
49	should be reduce more to \$500	5/26/2020 1:54 PM
50	Everyone has been impacted by this, certainly is the right thing to do in these difficult times.	5/26/2020 1:46 PM
51	Yes, i own my own business which has been shut since mar.14 haven't brought in one penny to my business since then, don't know how i will be able to keep the business running,let alone pay any extra fees, any and all financial help is needed	5/26/2020 12:28 PM
52	Disagree if 1x fee drop, we have lost 5-6 months of work for this year @ \$200. Does not go far enough for what has been lost this year	5/26/2020 12:04 PM
53	This has been a financial difficult year for all members. The COO has been saving money for a rainy day for over 20 years. This is a rainy day. Almost every Opticians has been or will be affected by this. Self employed may be losing their businesses Employed, majority have been	5/26/2020 12:01 PM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

laid off Employers that may in the past pay for Opticians licenses are currently financially burdened. The college should figure out what their current needs are and rebate most of the 2021 fees ( if the COO can afford it )

54	It should be reduced much further. Making up for loss of time during covid	5/26/2020 10:08 AM
55	I think it is helpful as many or perhaps all of us have no money coming in.	5/26/2020 10:01 AM
56	This cost reduction will help opticians, many have not worked for most of the year.	5/26/2020 9:48 AM
57	my employer pays the fee anyway but the gesture us appreciated since wages have been reduced as a result of less working hours	5/26/2020 9:44 AM
58	That is right thing to do.	5/26/2020 9:31 AM
59	The fees are already ridiculously high. The majority of opticians who are not self employed make between 40000 and 50000 dollars a year which is barely enough to live on if you have a family let alone save any money. Im glad the fees have been lowered, but it would be nice if it had been by more. And paying the fees in december right at Christmas is especially hard.	5/26/2020 9:19 AM
60	The fee should be reduced 50%	5/26/2020 12:19 AM
61	Most of my colleagues agree that it should be 50% off. I'm on the fence ; would need more insight to allot a proper answer....	5/25/2020 11:20 PM
62	Hopefully the college can look into annual fees based on how many months we cannot practice as \$792 is still a lot of money if available practicing opticians cannot work due to owners laying off staff. (What if opticians who are currently laid off need that much money for living expenses but they need to also renew their license because businesses may re-hire suddenly, opticians cannot practice without an active license.) As for currently employed practicing opticians, I agree that cutting \$200 is a good compromise as we are not working as long as we used to in normal times. We can only take it one day at a time... as of the moment.. things may change slowly but this decision should not be rushed. Thank you.	5/25/2020 11:10 PM
63	not	5/25/2020 10:42 PM
64	You are still Charging us \$800. How is that fair? So no I don't agree. It should be reduce by at least 500.	5/25/2020 10:33 PM
65	I think that is great giving opticians and businesses a break when it is needed. Very difficult times.	5/25/2020 10:32 PM
66	Should be lower	5/25/2020 10:22 PM
67	We all need any help available in times like these	5/25/2020 9:53 PM
68	It will help opticians to keep their license in this cruel circumstances, in this way the public will have access to quality service.	5/25/2020 8:18 PM
69	That's a great idea.	5/25/2020 8:08 PM
70	Still charging lots of money, as business is closed currently and will be closed for foreseeable future,	5/25/2020 8:01 PM
71	It's urgent for a lot of us	5/25/2020 7:53 PM
72	We are paying the highest member ship in North America	5/25/2020 7:25 PM
73	It should be reduced at by 50%	5/25/2020 7:25 PM
74	Thank you for your consideration !	5/25/2020 7:10 PM
75	Some businesses may be closed due to COVID. This will help RO who now don't have much income to still pay their fess	5/25/2020 7:00 PM
76	B/c making less money than regularly	5/25/2020 6:54 PM
77	Due to this situation this is about 3 months i got laid off I should be dedicated 50 percent	5/25/2020 6:44 PM
78	It will help a little	5/25/2020 6:18 PM
79	Thanks	5/25/2020 5:48 PM



## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

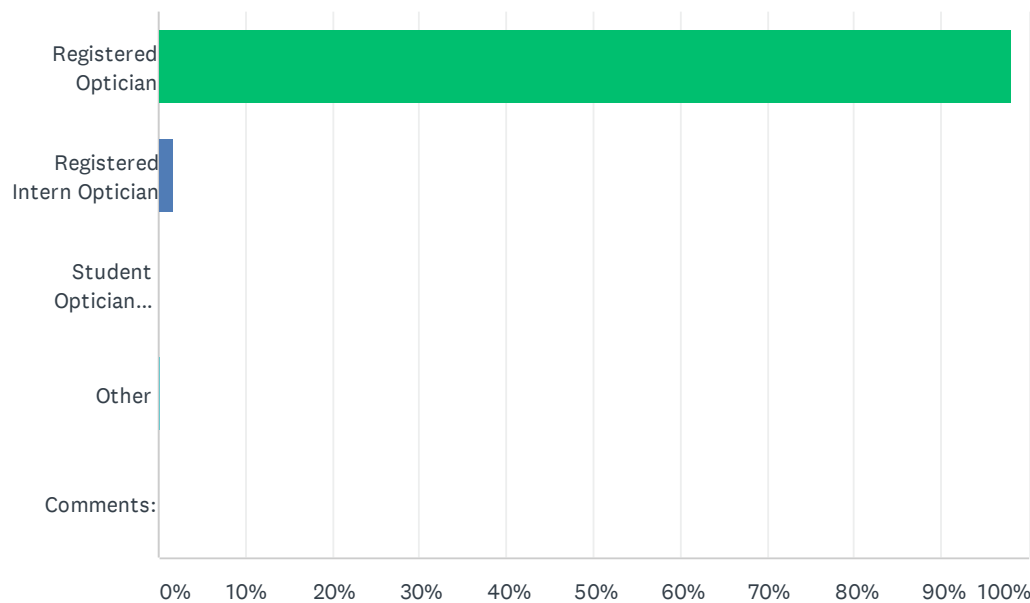
80	I was hoping for a higher amount of reduction	5/25/2020 5:40 PM
81	It should be lowered by more than \$200. We will only work 3 months this year.	5/25/2020 5:36 PM
82	You should wave whole amount for 2020 year	5/25/2020 5:26 PM
83	Yeah I agree. I agree so hard. I wonder why this "by-law change" couldn't have been found sooner.	5/25/2020 5:26 PM
84	need to reduce more	5/25/2020 5:21 PM
85	Everyone has been affected in some way shape or form and this would be helpful	5/25/2020 5:06 PM
86	I think you should base it on a percentage of the time that we are unable to practice. eg. Out March15-June 15=82.67 / mth, or \$248. Wait and see how long we are out, then apply the appropriate discount. How did you arrive at \$200?	5/25/2020 4:53 PM
87	it shd be refund within this year cos we are suffer this year not the coming year.	5/25/2020 4:51 PM
88	Many self employed opticians would possibly be recovering from this pandemic and may find it difficult to pay the full fees.	5/25/2020 4:50 PM
89	I think it should be lowered more so than 200 but I think 200 is a step in the right direction	5/25/2020 4:01 PM
90	We have not been able to earn a salary as an Optician since March 2020. March, April, May, June almost an entire quarter of 2020 has been without earnings and also not being able to operate as an Optician. While the fee reduction is obviously welcome, I believe it should be reduced further to even \$492.00	5/25/2020 3:53 PM
91	i strongly feel the \$200.00 should be refunded this year, as the hardship is affecting this year. Other companies like auto insurance companies are refunding their members now, and next year our situation could me different, some registrant may retire or not renew the membership. Let us address today's problem now.	5/25/2020 3:41 PM
92	should be half of \$992	5/25/2020 3:37 PM
93	I prefer that it does not rise and the extra could be a kind of membership to magazine's or extra activities that opticians get invited to.	5/25/2020 3:36 PM
94	Thank you	5/25/2020 3:35 PM
95	Should be reduced by 50% at least considering that not only businesses remained closed for much of March but April as well. Many many opticians were out of work and you consider a mere \$200 in reduction? This appaling.	5/25/2020 3:30 PM
96	This is still too expensive! Why do we pay so much? Who is benefiting from this membership? It's not the opticians!	5/25/2020 3:24 PM
97	We are out of income and still in lock down. \$200 reduction is not significant. Besides I think the GST should be waived	5/25/2020 3:22 PM
98	Does the fee not cover important expenses the college have...in insuring the profession operates as a profession? Have the operating costs dropped?? Is it running on a profit? I dont see the need to drop the fees.	5/25/2020 3:21 PM
99	A lot of opticians have had to close down and not practice during these times, I think it's a great step	5/25/2020 3:21 PM
100	I feel with businesses being so severely impacted it should be reduced even further. I'm a sole business owner and closed for two months. Some employers pay their RO's on staff fees for them and this may cause a further burden on whether they allow all staff to return to work in a full time capacity	5/25/2020 3:20 PM
101	- College of opticians should provide us breakdown of annual fee charge to us for license registration , - from now onward registration fee for license is going to \$792 ?	5/25/2020 3:18 PM
102	Also to include a discount to intern opticians as well.	5/25/2020 3:17 PM
103	We shouldn't have to such exorbitant price to maintain our license when we're not guaranteed a future in our profession.	5/25/2020 3:08 PM
104	I think it's supposed to be half reduce at least	5/25/2020 3:08 PM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

105	Our annual fee is already well above what even registered nurses pay so I think a more significant decrease should be applied	5/25/2020 3:08 PM
106	The money should be put towards developing more online resources for opticians that include distance con-ed. Social anxiety made attending events difficult before covid let alone now	5/21/2020 11:11 PM
107	I'm okay with it.... a lot of Optuciabs are struggling and having a tough year. I understand the College has done its due diligence and can afford it. My concern is that when it goes back to the normal amount there will be pushback. Make sure people understand it's a one time, temporary reduction please.	5/21/2020 6:52 PM

Q2 Please indicate if you are a:

Answered: 457    Skipped: 0

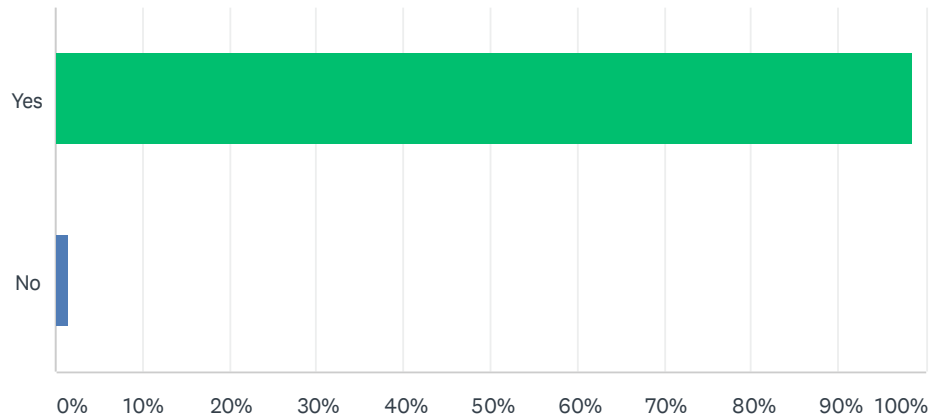


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Registered Optician		98.03%	448
Registered Intern Optician		1.75%	8
Student Optician (registered or unregistered)		0.00%	0
Other		0.22%	1
Comments:		0.00%	0
TOTAL			457

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
	There are no responses.	

## Q3 Did you renew your registration in 2020?

Answered: 438 Skipped: 19

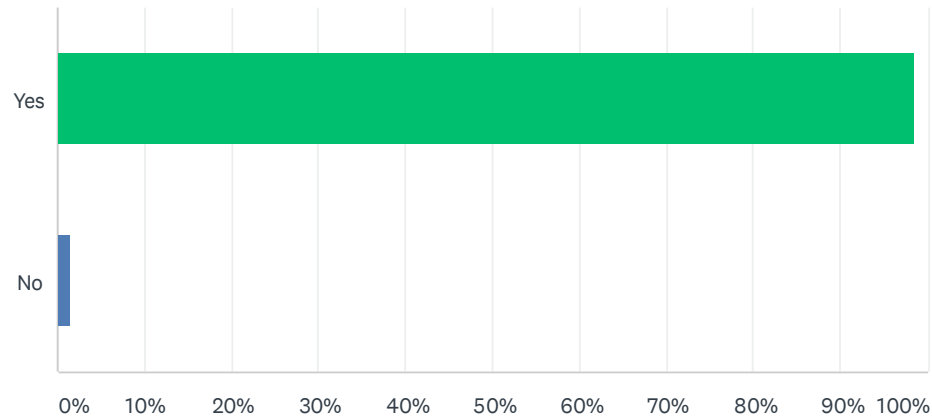


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	98.63% 432
No	1.37% 6
TOTAL	438

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	I am working on it but find frustration in the COVID related lack of service currently. Also, virtually impossible to complete the required Multi-Source Feedback process during these challenging times.	6/24/2020 4:25 PM
2	Didn't renew in 2020 yet (for 2021) But I paid last year for 2020. If this situation continues I'm afraid I won't be able to pay this year.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
3	Yes I did renew my registration for 2020.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
4	This is a very unique and an unpredictable down time , I really appreciate all the help the college can give us.	6/18/2020 5:19 PM
5	At the end of Dec 2019 for 2020	6/18/2020 4:06 PM
6	It was expensive	6/18/2020 3:49 PM
7	In December 2019 for 2020 Poorly worded question	5/29/2020 8:51 AM
8	not aware of having to do so for 2020 license, or is it for 2021?	5/26/2020 1:21 PM
9	And although the pandemic is not in anyone's control, we are still unsure as to how long we will be out of work. For those of us that work part time it's a 2x hit because we pay full fee for the year & are getting very little in return.	5/26/2020 12:14 PM
10	Will also renew in 2021	5/26/2020 9:52 AM
11	It was my first year as a licensed practitioner.	5/25/2020 8:25 PM
12	I couldn't afford now	5/25/2020 6:46 PM
13	We have money sent back to us! ASAP!!! Who's pockets are we filling with this registration?	5/25/2020 3:27 PM
14	It was my first year of becoming an RO	5/25/2020 3:16 PM
15	Kind of had to....	5/21/2020 6:54 PM

## Q4 Do you wish to renew your registration in 2021

Answered: 438 Skipped: 19



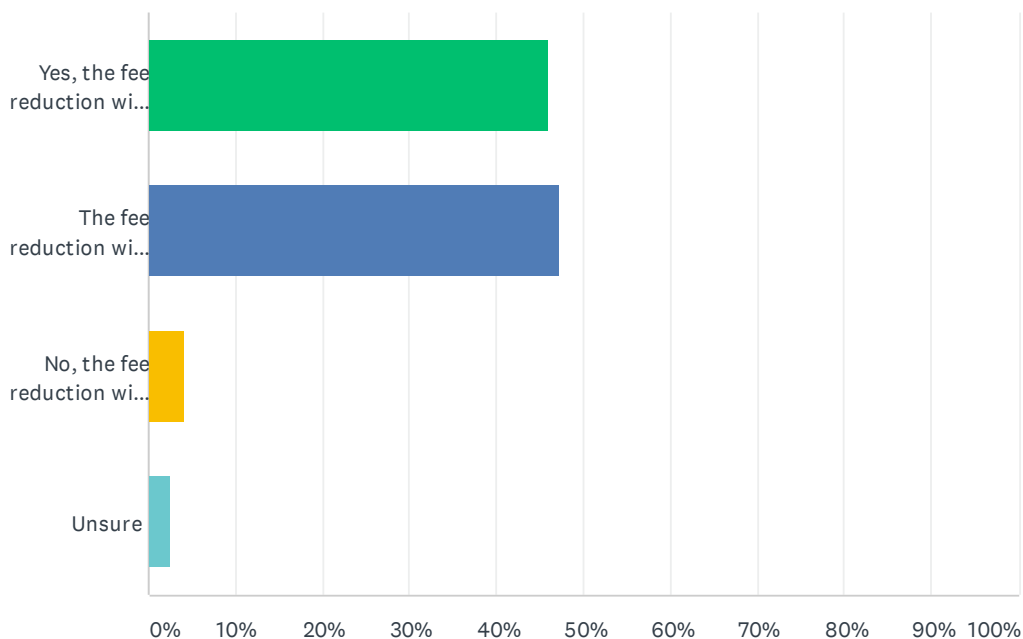
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		98.63%	432
No		1.37%	6
TOTAL			438

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	As I mentioned in the previous comment, the reduction should be at least \$413.00.	6/24/2020 8:07 AM
2	You mean for 2021 but paid at the end of this year? I wish, but don't know if I will be able to.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
3	I will try to find the resources to renew this year , but quite honestly I will have to go into debt in order to pay this high fee. I know for a fact that there are many other opticians that will be in the same situation. As a professional organization I feel that you should consider this year, as many of us have been paying this extremely high fee for too many years. We all have to try keep a roof over our heads.	6/20/2020 10:35 AM
4	Yes I will.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
5	Can a six month licence be offered?	6/18/2020 4:13 PM
6	Pending there isn't a second wave and my health isn't compromised.	6/18/2020 4:05 PM
7	Of course, otherwise, opticians won't be able to enroll their duties. However, if COVID-19 is extended to next year, the amount of payment for renewing license should be less.	5/28/2020 3:34 PM
8	Don't want no registration fee	5/27/2020 11:09 AM
9	Job requirement to be licensed optician	5/26/2020 11:34 PM
10	Hopefully i will still have a business to return to	5/26/2020 12:30 PM
11	That was the plan, but need to see how things continue to unfold.	5/26/2020 12:14 PM
12	not sure if I will be working... I may be bankrupt, If thats the case I wont be able to afford to renew	5/26/2020 12:03 PM
13	I am concerned of the situation due to the still rising cases of COVID19. People who are not opticians still do not adhere to the strict recommendation by the government or by us when they visit our practices.	5/26/2020 12:28 AM
14	not to sure I will be out of work for at lest 3 months before i may go back .May be time to do something else	5/25/2020 10:45 PM
15	Although it won't be easy	5/25/2020 10:34 PM
16	Opticianry is my passion, eventhough we are not paid enough, no union we pay the highest membership in north America but, I love my profession.	5/25/2020 8:43 PM
17	I love my profession and possibility to offer my costumers reliable service.	5/25/2020 8:25 PM
18	Don't know for sure	5/25/2020 7:54 PM
19	love to go back to work if it is possible!	5/25/2020 7:12 PM
20	I don't have money for it honestly	5/25/2020 6:46 PM
21	Sure hopes so	5/25/2020 6:19 PM
22	of course if the store is alive	5/25/2020 4:53 PM
23	I am currently unemployed and have been for 2 months, but if everything goes back to normal. I will be renewing my 2021	5/25/2020 4:04 PM
24	not sure	5/25/2020 3:55 PM
25	If I am still in business after covid19 mess, which at this is uncertain.	5/25/2020 3:33 PM
26	No I do not wish. I think the board and college are ripping off its members!	5/25/2020 3:27 PM
27	If the fee gonna be adjust according to situation with covid 19, such as at least 50% of regular amount	5/25/2020 3:10 PM
28	I'll be practicing....	5/21/2020 6:54 PM

## Q5 Will the proposed fee reduction make you more likely to renew your registration in 2021?

Answered: 438 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, the fee reduction will make me more likely to renew	46.12%	202
The fee reduction will not impact my decision to renew or not renew	47.26%	207
No, the fee reduction will not make me more likely to renew	4.11%	18
Unsure	2.51%	11
TOTAL		438

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	It's \$3.84 per week. The fees should be reduced to \$600 annually and the College forced to work within the budget. Reduce staff and work from home to be more efficient. Rent a space for meetings.	6/24/2020 4:25 PM
2	As a small business owner I definitely need all the financial help I can get.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
3	will renew, but thankful for the lower fee offer	6/22/2020 1:29 PM
4	Its still too high!	6/20/2020 10:35 AM
5	I have to renew if fee is reduced or not.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
6	I'm renewing because I don't have a choice right?	6/19/2020 10:38 AM
7	But appreciate it as we have been hit hard	6/18/2020 11:04 PM
8	there is no choice but to pay what we are told to be able to continue to practice/work and i have no plans to change careers	6/18/2020 9:51 PM
9	I have to renew either way but a drop in price will make it a lot easier. 2 1/2 months with no salary isn't easy to digest.	6/18/2020 8:54 PM
10	I will renew for sure.	6/18/2020 7:18 PM
11	I am pleased that the reduction will be in place to help out financially, however the reduction itself does not impact my decision	6/18/2020 6:22 PM
12	I will be less resentful if I have a \$200.00 fee reduction. You have a captive market, I will pay no matter what...it is the resentment factor that changes!	6/18/2020 4:02 PM
13	My employer pays my fees	6/18/2020 3:56 PM
14	We don't really have a choice if we wish to continue to work as an Optician here	6/18/2020 3:51 PM
15	I have no intentions of quitting or retiring any time soon so regardless of the cost I will still be renewing for the 2021 year	6/14/2020 5:53 PM
16	I HAVE TO PRACTICE THAN I NEED MY LICENSE TO BE RENEWED!!	6/3/2020 10:05 PM
17	I believe the fee reduction will greatly help so many opticians financially. With being closed for so long and then having to spend so much money on PPE and increased cleaning and sanitation supplies, this will impact many members. Sadly this virus situation isn't over, so realistically we don't know when things will return to somewhat "normal". People will not be spending like they did before and the high registration fees we have to pay may be a financial burden in the near future.	5/29/2020 2:16 AM
18	Job requirement to be licensed optician	5/26/2020 11:34 PM
19	I guess it depends on if I still have a viable business after this covid crisis thing. We are in a mall and have been closed since March 18...Devastating to say the least.	5/26/2020 2:55 PM
20	\$200 is not enough	5/26/2020 12:03 PM
21	But it does make my life much easier!	5/26/2020 10:03 AM
22	My employer pays for my renewal	5/26/2020 9:52 AM
23	My business is closed since March break. Big hit on my business. A little help goes long way. I didn't even make my rent. So ,yes i will try to survive, even my registration fee is so high.	5/26/2020 9:37 AM
24	Every year i struggle to renew. Why maintain my license when i can work at an optometry clinic and not have to worry about fees	5/26/2020 9:22 AM
25	It is not a decision I can make easily specially during a pandemic but it does help that you are making the annual fee lower due to the circumstances. I am leaning more to renewing my license.	5/26/2020 12:28 AM
26	I will renew either way	5/25/2020 10:33 PM
27	My employer pays my renewal but will appreciate the reduced fees	5/25/2020 9:55 PM

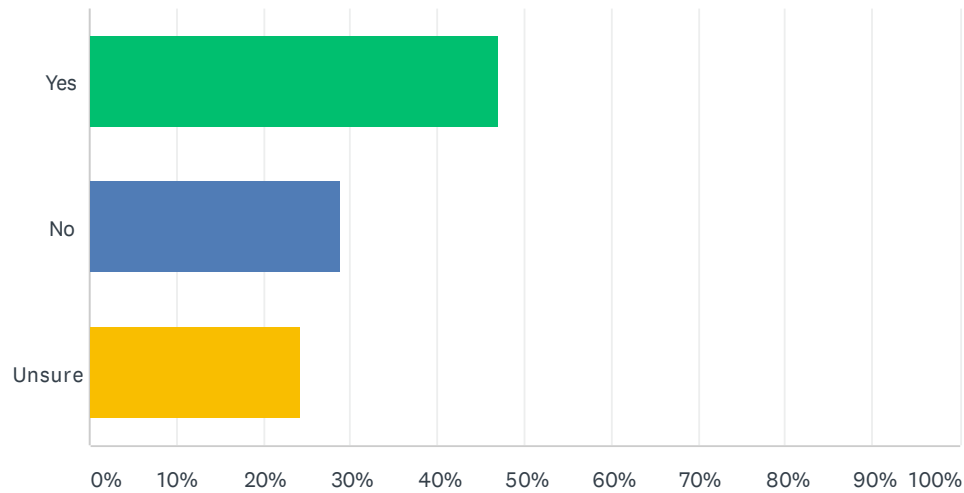


## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

28	We didn't work for three month. The memberahip has impact on us, considering most of us live paycheck by paycheck.	5/25/2020 8:43 PM
29	Fee reduction or not, an Optician has no choice, in order to renew the licence a fee has to be paid.	5/25/2020 7:30 PM
30	It depends on the state of the pandemic/ cases/ test quality & a vaccine.	5/25/2020 5:39 PM
31	I will renew my registration regardless of what the fee is.	5/25/2020 4:13 PM
32	Finally some good news !	5/25/2020 4:04 PM
33	It will make me more likely to renew if the \$200.00 was refunded this year as a matter of fairness.	5/25/2020 3:55 PM
34	Thinking about retiring but just not sure when. That will impact my decision about renewing.	5/25/2020 3:24 PM
35	if now onward college Of opticians can function with this amount, why they charge \$972,close to \$1100 annually is bit too much for so many opticians	5/25/2020 3:22 PM
36	As long as reduction more significant than 20%	5/25/2020 3:10 PM
37	For me it doesn't hinder my decision but it will make a large impact for many people looking to renew their license.	5/25/2020 3:06 PM
38	My employer covers the cost	5/21/2020 11:12 PM

## Q6 Should opticians that did not renew their registration in 2020 be eligible for the reduced fee in 2021?

Answered: 438 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.03%	206
No	28.77%	126
Unsure	24.20%	106
TOTAL		438

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

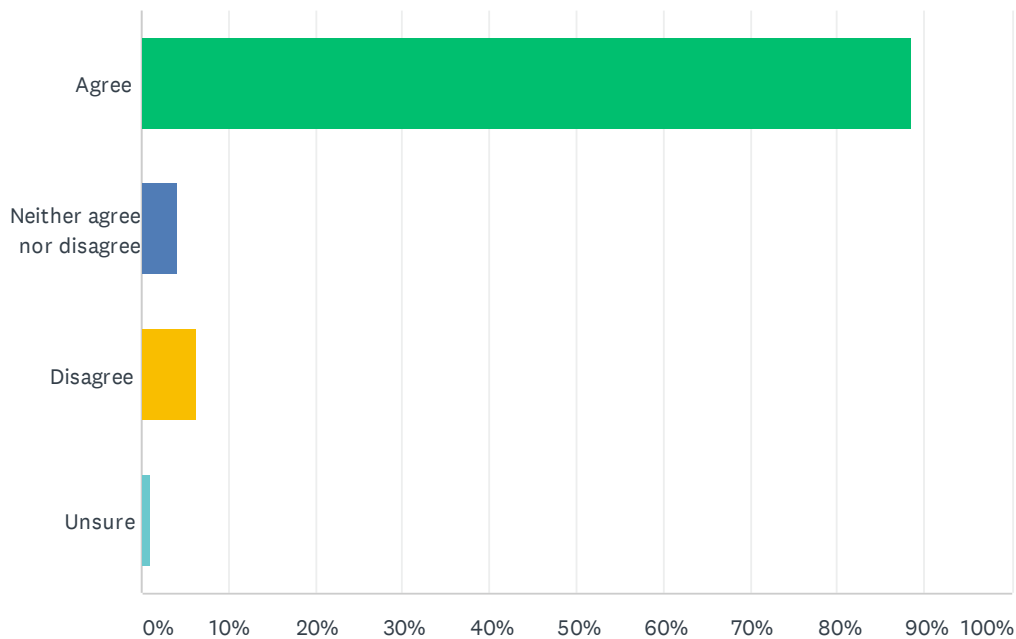
#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	Unsure of the wording in this question.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
2	We have all been affected by CoVid19 and if it can help someone return to work I am in favour.	6/20/2020 7:20 PM
3	Should be for every one.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
4	As they were not practicing in 2020, and therefore did not lose income, they should not be recompensed for something they did not lose	6/18/2020 11:06 PM
5	I look as reduced fee is only based on this year's event. If you didn't pay you didn't loose. But at the same time I wouldn't be upset if it was just easier for the college to have one reducrd fee.	6/18/2020 11:04 PM
6	There is no reason to have elaborate offices in downtown Toronto. Why could you not be housed out of an office space in a small town with cheaper rent and lower profile? That would reduce costs to reduce fees more. In this day of electronics and internet, there is no need to have to impress with offices in a high rent area. We are The collage of Ontario, Not Toronto.	6/18/2020 7:41 PM
7	I feel that all opticians should be eligible for the same renewal reductions. I also feel that all regular requirement should be met by both renewing opticians	6/18/2020 6:22 PM
8	I believe everyone should receives equal treatment!	6/18/2020 5:19 PM
9	Everyone is going through financial hardship doesnt matter if they renewed in the past or not, if they are looking to get to work it will definitely help relieve some of the burden	6/18/2020 4:16 PM
10	The fees should be reduced considering we are in a pandemic and jobs are being lost.	6/18/2020 4:05 PM
11	Many opticians had right reason not to renew license or could not simply had some health issue or.... than in that case will be unfair for them!	6/3/2020 10:05 PM
12	I think it would depend on why they didn't renew In 2020	6/2/2020 10:48 AM
13	If you are making a change, it should be for everyone right across the board. Do not stipulate who is eligable or not. Then you start getting people asking why they paid more than someone else. You do not know why that person did not renew in 2020. It makes it easier.	5/29/2020 2:57 PM
14	Some opticians may be on sick leave or maternity leave, so to not include them seems wrong. This whole coronavirus is impacting everyone and if the fees are indeed reduced, need to be accessible to all members.	5/29/2020 2:16 AM
15	yes if they choose to continue to be opticians. The reduction, to my understanding, is applicable because annual salary/income has been reduced or effected by pandemic in 2020. Therefore the reduction is not relatable to 2020 registration renewal?	5/27/2020 8:02 PM
16	keeping fee same for all.	5/27/2020 4:14 PM
17	That wouldn't have impacted them as they were not practicing anyway. In a way the reduction may impact them to reregister but if they didn't in 2020 why would they now?	5/27/2020 11:39 AM
18	I think it should apply for everyone	5/27/2020 11:33 AM
19	Once u pass ur exam that should clear everything	5/27/2020 11:09 AM
20	I believe only opticians that have being active in 2020 and affected by Covid 19 should get the reduction. Because whoever was not registered they did not lose money.	5/26/2020 11:41 PM
21	They did not need to use their license to earn income.	5/26/2020 11:34 PM
22	The renewal for 2021 will be done in 2020 and it is this year where the financial impact has taken place, so the registration for the previous year should not matter.	5/26/2020 2:11 PM
23	the fee should be the same for all across, whether they we were registrated in 2020 or not - unless there are added fee when you skip a year	5/26/2020 1:21 PM
24	Everyone is affected by this pandemic it should apply to Everyone	5/26/2020 12:30 PM
25	There are many reasons for people to step back from renewing for a year & should not be penalized if. They are ready to return.	5/26/2020 12:14 PM
26	New year, new rules	5/26/2020 9:52 AM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

27	i always thought that the license had to be renewed annually to meet the criteria for working as a licensed optician	5/26/2020 9:47 AM
28	Every body is suffering.	5/26/2020 9:37 AM
29	Is there not already a fine or something to skip a year or so?	5/25/2020 11:39 PM
30	Reduced fee will give them the possibility to enter the practice again.	5/25/2020 8:25 PM
31	You guys already charging exorbitant fees for renewal. Most of us feel it should max of 200\$. Yes you r mafia for us.	5/25/2020 7:07 PM
32	Should be equally treated	5/25/2020 6:57 PM
33	Neither should the Opticians that remained open, despite the call to remain closed.	5/25/2020 4:54 PM
34	a matter of fairness	5/25/2020 4:53 PM
35	If they were unable to renew because of financial issues.	5/25/2020 4:52 PM
36	There will be more process involved to reinstate a registration.	5/25/2020 4:13 PM
37	The fees are too high!	5/25/2020 4:04 PM
38	They did not suffer any financial hardship and more the reason the refund should be benefit the current registrant.	5/25/2020 3:55 PM
39	We are all supposed to be brothers in arms	5/25/2020 3:38 PM
40	Everyone should pay less because the board is a waist of money!	5/25/2020 3:27 PM
41	If they are paying for their 2020 and their 2021 renewals...	5/25/2020 3:23 PM
42	My opinion at this point is no They should not qualify for the reduced rate next year. However if the current shutdown (or the fallout from it) continues into the new year then my answer may change.	5/25/2020 3:21 PM
43	I don't think they should be eligible but I'm not sure the OFC would agree.... this might be challenged.	5/21/2020 6:54 PM

# Q1 Do you agree with the College's proposal to reduce the 2021 annual fee for Registered Opticians from \$992 to \$792?

Answered: 458 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	88.43%	405
Neither agree nor disagree	4.15%	19
Disagree	6.33%	29
Unsure	1.09%	5
TOTAL		458

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	I am unclear as to how this will benefit the members, or the college. My hope is that during the pandemic the College will find great efficiencies that will reduce our member fees consistently, and by at least 30%.	6/24/2020 4:08 PM
2	I wish college could reduce more than \$200 reduction as if you split the 992.00 in 12 months= 82.66 \$ and see how many months we are not having to earn, then at least we should get a reduction for 5 months, which the reduction should be $5 \times 82.00 = 413.00$ \$ should be considered for reduction.	6/24/2020 8:06 AM
3	$992:12=82.7$ / month. So far opticians have not been practicing for 4months. So simple math $82.7 \times 4=330.80$ This should be the fair reduction of the fee.	6/22/2020 11:43 PM
4	It's already astronomical high and technically should be more of a deduction as most of us were not able to work for almost 12 weeks.	6/22/2020 8:56 AM
5	Yes, because of reduced hours, the fee should also be reduced.	6/21/2020 9:34 AM
6	I think we should deduct 30% since we already out of work for almost 3 months, our registration fee is quite expensive for us in this situation. Compared to other registry's, our registration fee is higher, even just compared to College of Optometrists, but they make way more money than Opticians.	6/20/2020 10:42 PM
7	Considering that a large number of opticians , such as myself, are still laid off and are receiving little to no income for the last 3 months +, I think the fee should be waived completely for this year and due to the strain both financially and personally we should not be penalized for not having portfolio completed this year.	6/20/2020 10:30 AM
8	I agree but a more substantial decrease would have been appreciated. Like a \$400 decrease min.	6/20/2020 10:04 AM
9	Yes, I think this will help maintain ROs in the coming year.	6/20/2020 9:50 AM
10	I am of the opinion that the reduction does not go far enough. A 50% reduction would be more appropriate considering the loss of income	6/20/2020 12:41 AM
11	Thank you for reducing renewal fee.	6/19/2020 4:36 PM
12	I agree as many of us were no practicing for several months.	6/19/2020 4:16 PM
13	I totally agree especially since I am an independent and funds are just not there.	6/19/2020 10:41 AM
14	Yes. It's been too high for too long	6/19/2020 10:37 AM
15	it could be even less.	6/19/2020 12:53 AM
16	N/a	6/18/2020 11:12 PM
17	makes sense since many did not/could not work during shutdown	6/18/2020 9:49 PM
18	Most opticians in Canada were off work for three months, it would make sense to me if the deduction reflected the three months that we were unable to practise...	6/18/2020 9:19 PM
19	That is a lot more reasonable, we aren't all made of gold.	6/18/2020 8:52 PM
20	my employer pays for my licensing fee, if we get credit towards seminar as an option to choose would be better. thank you	6/18/2020 8:50 PM
21	It should be reduced more	6/18/2020 6:36 PM
22	It is still a lot of money after GST. we have lost almost half a year income due to covid.	6/18/2020 5:57 PM
23	Yes I believe this is necessary!	6/18/2020 5:55 PM
24	We need every bit of help we can get financially! Thanks	6/18/2020 5:07 PM
25	Would be very beneficial. Thank you	6/18/2020 4:46 PM
26	I believe it should be reduced by more to help offset the financial burden that we all will pass through in this post Covid economy	6/18/2020 4:14 PM
27	It should be way less and on a permanent basis! Even registered nurses pay a waaaaaay	6/18/2020 4:08 PM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

	smaller registration fee	
28	Appreciate the thought put into this as we are all suffering financial loss from this pandemic.	6/18/2020 4:05 PM
29	It should be reduced by at least 50%	6/18/2020 4:04 PM
30	Reduction of fees should be a pro-rated amount based on the time frame that Opticians were mandated to reduce practice to emergency only. In Ontario, that equates to roughly 3 months, or about 25 percent of the year. This equals closer to \$250 in fee reduction.	6/18/2020 3:53 PM
31	Reduction should be 25% since many were unable to work for 3 months (25% of the year)	6/18/2020 3:51 PM
32	I think it should be reduced more	6/18/2020 3:50 PM
33	It should be permanently reduced and even less for those who are unemployed	6/18/2020 3:48 PM
34	Thank you! this will really help given that my bi-weekly after tax income has been reduced for 3 months now.	6/14/2020 5:51 PM
35	As my opinion, the payment that we did in year of 2020 should be reduced because many of dispensaries and business closed down, it is not fair for optician to pay fully amount of 2020 cause of COVID-19.	5/28/2020 3:29 PM
36	I think that's a great idea. Comparing our fees to other professorial earning a lot more then us I feel it has been way to high for a long time.	5/28/2020 10:17 AM
37	But, however, it should have a higher reduction . In light of this covid-19 pandemic, 50% amount would have been more sensible.	5/27/2020 9:29 PM
38	Thank you :-)	5/27/2020 6:10 PM
39	grateful College can do that during this time	5/27/2020 4:05 PM
40	For many opticians either they are out of work or theirs hours have been reduced quite a bit, so this decrease in fees will help.	5/27/2020 1:59 PM
41	Thank you for giving us a break on our fees.	5/27/2020 11:36 AM
42	Times are hard with the cost of everything going up, and a reduced renewal fee will be helpful	5/27/2020 11:21 AM
43	This is not a frod but this is not a bad thing	5/27/2020 11:05 AM
44	Maybe monthly cost can be prorated and work out how many months our license was on the shelf for in 2020, and calculate the reduction accordingly? For example, 2021 fee is \$992 divided by 12 is approximately \$83./month. Was unable to provide services for April, May and June 2020 prorate 2021 fee \$83. X 9 = \$747. Bottomline is any reduction in fee is helpful to anyone's financial situation. Any consideration is very much appreciated. Thank you.	5/26/2020 11:31 PM
45	It's a very nice gesture, however I feel the fee is overpriced.	5/26/2020 10:03 PM
46	We pay too much as it is	5/26/2020 9:04 PM
47	I totally agree that there should be a reduction of fees but \$200 is too little. Fees should be discounted by 50% at least.	5/26/2020 2:53 PM
48	Would like to see the fee reduced even further. I have not worked in over 2 months and counting.	5/26/2020 2:35 PM
49	should be reduce more to \$500	5/26/2020 1:54 PM
50	Everyone has been impacted by this, certainly is the right thing to do in these difficult times.	5/26/2020 1:46 PM
51	Yes, i own my own business which has been shut since mar.14 haven't brought in one penny to my business since then, don't know how i will be able to keep the business running,let alone pay any extra fees, any and all financial help is needed	5/26/2020 12:28 PM
52	Disagree if 1x fee drop, we have lost 5-6 months of work for this year @ \$200. Does not go far enough for what has been lost this year	5/26/2020 12:04 PM
53	This has been a financial difficult year for all members. The COO has been saving money for a rainy day for over 20 years. This is a rainy day. Almost every Opticians has been or will be affected by this. Self employed may be losing their businesses Employed, majority have been	5/26/2020 12:01 PM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

laid off Employers that may in the past pay for Opticians licenses are currently financially burdened. The college should figure out what their current needs are and rebate most of the 2021 fees ( if the COO can afford it )

54	It should be reduced much further. Making up for loss of time during covid	5/26/2020 10:08 AM
55	I think it is helpful as many or perhaps all of us have no money coming in.	5/26/2020 10:01 AM
56	This cost reduction will help opticians, many have not worked for most of the year.	5/26/2020 9:48 AM
57	my employer pays the fee anyway but the gesture us appreciated since wages have been reduced as a result of less working hours	5/26/2020 9:44 AM
58	That is right thing to do.	5/26/2020 9:31 AM
59	The fees are already ridiculously high. The majority of opticians who are not self employed make between 40000 and 50000 dollars a year which is barely enough to live on if you have a family let alone save any money. Im glad the fees have been lowered, but it would be nice if it had been by more. And paying the fees in december right at Christmas is especially hard.	5/26/2020 9:19 AM
60	The fee should be reduced 50%	5/26/2020 12:19 AM
61	Most of my colleagues agree that it should be 50% off. I'm on the fence ; would need more insight to allot a proper answer....	5/25/2020 11:20 PM
62	Hopefully the college can look into annual fees based on how many months we cannot practice as \$792 is still a lot of money if available practicing opticians cannot work due to owners laying off staff. (What if opticians who are currently laid off need that much money for living expenses but they need to also renew their license because businesses may re-hire suddenly, opticians cannot practice without an active license.) As for currently employed practicing opticians, I agree that cutting \$200 is a good compromise as we are not working as long as we used to in normal times. We can only take it one day at a time... as of the moment.. things may change slowly but this decision should not be rushed. Thank you.	5/25/2020 11:10 PM
63	not	5/25/2020 10:42 PM
64	You are still Charging us \$800. How is that fair? So no I don't agree. It should be reduce by at least 500.	5/25/2020 10:33 PM
65	I think that is great giving opticians and businesses a break when it is needed. Very difficult times.	5/25/2020 10:32 PM
66	Should be lower	5/25/2020 10:22 PM
67	We all need any help available in times like these	5/25/2020 9:53 PM
68	It will help opticians to keep their license in this cruel circumstances, in this way the public will have access to quality service.	5/25/2020 8:18 PM
69	That's a great idea.	5/25/2020 8:08 PM
70	Still charging lots of money, as business is closed currently and will be closed for foreseeable future,	5/25/2020 8:01 PM
71	It's urgent for a lot of us	5/25/2020 7:53 PM
72	We are paying the highest member ship in North America	5/25/2020 7:25 PM
73	It should be reduced at by 50%	5/25/2020 7:25 PM
74	Thank you for your consideration !	5/25/2020 7:10 PM
75	Some businesses may be closed due to COVID. This will help RO who now don't have much income to still pay their fess	5/25/2020 7:00 PM
76	B/c making less money than regularly	5/25/2020 6:54 PM
77	Due to this situation this is about 3 months i got laid off I should be dedicated 50 percent	5/25/2020 6:44 PM
78	It will help a little	5/25/2020 6:18 PM
79	Thanks	5/25/2020 5:48 PM



## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

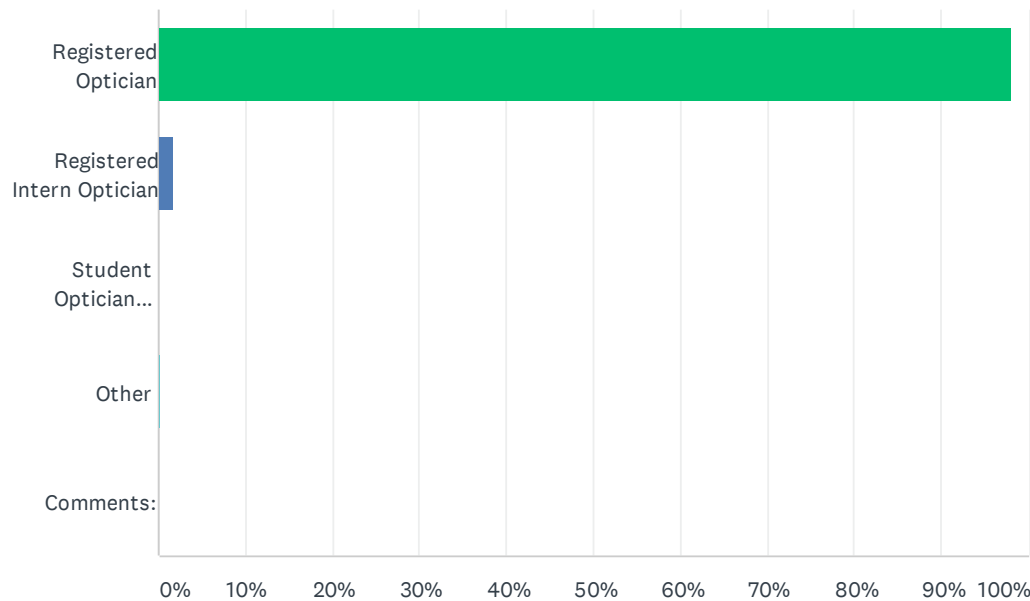
80	I was hoping for a higher amount of reduction	5/25/2020 5:40 PM
81	It should be lowered by more than \$200. We will only work 3 months this year.	5/25/2020 5:36 PM
82	You should wave whole amount for 2020 year	5/25/2020 5:26 PM
83	Yeah I agree. I agree so hard. I wonder why this "by-law change" couldn't have been found sooner.	5/25/2020 5:26 PM
84	need to reduce more	5/25/2020 5:21 PM
85	Everyone has been affected in some way shape or form and this would be helpful	5/25/2020 5:06 PM
86	I think you should base it on a percentage of the time that we are unable to practice. eg. Out March15-June 15=82.67 / mth, or \$248. Wait and see how long we are out, then apply the appropriate discount. How did you arrive at \$200?	5/25/2020 4:53 PM
87	it shd be refund within this year cos we are suffer this year not the coming year.	5/25/2020 4:51 PM
88	Many self employed opticians would possibly be recovering from this pandemic and may find it difficult to pay the full fees.	5/25/2020 4:50 PM
89	I think it should be lowered more so than 200 but I think 200 is a step in the right direction	5/25/2020 4:01 PM
90	We have not been able to earn a salary as an Optician since March 2020. March, April, May, June almost an entire quarter of 2020 has been without earnings and also not being able to operate as an Optician. While the fee reduction is obviously welcome, I believe it should be reduced further to even \$492.00	5/25/2020 3:53 PM
91	i strongly feel the \$200.00 should be refunded this year, as the hardship is affecting this year. Other companies like auto insurance companies are refunding their members now, and next year our situation could me different, some registrant may retire or not renew the membership. Let us address today's problem now.	5/25/2020 3:41 PM
92	should be half of \$992	5/25/2020 3:37 PM
93	I prefer that it does not rise and the extra could be a kind of membership to magazine's or extra activities that opticians get invited to.	5/25/2020 3:36 PM
94	Thank you	5/25/2020 3:35 PM
95	Should be reduced by 50% at least considering that not only businesses remained closed for much of March but April as well. Many many opticians were out of work and you consider a mere \$200 in reduction? This appaling.	5/25/2020 3:30 PM
96	This is still too expensive! Why do we pay so much? Who is benefiting from this membership? It's not the opticians!	5/25/2020 3:24 PM
97	We are out of income and still in lock down. \$200 reduction is not significant. Besides I think the GST should be waived	5/25/2020 3:22 PM
98	Does the fee not cover important expenses the college have...in insuring the profession operates as a profession? Have the operating costs dropped?? Is it running on a profit? I dont see the need to drop the fees.	5/25/2020 3:21 PM
99	A lot of opticians have had to close down and not practice during these times, I think it's a great step	5/25/2020 3:21 PM
100	I feel with businesses being so severely impacted it should be reduced even further. I'm a sole business owner and closed for two months. Some employers pay their RO's on staff fees for them and this may cause a further burden on whether they allow all staff to return to work in a full time capacity	5/25/2020 3:20 PM
101	- College of opticians should provide us breakdown of annual fee charge to us for license registration , - from now onward registration fee for license is going to \$792 ?	5/25/2020 3:18 PM
102	Also to include a discount to intern opticians as well.	5/25/2020 3:17 PM
103	We shouldn't have to such exorbitant price to maintain our license when we're not guaranteed a future in our profession.	5/25/2020 3:08 PM
104	I think it's supposed to be half reduce at least	5/25/2020 3:08 PM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

105	Our annual fee is already well above what even registered nurses pay so I think a more significant decrease should be applied	5/25/2020 3:08 PM
106	The money should be put towards developing more online resources for opticians that include distance con-ed. Social anxiety made attending events difficult before covid let alone now	5/21/2020 11:11 PM
107	I'm okay with it.... a lot of Optuciabs are struggling and having a tough year. I understand the College has done its due diligence and can afford it. My concern is that when it goes back to the normal amount there will be pushback. Make sure people understand it's a one time, temporary reduction please.	5/21/2020 6:52 PM

Q2 Please indicate if you are a:

Answered: 458    Skipped: 0

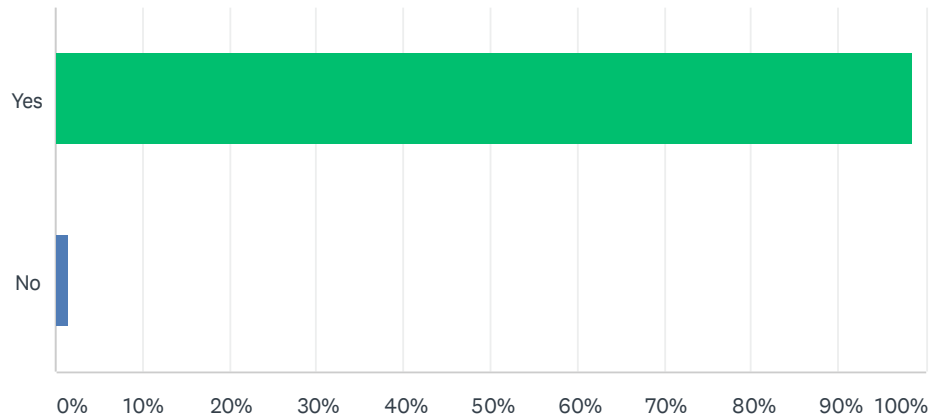


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Registered Optician		98.03%	449
Registered Intern Optician		1.75%	8
Student Optician (registered or unregistered)		0.00%	0
Other		0.22%	1
Comments:		0.00%	0
TOTAL			458

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
	There are no responses.	

## Q3 Did you renew your registration in 2020?

Answered: 439 Skipped: 19

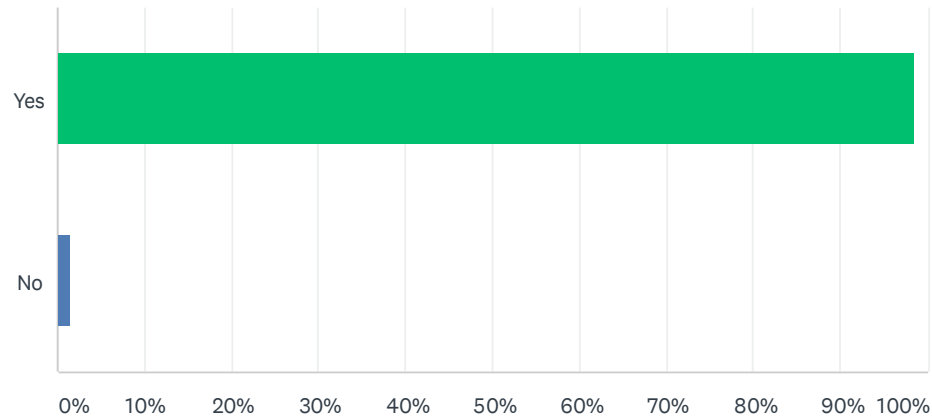


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	98.63%	433
No	1.37%	6
TOTAL		439

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	I am working on it but find frustration in the COVID related lack of service currently. Also, virtually impossible to complete the required Multi-Source Feedback process during these challenging times.	6/24/2020 4:25 PM
2	Didn't renew in 2020 yet (for 2021) But I paid last year for 2020. If this situation continues I'm afraid I won't be able to pay this year.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
3	Yes I did renew my registration for 2020.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
4	This is a very unique and an unpredictable down time , I really appreciate all the help the college can give us.	6/18/2020 5:19 PM
5	At the end of Dec 2019 for 2020	6/18/2020 4:06 PM
6	It was expensive	6/18/2020 3:49 PM
7	In December 2019 for 2020 Poorly worded question	5/29/2020 8:51 AM
8	not aware of having to do so for 2020 license, or is it for 2021?	5/26/2020 1:21 PM
9	And although the pandemic is not in anyone's control, we are still unsure as to how long we will be out of work. For those of us that work part time it's a 2x hit because we pay full fee for the year & are getting very little in return.	5/26/2020 12:14 PM
10	Will also renew in 2021	5/26/2020 9:52 AM
11	It was my first year as a licensed practitioner.	5/25/2020 8:25 PM
12	I couldn't afford now	5/25/2020 6:46 PM
13	We have money sent back to us! ASAP!!! Who's pockets are we filling with this registration?	5/25/2020 3:27 PM
14	It was my first year of becoming an RO	5/25/2020 3:16 PM
15	Kind of had to....	5/21/2020 6:54 PM

## Q4 Do you wish to renew your registration in 2021

Answered: 439   Skipped: 19



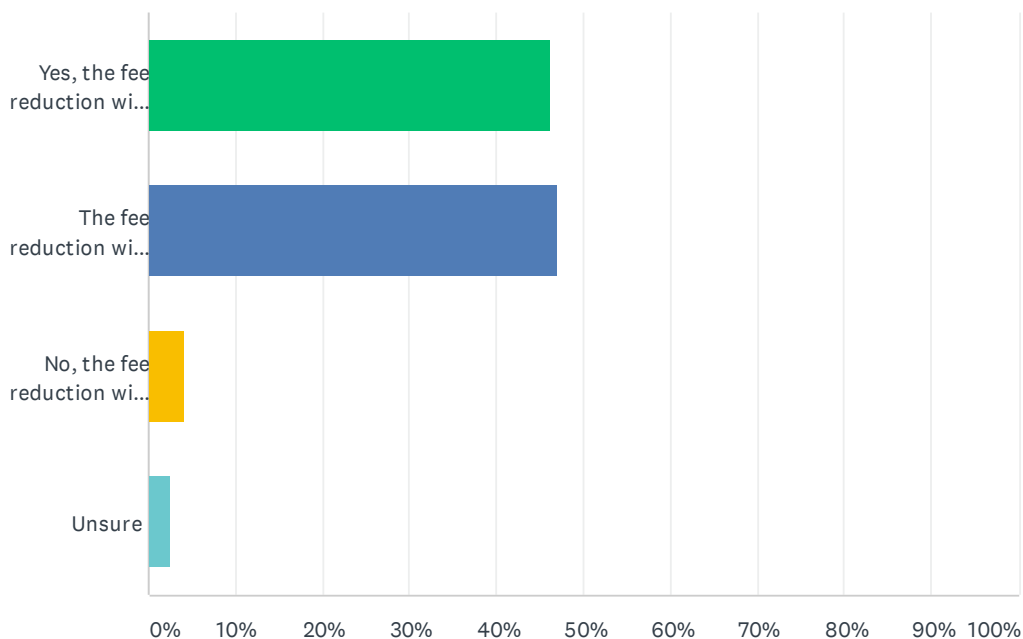
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	98.63%	433
No	1.37%	6
TOTAL		439

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	As I mentioned in the previous comment, the reduction should be at least \$413.00.	6/24/2020 8:07 AM
2	You mean for 2021 but paid at the end of this year? I wish, but don't know if I will be able to.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
3	I will try to find the resources to renew this year , but quite honestly I will have to go into debt in order to pay this high fee. I know for a fact that there are many other opticians that will be in the same situation. As a professional organization I feel that you should consider this year, as many of us have been paying this extremely high fee for too many years. We all have to try keep a roof over our heads.	6/20/2020 10:35 AM
4	Yes I will.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
5	Can a six month licence be offered?	6/18/2020 4:13 PM
6	Pending there isn't a second wave and my health isn't compromised.	6/18/2020 4:05 PM
7	Of course, otherwise, opticians won't be able to enroll their duties. However, if COVID-19 is extended to next year, the amount of payment for renewing license should be less.	5/28/2020 3:34 PM
8	Don't want no registration fee	5/27/2020 11:09 AM
9	Job requirement to be licensed optician	5/26/2020 11:34 PM
10	Hopefully i will still have a business to return to	5/26/2020 12:30 PM
11	That was the plan, but need to see how things continue to unfold.	5/26/2020 12:14 PM
12	not sure if I will be working... I may be bankrupt, If thats the case I wont be able to afford to renew	5/26/2020 12:03 PM
13	I am concerned of the situation due to the still rising cases of COVID19. People who are not opticians still do not adhere to the strict recommendation by the government or by us when they visit our practices.	5/26/2020 12:28 AM
14	not to sure I will be out of work for at lest 3 months before i may go back .May be time to do something else	5/25/2020 10:45 PM
15	Although it won't be easy	5/25/2020 10:34 PM
16	Opticianry is my passion, eventhough we are not paid enough, no union we pay the highest membership in north America but, I love my profession.	5/25/2020 8:43 PM
17	I love my profession and possibility to offer my costumers reliable service.	5/25/2020 8:25 PM
18	Don't know for sure	5/25/2020 7:54 PM
19	love to go back to work if it is possible!	5/25/2020 7:12 PM
20	I don't have money for it honestly	5/25/2020 6:46 PM
21	Sure hopes so	5/25/2020 6:19 PM
22	of course if the store is alive	5/25/2020 4:53 PM
23	I am currently unemployed and have been for 2 months, but if everything goes back to normal. I will be renewing my 2021	5/25/2020 4:04 PM
24	not sure	5/25/2020 3:55 PM
25	If I am still in business after covid19 mess, which at this is uncertain.	5/25/2020 3:33 PM
26	No I do not wish. I think the board and college are ripping off its members!	5/25/2020 3:27 PM
27	If the fee gonna be adjust according to situation with covid 19, such as at least 50% of regular amount	5/25/2020 3:10 PM
28	I'll be practicing....	5/21/2020 6:54 PM

## Q5 Will the proposed fee reduction make you more likely to renew your registration in 2021?

Answered: 439 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, the fee reduction will make me more likely to renew	46.24%	203
The fee reduction will not impact my decision to renew or not renew	47.15%	207
No, the fee reduction will not make me more likely to renew	4.10%	18
Unsure	2.51%	11
TOTAL		439

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	It's \$3.84 per week. The fees should be reduced to \$600 annually and the College forced to work within the budget. Reduce staff and work from home to be more efficient. Rent a space for meetings.	6/24/2020 4:25 PM
2	As a small business owner I definitely need all the financial help I can get.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
3	will renew, but thankful for the lower fee offer	6/22/2020 1:29 PM
4	Its still too high!	6/20/2020 10:35 AM
5	I have to renew if fee is reduced or not.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
6	I'm renewing because I don't have a choice right?	6/19/2020 10:38 AM
7	But appreciate it as we have been hit hard	6/18/2020 11:04 PM
8	there is no choice but to pay what we are told to be able to continue to practice/work and i have no plans to change careers	6/18/2020 9:51 PM
9	I have to renew either way but a drop in price will make it a lot easier. 2 1/2 months with no salary isn't easy to digest.	6/18/2020 8:54 PM
10	I will renew for sure.	6/18/2020 7:18 PM
11	I am pleased that the reduction will be in place to help out financially, however the reduction itself does not impact my decision	6/18/2020 6:22 PM
12	I will be less resentful if I have a \$200.00 fee reduction. You have a captive market, I will pay no matter what...it is the resentment factor that changes!	6/18/2020 4:02 PM
13	My employer pays my fees	6/18/2020 3:56 PM
14	We don't really have a choice if we wish to continue to work as an Optician here	6/18/2020 3:51 PM
15	I have no intentions of quitting or retiring any time soon so regardless of the cost I will still be renewing for the 2021 year	6/14/2020 5:53 PM
16	I HAVE TO PRACTICE THAN I NEED MY LICENSE TO BE RENEWED!!	6/3/2020 10:05 PM
17	I believe the fee reduction will greatly help so many opticians financially. With being closed for so long and then having to spend so much money on PPE and increased cleaning and sanitation supplies, this will impact many members. Sadly this virus situation isn't over, so realistically we don't know when things will return to somewhat "normal". People will not be spending like they did before and the high registration fees we have to pay may be a financial burden in the near future.	5/29/2020 2:16 AM
18	Job requirement to be licensed optician	5/26/2020 11:34 PM
19	I guess it depends on if I still have a viable business after this covid crisis thing. We are in a mall and have been closed since March 18...Devastating to say the least.	5/26/2020 2:55 PM
20	\$200 is not enough	5/26/2020 12:03 PM
21	But it does make my life much easier!	5/26/2020 10:03 AM
22	My employer pays for my renewal	5/26/2020 9:52 AM
23	My business is closed since March break. Big hit on my business. A little help goes long way. I didn't even make my rent. So ,yes i will try to survive, even my registration fee is so high.	5/26/2020 9:37 AM
24	Every year i struggle to renew. Why maintain my license when i can work at an optometry clinic and not have to worry about fees	5/26/2020 9:22 AM
25	It is not a decision I can make easily specially during a pandemic but it does help that you are making the annual fee lower due to the circumstances. I am leaning more to renewing my license.	5/26/2020 12:28 AM
26	I will renew either way	5/25/2020 10:33 PM
27	My employer pays my renewal but will appreciate the reduced fees	5/25/2020 9:55 PM

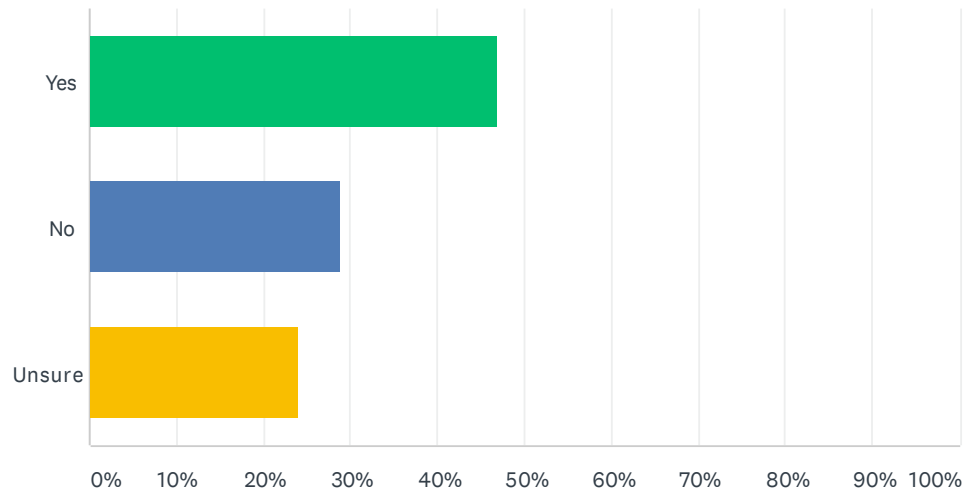


## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

28	We didn't work for three month. The memberahip has impact on us, considering most of us live paycheck by paycheck.	5/25/2020 8:43 PM
29	Fee reduction or not, an Optician has no choice, in order to renew the licence a fee has to be paid.	5/25/2020 7:30 PM
30	It depends on the state of the pandemic/ cases/ test quality & a vaccine.	5/25/2020 5:39 PM
31	I will renew my registration regardless of what the fee is.	5/25/2020 4:13 PM
32	Finally some good news !	5/25/2020 4:04 PM
33	It will make me more likely to renew if the \$200.00 was refunded this year as a matter of fairness.	5/25/2020 3:55 PM
34	Thinking about retiring but just not sure when. That will impact my decision about renewing.	5/25/2020 3:24 PM
35	if now onward college Of opticians can function with this amount, why they charge \$972,close to \$1100 annually is bit too much for so many opticians	5/25/2020 3:22 PM
36	As long as reduction more significant than 20%	5/25/2020 3:10 PM
37	For me it doesn't hinder my decision but it will make a large impact for many people looking to renew their license.	5/25/2020 3:06 PM
38	My employer covers the cost	5/21/2020 11:12 PM

## Q6 Should opticians that did not renew their registration in 2020 be eligible for the reduced fee in 2021?

Answered: 439 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	46.92%	206
No	28.93%	127
Unsure	24.15%	106
TOTAL		439

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

#	COMMENTS:	DATE
1	Unsure of the wording in this question.	6/23/2020 12:08 AM
2	We have all been affected by CoVid19 and if it can help someone return to work I am in favour.	6/20/2020 7:20 PM
3	Should be for every one.	6/19/2020 4:39 PM
4	As they were not practicing in 2020, and therefore did not lose income, they should not be recompensed for something they did not lose	6/18/2020 11:06 PM
5	I look as reduced fee is only based on this year's event. If you didn't pay you didn't loose. But at the same time I wouldn't be upset if it was just easier for the college to have one reducrd fee.	6/18/2020 11:04 PM
6	There is no reason to have elaborate offices in downtown Toronto. Why could you not be housed out of an office space in a small town with cheaper rent and lower profile? That would reduce costs to reduce fees more. In this day of electronics and internet, there is no need to have to impress with offices in a high rent area. We are The collage of Ontario, Not Toronto.	6/18/2020 7:41 PM
7	I feel that all opticians should be eligible for the same renewal reductions. I also feel that all regular requirement should be met by both renewing opticians	6/18/2020 6:22 PM
8	I believe everyone should receives equal treatment!	6/18/2020 5:19 PM
9	Everyone is going through financial hardship doesnt matter if they renewed in the past or not, if they are looking to get to work it will definitely help relieve some of the burden	6/18/2020 4:16 PM
10	The fees should be reduced considering we are in a pandemic and jobs are being lost.	6/18/2020 4:05 PM
11	Many opticians had right reason not to renew license or could not simply had some health issue or.... than in that case will be unfair for them!	6/3/2020 10:05 PM
12	I think it would depend on why they didn't renew In 2020	6/2/2020 10:48 AM
13	If you are making a change, it should be for everyone right across the board. Do not stipulate who is eligable or not. Then you start getting people asking why they paid more than someone else. You do not know why that person did not renew in 2020. It makes it easier.	5/29/2020 2:57 PM
14	Some opticians may be on sick leave or maternity leave, so to not include them seems wrong. This whole coronavirus is impacting everyone and if the fees are indeed reduced, need to be accessible to all members.	5/29/2020 2:16 AM
15	yes if they choose to continue to be opticians. The reduction, to my understanding, is applicable because annual salary/income has been reduced or effected by pandemic in 2020. Therefore the reduction is not relatable to 2020 registration renewal?	5/27/2020 8:02 PM
16	keeping fee same for all.	5/27/2020 4:14 PM
17	That wouldn't have impacted them as they were not practicing anyway. In a way the reduction may impact them to reregister but if they didn't in 2020 why would they now?	5/27/2020 11:39 AM
18	I think it should apply for everyone	5/27/2020 11:33 AM
19	Once u pass ur exam that should clear everything	5/27/2020 11:09 AM
20	I believe only opticians that have being active in 2020 and affected by Covid 19 should get the reduction. Because whoever was not registered they did not lose money.	5/26/2020 11:41 PM
21	They did not need to use their license to earn income.	5/26/2020 11:34 PM
22	The renewal for 2021 will be done in 2020 and it is this year where the financial impact has taken place, so the registration for the previous year should not matter.	5/26/2020 2:11 PM
23	the fee should be the same for all across, whether they we were registrated in 2020 or not - unless there are added fee when you skip a year	5/26/2020 1:21 PM
24	Everyone is affected by this pandemic it should apply to Everyone	5/26/2020 12:30 PM
25	There are many reasons for people to step back from renewing for a year & should not be penalized if. They are ready to return.	5/26/2020 12:14 PM
26	New year, new rules	5/26/2020 9:52 AM

## Proposed By-Law Amendments re Fee Reduction

27	i always thought that the license had to be renewed annually to meet the criteria for working as a licensed optician	5/26/2020 9:47 AM
28	Every body is suffering.	5/26/2020 9:37 AM
29	Is there not already a fine or something to skip a year or so?	5/25/2020 11:39 PM
30	Reduced fee will give them the possibility to enter the practice again.	5/25/2020 8:25 PM
31	You guys already charging exorbitant fees for renewal. Most of us feel it should max of 200\$. Yes you r mafia for us.	5/25/2020 7:07 PM
32	Should be equally treated	5/25/2020 6:57 PM
33	Neither should the Opticians that remained open, despite the call to remain closed.	5/25/2020 4:54 PM
34	a matter of fairness	5/25/2020 4:53 PM
35	If they were unable to renew because of financial issues.	5/25/2020 4:52 PM
36	There will be more process involved to reinstate a registration.	5/25/2020 4:13 PM
37	The fees are too high!	5/25/2020 4:04 PM
38	They did not suffer any financial hardship and more the reason the refund should be benefit the current registrant.	5/25/2020 3:55 PM
39	We are all supposed to be brothers in arms	5/25/2020 3:38 PM
40	Everyone should pay less because the board is a waist of money!	5/25/2020 3:27 PM
41	If they are paying for their 2020 and their 2021 renewals...	5/25/2020 3:23 PM
42	My opinion at this point is no They should not qualify for the reduced rate next year. However if the current shutdown (or the fallout from it) continues into the new year then my answer may change.	5/25/2020 3:21 PM
43	I don't think they should be eligible but I'm not sure the OFC would agree.... this might be challenged.	5/21/2020 6:54 PM