

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
**2024 Annual Executive Committee Report to the Board of
Directors**

2024 Committee Members:

Stephen Kinsella, Chair, Public Member
Derick Summers, Vice-Chair, RO, Elected Member
Kevin Cloutier, RO, Elected Member
Peggy Judge, Public Member
Tonya Nahmabin, RO, Elected Member

Number of meetings:

In 2024, the Committee had 6 meetings.

Report:

1. General Business

Registrar's Evaluation Process

The Executive Subcommittee is made up of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and one member at large of the Executive Committee, and is responsible for carrying out the Registrar, CEO's annual performance review. In 2024 a 360 Registrar's review was conducted in accordance with the Registrar, CEO Performance Evaluation Process Policy and was completed with input from all board members, system partners, and staff using confidential surveys.

Timing of the Board Elections

At the February meeting, the Executive Committee reviewed the timing of the elections for 2024 and made recommendations to the Board for a spring election.

2. Exercise of Board Powers in Between Meetings

Under section 12 of the Health Professions Procedural Code, the Executive Committee has all of the powers of the Board with respect to any matter that, in the Committee's opinion, requires immediate attention, other than the power to make, amend or revoke a regulation or by-law. Where the Executive Committee exercises this power, it must report on its actions to the Board at its next meeting.

At the December 16, 2024, meeting, the Executive Committee exercised its powers to act as the Board to appoint Derick Summers to the Registration Committee. The appointment followed the

receipt of notice from committee member, Robert Vezina, that he would be resigning from the College effective January 1, 2025. The Committee determined that it was necessary to appoint another individual to the Registration Committee to ensure it began the year properly constituted under the by-laws and committee terms of reference.

3. Finance Committee

Review of Financial Statements and Financial Auditor Recommendation

At each meeting, the Executive reviewed the quarterly financial variance report. Based on their review, the committee recommended that the Board approve the financial variance reports.

At the May meeting, The Executive Committee reviewed the draft audited financial statements as prepared and presented by Grewal Guyatt, Chartered Professional Accountants. Based on their review, the committee recommended that the Board approve the audited financial statements.

The Executive committee carried out its annual assessment of the auditor, and based on the results of the assessment, it recommended that the board reappoint Grewal Guyatt, CPA as the auditor for the 2024 fiscal year.

Honoraria Policy

At the September meeting, the Executive Committee carried out a scheduled review of the honoraria policy for board and committee members, which was last updated in 2020. The committee made a recommendation to the Board at the September meeting.

2025 Budget

The Committee reviewed the draft 2025 budget at the November 2024 meeting and presented it to the board for approval at the December 2024 meeting.

Submitted by:

Derick Summers, Chair, Elected Member

QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Annual Report to the Board of Directors

Committee Members:

Tonya Nahmabin, RO, Chair, Board Professional Member
Omar Farouk, Vice Chair, Board Public Member
Henry Wiersema, Board Public Member (until 24-June-24)
Panos Petrides, Community Appointee
Angelia Brown, RO, Professional Appointee
Melissa Campbell, RO, Professional Appointee

Accreditation Panel Members:

John Battaglia, RO, Chair, Professional Appointee
Robert Quinn, RO, Vice Chair, Professional Appointee
Derick Summers, RO, Board Professional Member
Lindsay Beriault, RO, Professional Appointee
Janice Mallette, RO, Professional Appointee
David Milne, Community Appointee
Elisabeth Roche, RO, Professional Appointee

In 2024, the Committee held 5 meetings and 1 Accreditation Panel meeting.

Report:

Orientation and Training

Members of the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) were provided with orientation and training at their first meeting of the year

In addition, Natasha Danson of Steinecke, Macura, LeBlanc provided members with an overview of the principles of Right Touch Regulation and explained that outcomes and/or decisions should be determined by the level of risk and may vary by file/case.

Peer Assessor Training

The College's Peer Assessors were provided with annual training by Rigor Consulting and Peggy Dreyer, Director, Professional Practice & Quality Assurance.

Accrediting Continuing Education Activities

Members of the accreditation panel were provided with orientation on the Accreditation Policy, accreditation categories, and the process of reviewing continuing education activities. In addition, they reviewed an activity submitted for accreditation as part of their training.

The accreditation panels reviewed 242 activities in 2024.

Competency Review and Evaluation (CRE) Process

In February 438 registrants received notice they were required to participate in the 2024 CRE process of these:

- 403 were randomly selected
- 35 were required to participate due to a deferral or deficiency in their 2023 Professional Portfolio

Of the 438 registrants:

- 1 was granted a deferral
- 11 were identified as not required to participate due to non-renewal, retirement, or not being registered during the relevant period

Peer and Practice Assessments

As part of the CRE process, in addition to a fulsome review of their 2023 Professional Portfolio, 20 registrants were randomly selected to participate in a Peer and Practice Assessment:

- 12 were required to participate in both Step1 (Practice Profile and Chart Review) & Step 2 Professional Practice Interview)
- 8 were required to participate in Step 1 (Practice Profile and Chart Review)

In addition, the Committee:

- Ordered 6 PPA's due to non-compliance with the CRE process
- Revoked 5 PPA's placed on hold in 2024 as the registrants have met the ordered requirements
- Deferred 5 PPA's

The total number of PPA's to be completed in 2024 was 21:

- 14 assessments are complete
- 7 are outstanding due to registrant non-compliance

Professional Portfolio Due Date

The Committee determined to extend the deadline to complete and submit annual professional portfolio requirements to align with the new annual renewal deadline. Accordingly, the portfolio year will run from January 16 to January 15 of the following year.

This Committee identified this will cause less confusion, alleviate any stress and/or pressure of having multiple deadlines and will ensure staff are more accessible prior to the deadline.

Quality Assurance Requirements

The Committee considered what it would mean for an optician to have “outstanding QA requirements” for the purpose of registrants applying to move to the inactive class of registration and determined, for this purpose to define this as:

Where the Committee has directed/ordered the optician to do something (e.g., submit their professional portfolio, participate in a Peer and Practice Assessment) and they have not done so.

Quality Assurance Committee Policy Manual

In 2024, the Committee reviewed and approved a structured, scheduled review of their policies and guidelines. This will support the Boards ability to manage risk.

The following policies were reviewed:

Policy	Amendments
1.1 Defining a Non-Exclusive List of Continuing Education Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating Continuing Education requirements for inactive opticians who change their status during the registration year Removing caps/limits on activities opticians can claim as non-accredited, self-directed hours Removing dispensing hours as an eligible activity for non—accredited, self-directed hours
1.2 Defining Professional Portfolio Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the professional portfolio cycle Removing the requirement that “current and inactive” registrants must maintain a professional portfolio Outlining portfolio requirements for registrants who change their status throughout the year
1.4 Maintaining Records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include that all components of the professional portfolio are to be completed online Remove the requirement all records must be kept for 6 years except for verification of attendance for accredited activities
2.1 Defining the Components of the Competency Review and Evaluation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the policy to identify the requirements for opticians who are randomly selected Identifying the components of a Peer and Practice Assessment (PPA) Identifying when a registrant may be required to participate in Step 2 of a PPA Updating the random selection criteria
2.2 Peer and Practice Assessment (PPA) Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the policy to define the steps of a PPA Outlining factors that determine what step(s) a registrant must complete Outlining registrant requirements

2.3 Professional Portfolio Submissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the policy to reflect the portfolio is completed online Updating the deadline to ensure materials are reported/completed online
2.5 Peer Assessment Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the policy to include when a PPA is considered complete Outlining the requirements for reviewing each component of the PPA Outlining what happens when a registrant falls below the established threshold in either component
2.6 Defining the Competency Review and Evaluation Components and Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminated as it is a duplicate of policy 2.1
2.8 Request for Deferral, Extension or Exemption – Peer and Practice Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A provision for staff to grant the deferral or extension provided it meets the criteria of the policy Outlining when the Committee will review an extension or deferral request
2.9 Peer and Practice Assessment – Registrant Participation Due Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing deadlines for the registrant to submit materials Establishing deadlines for Peer Assessors Amending notification letters to be sent by email

Peer and Practice Assessment (PPA) Fees

After considering stakeholder feedback, the Committee proposed reduced fees for remote PPAs to the Board of Directors. These fees do not apply to registrants who are randomly selected to participate in a PPA, they apply to registrants who are ordered to participate in a PPA by the Quality Assurance Committee for non-compliance with their QA requirements, registrants who have been ordered a PPA by the registrar or another Committee of the College.

In September, the Board of Directors approved the following fees:

Remote PPA – Step 1 – Practice Profile and Chart Review	\$225.00 (+HST)
Remote PPA – Step 2 - Professional Practice Interview	\$225.00 (+HST)

The fee for an onsite Peer and Practice Assessment remains unchanged at \$850.00 (+HST).

Free On-Demand Continuing Education

As part of the College's commitment to support our registrants in meeting their professional obligations, a section of the website was created where registrants will find free continuing education content. At this time, registrants can view 3 recorded webinars. To obtain a certificate of completion, registrants must successfully complete a short quiz after viewing the video.

Quality Assurance Outreach

In 2024, to provide information and answer questions related to the Quality Assurance Program, staff attended:

- 5 in person continuing education events
- 1 student night hosted by Seneca College, and 1 student night hosted by the Ontario Opticians Association
- 1 information session with opticianry students at Seneca College

Submitted by:

Tonya Nahmabin, RO, Chair, Board Professional Member
Peggy Dreyer, Director, Professional Practice & Quality Assurance

QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Competency Review & Evaluation Process

New in 2024

- Updated, risk-based selection criteria
- Introduction of random selection for Peer and Practice Assessment (PPA)
- Updated Peer and Practice Assessment Tool

CRE Facts

- 438 Professional Portfolios reviewed
- 12 PPA reports reviewed

Peer and Practice Assessment

Notable Points

- Significant increase in 2024 in recommendations and Specified Continuing Education or Remediation Programs (SCERP) as a result of the new PPA tool, which added a comprehensive chart review
- The majority of concerns identified by assessors related to record keeping

Accreditation Requests

242 Activities Reviewed

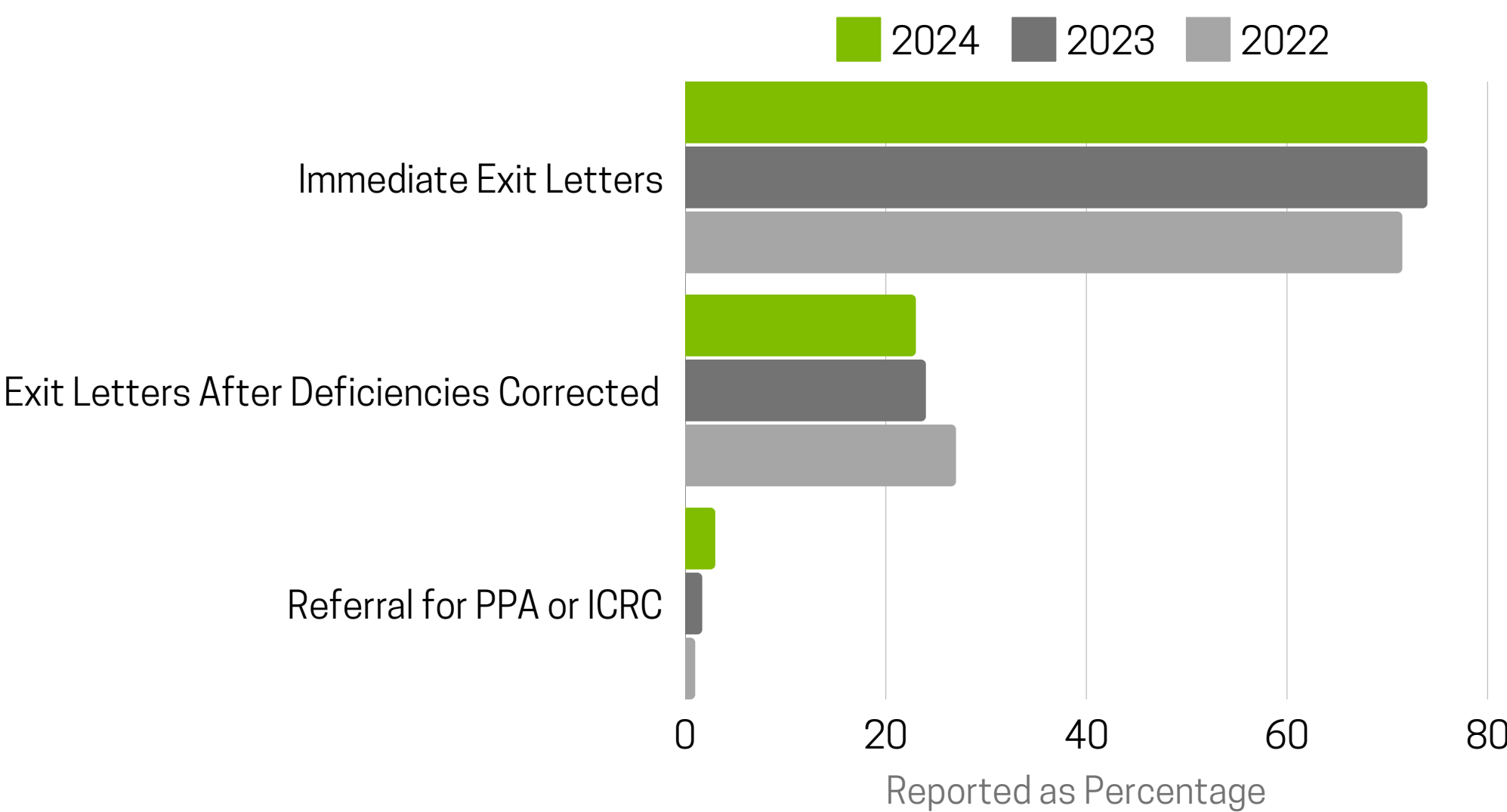
235 Activities Accredited

355.5 Hours of CE

Notable Points:

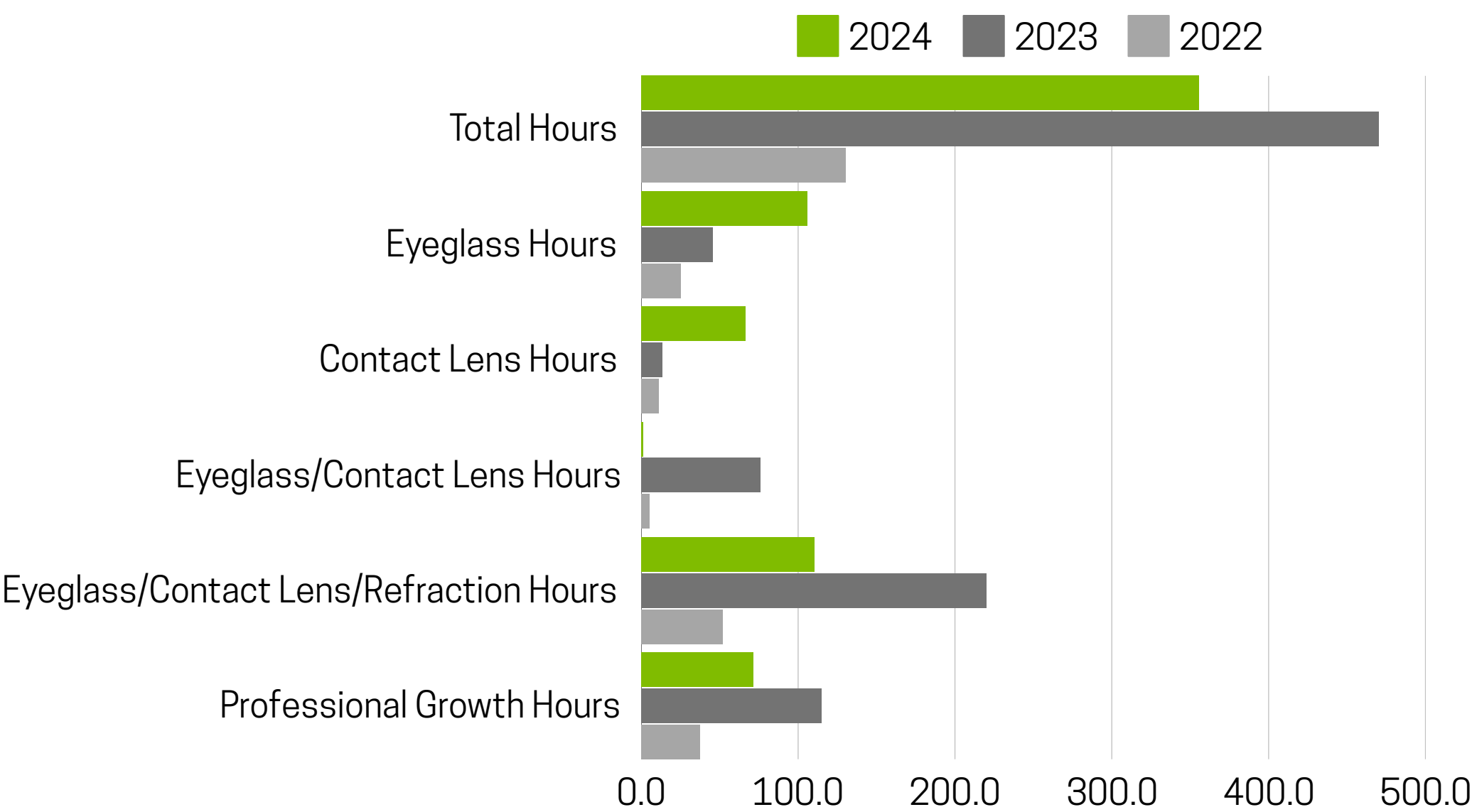
- the number of accreditation requests continues to increase annually
- In 2023, scholastic continuing education courses were accredited, this accounts for the higher than usual number of accredited hours

Professional Portfolio Results



Peer Assessment Outcomes

Year	Closed	Closed with Recommendations	SCERP
2024	0	36%	64%
2023	50%	50%	0
2022	70%	30%	0



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Annual Report to The Board of Directors

Committee Members:

Elliot Borins, Community Appointee, Chair
Carlos Pacheco (RO), Board (Professional) Member
Jamuna Balaram, Community Appointee
Lindsay Beriault (RO), Professional Appointee
Angelia Brown (RO), Professional Appointee

Number of Meetings:

In 2024 the Governance Committee held four virtual meetings via Zoom.

Training

All members of the Governance Committee were provided with orientation and training at their first meeting of the year (February 2024). The committee received training on the role of the Governance Committee, the Board's Policy Governance Framework and an update on the College's evolving governance reform of its operational and governance structure.

Report:*Board Policy Review Schedule*

The committee reviewed the following policies in accordance with the schedule set out in Appendix 2 to the Policy Governance Manual, and recommended amendments to the Board where appropriate:

1. Communication and Support to the Board Policy 2-11
2. Emergency Registrar, CEO Succession Policy 2-14
3. Organizational Shared Values Policy 4-02
4. Director and Committee Member Responsibilities Policy 4-27
5. Reserves Policy 2-07
6. Human Resources and Relations Policy 2-08
7. Board Terms of Reference 4-03
8. Executive Committee Terms of Reference and Mandate Policy 4-08
9. Governance Committee Terms of Reference and Mandate Policy 4-09
10. Asset Protection Policy 2-04
11. Patient Relations Committee Terms of Reference and Mandate Policy 4-10
12. Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (ICRC) Terms of Reference and Mandate Policy 4-11
13. Pre-Election Training Module Policy 4-18

- 14. Relationship with Public and Stakeholders Policy 2-09
- 15. Registrant Relations Policy 2-10
- 16. Vote Majority for Termination of a Registrar Policy 3-09
- 17. Board and Committee Principles Policy 4-07

2023 Committee Self Evaluation Results

In May, the committee reviewed and discussed the results of the Governance Committee effectiveness self-evaluations for 2023.

2024 Board Action Plan

In May, the committee reviewed a draft of the board's 2024 Action Plan and confirmed that it aligned with the priorities identified during the board's working session in March 2024. The committee recommended, and the board approved, the 2024 Board Action Plan.

Governance Reform: New Inactive Class Voting and Nomination Eligibility

The committee reviewed the proposed amendments to the by-laws to address election, appointment, and voter eligibility for members of the new inactive class of registration. After consideration, the committee recommended, and the board approved, circulating the proposed changes for registrant and system partner feedback.

In August, the committee reviewed the feedback received. Following discussion, the committee recommended, and the board agreed, that only registrants holding a certificate of registration as a Registered Optician should be eligible for election to the board or appointment as an appointed committee member. Additionally, the committee recommended, and the board approved, an amendment to the by-laws to allow registrants in the inactive class to vote in the COO Board Elections.

Adjustment to Registrar, CEO Compensation Formula

In May, the committee considered a proposed adjustment to the Registrar, CEO Compensation Formula as recommended by the Performance Evaluation/Compensation Sub-Committee. In August, at the board's request, the committee revisited proposed amendments to the confidential appendix of the Registrar, CEO Performance Evaluation and Compensation Policy, which had been proposed by the COO's governance consultant. These amendments were subsequently presented to the board at its September meeting.

Governance Reform: Electoral Districts

The board tasked the committee with exploring possible governance reforms aimed at streamlining and modernizing governance processes. One of the key areas assigned to the committee was the potential modification or elimination of electoral districts.

In May, the committee reviewed three potential options for electoral reform, evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of each. During the discussion, a case study of the electoral reform implemented by the College of Dietitians (CDO) was presented. Following this review, the committee recommended, and the board approved, conducting a consultation to gather feedback from registrants and system partners on the proposed reform options.

In November, the committee reviewed and discussed the feedback gathered. The committee revisited the options for electoral reform and discussed which would help to further the College's public interest mandate. After careful consideration, the committee recommended, and the board approved restructuring the electoral districts for professional members to create a single district encompassing all of Ontario. In 2025, the committee would begin developing a comprehensive transition plan, which would include a framework for the geographic representation of appointed committee members.

Submitted by:

Elliot Borins, Appointed Public Member, Chair

Sarah Scott, Director, Policy and Governance

PATIENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Annual Report to The Board of Directors

Committee Members:

David Milne, Community Appointee, Chair
Parneet Dhillon (RO), Professional Appointee, Vice-Chair
Melissa Campbell (RO), Professional Appointee
Paul Imola (RO), Board (Professional) Member
Paul Wilk, Board (Public) Member

Report:

In 2024, the Patient Relations Committee held one virtual meeting via Zoom.

Training

Members of the Patient Relations Committee received comprehensive orientation and training covering the committee's role, the patient relations program, sexual abuse prevention guidelines and the COO's funding for therapy and counselling.

Jurisprudence

In June, the committee reviewed proposed revisions to the test questions for Jurisprudence Chapters 1 (Professional Boundaries and Sexual Abuse Prevention), Chapter 2 (Record Keeping, Confidentiality and Privacy) and Chapter 3 (Communications) which had been revised in consultation with John Wickett, Psychometrician of Wickett Measurement Systems. The changes were aimed at aligning with best practices for multiple-choice question construction and providing a better QA resource for assessing registrants' knowledge.

The committee raised concerns about the wording of a Chapter 1 question which was revised and subsequently approved. It also reviewed and approved the questions for Chapters 2 and 3, with a discussion on the potential requirement to make Chapter 2 mandatory.

Submitted by:

David Milne, Community Appointee, Chair
Sarah Scott, Director, Policy and Governance

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

2024 Annual Report

2024 Discipline Committee Members:

Committee Members:

Elected Members

David Milne, **Chair**, Non-RO
Tonya Nahmabin, **Vice Chair**, RO
Derick Summers, RO
Paul Imola, RO
Kevin Cloutier, RO
Rob Vezina, RO
Samir Modhera, RO
Grazyna Sepczynska, RO
Carlos Pacheco, RO

Public Members

Omar Farouk
Stephen Kinsella
Henry Wiersema
Peggy Judge
Paul Wilk
Alicia Munian

Appointed Members

Jay Bhatt, RO
John Battaglia, RO
Robert Quinn, RO
Janice Mallette, RO
Stephanie Kelly, RO
Angelia Brown, RO
Parneet Dhillon, RO
Elizabeth Roche, RO
Lindsay Beriault, RO
Melissa Campbell, RO
Parminder Kalsi, RO
Elliot Borins, Non-RO
Jamuna Balaram, Non-RO
Panos Petrides, Non-RO

The Discipline Committee holds hearings into specified allegations of professional misconduct or incompetence that are referred by the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee.

Committee Highlights:

On May 16, 2024, eight members of the Committee attended a basic Discipline Committee training workshop via videoconference put on by the Health Profession Regulators of Ontario (HPRO).

On June 13, 2024, seven members of the Committee attended an advanced Discipline Committee training workshop via videoconference put on by the Health Profession Regulators of Ontario (HPRO).

Hearings:

In 2024, a panel of the Discipline Committee held a hearing in the following matter:

Matter

College of Opticians v. Mitchell

Hearing Date

May 13, 2024

A copy of the Discipline Committee's decision is available on the College's website.

The following matter was referred to the Discipline Committee in 2024:

Matter	Hearing Date
<i>College of Opticians v. Janmohamed</i>	TBD

Submitted by:

David Milne, Chair, Appointed Member

Tertia van Jaarsveld, Senior Coordinator, Professional Conduct

INQUIRES, COMPLAINTS & REPORTS COMMITTEE 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ICRC Complaint Processing time

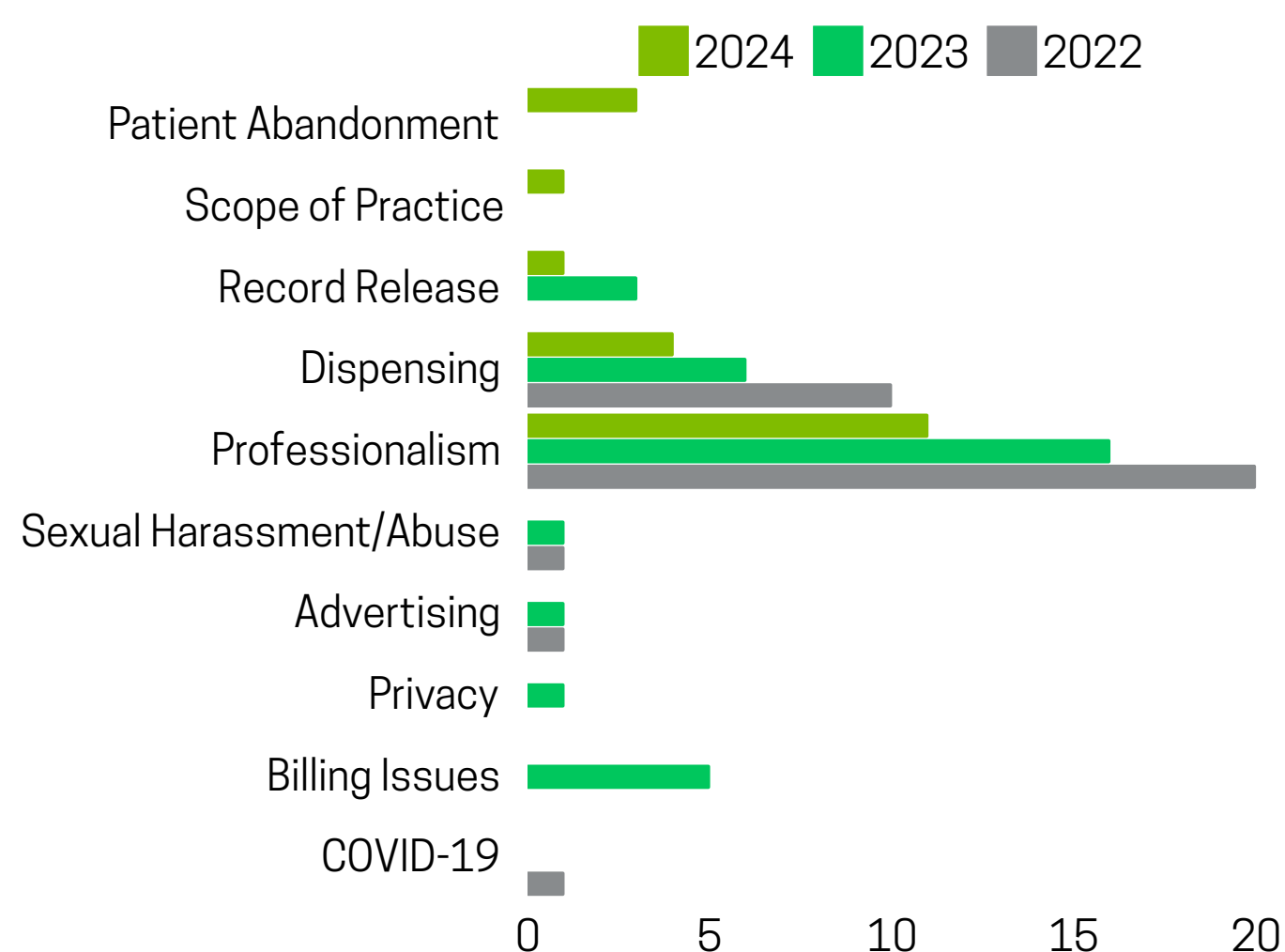
2024 data reflects the College's commitment to shortening processing times for complaint matter.

Avg. Days 2022: **351**

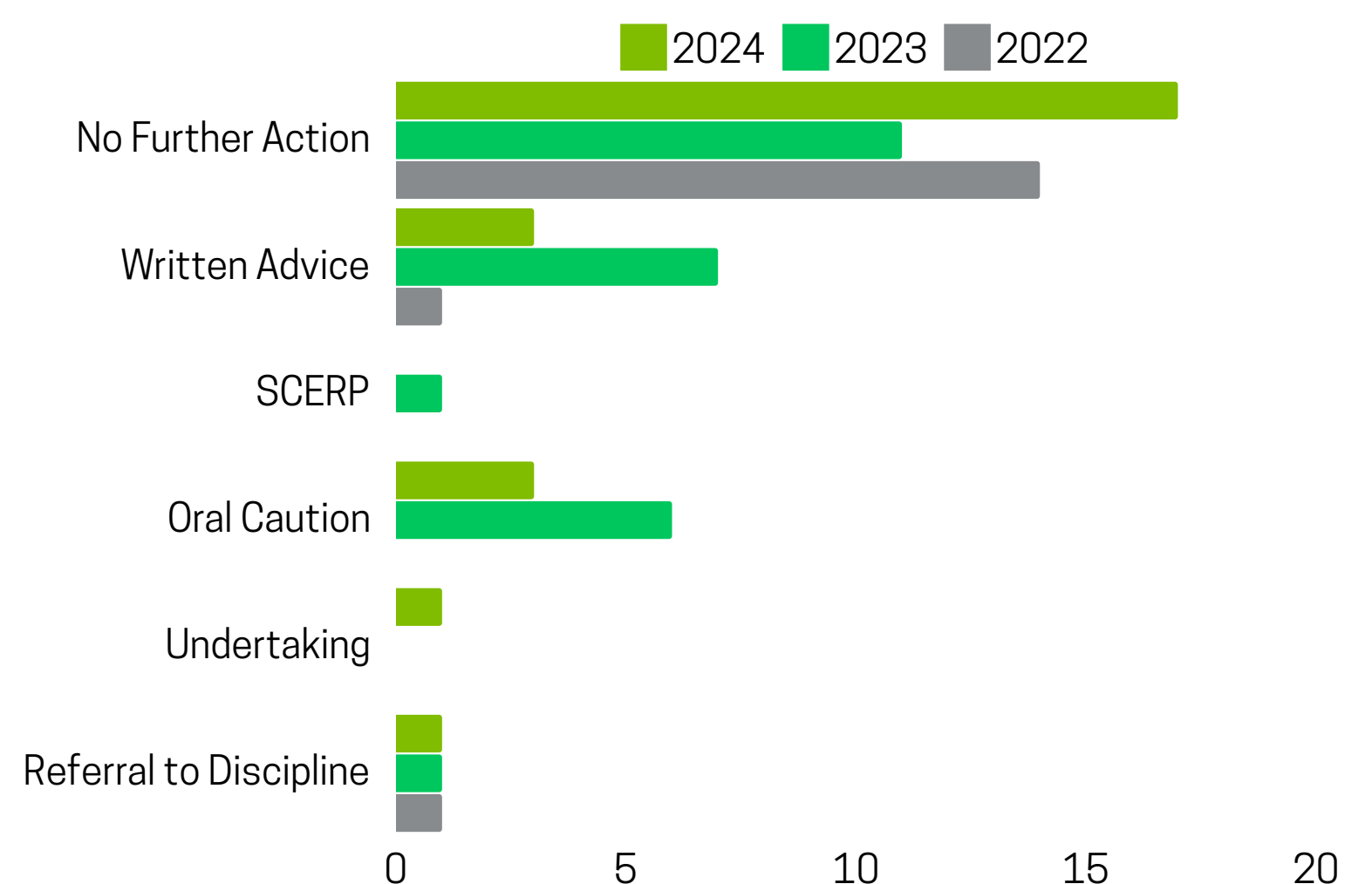
Avg. Days 2023: **258**

Avg. Days 2024: **167**

Complaints Trends



Disposition of Closed Matters



Complaints/Reports Received in 2024: **39**

Complaints/Reports Disposed in 2024: **23**

Unauthorized Practice (UAP)

UAP Reports Received: **23**

UAP Reports Closed: **21**

Referrals for Court Proceedings: **1**

Court Orders: **0**

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Members:

Robert Vezina, RO, Chair, Elected Member
Alicia Munian, Vice Chair, Public Member
Stephanie Kelly, RO, Appointed Member
Jay Bhatt, RO, Appointed Member
Panos Petrides, Community Appointed Member

Registration Appeal Panel

Stephen Kinsella, Public Member
Parminder Kalsi, RO Appointed Member
John Battaglia, RO, Appointed Member

Number of Meetings

In 2024, the Registration Committee held 11 (eleven) virtual meetings via Zoom. The Registration Appeal Panel (RAP) did not meet in 2024.

Training

The Committee received orientation training on the role of the College and the Registration Committee, an overview of the types of commonly reviewed applications, the appeal process, the role of the Office of the Fairness Commissioner (OFC), fair access law, and unconscious bias.

Additionally, the Committee received training on the national examination and the Prior Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) processes from Jodi Dodds, the Executive Director of the National Alliance of Canadian Optician Association (NACOR), and on the principles of right-touch regulation from Natasha Danson, partner with Steinecke Maciura Leblanc.

Report

Proposed Changes to the By-Laws

The Registration Committee proposed several by-law changes relating to the fees associated with the Emergency Class of Registration, the annual renewal deadline, and a new administrative fee for requesting copies of documents on file.

The proposed changes were circulated to registrants and stakeholders of the College in accordance with s.94(2) of the Health Professions Procedural Code.

In reviewing stakeholder feedback concerning the proposed by-law changes, the Registration Committee noted that the majority of survey respondents were in support of the proposed by-law changes thus reaffirming the direction taken by the Committee. Based on the feedback received from stakeholders, the Committee recommended, and the Board approved, the proposed by-law changes.

Reinstatement and Changing from Inactive to Active Practice

The Registration Committee reviewed the timeframe set for the transitional provision of the Reinstatement and Changing from Inactive to Active Practice Policy for opticians whose certificate of registration was suspended more than three years ago and who wish to reinstate their certificate of registration to avoid revocation.

The Registration Committee concluded that, with the new Registration Regulation coming into effect on July 1, 2024, the transition period initially set to January 1, 2025 would not constitute a reasonable timeframe to reinstate one's registration. The Committee therefore recommended, and the Board extended the transitional period until July 1, 2025, to allow one year for transition.

Registration Policies for Content Review

The Registration Committee reviewed the following registration policies to ensure the policies remain current and relevant and align with the new regulatory requirements:

- Registration Timelines Policy
- Retiring and Resigning Policy
- Student and Intern Supervision Policy
- Language Proficiency Policy
- Mutual Recognition Agreement/Labour Mobility Policy
- Examinations and Upgrading Policy
- Non-Practising Status Policy

The Committee subsequently recommended that the Board approve the proposed amendments to the aforementioned policies.

The Committee further reviewed and updated the following policies to ensure they accurately reflect the references to the new Registration Regulation:

- Currency of Practice Policy
- Practicum Policy

No changes were made to the content of the aforementioned policies.

The Committee also reviewed the Policy on Acceptance of Quality Assurance Program Compliance from other Canadian Provinces. The Committee noted that the new Registration Regulation that came into force on July 1, 2024 no longer requires evidence of QA compliance as a condition for reinstatement. Accordingly, the Registration Committee recommended to the Board that the Policy on Acceptance of Quality Assurance Program Compliance from other Canadian Provinces be rescinded as it is no longer required.

Addendum to the Contact Lens Mentor Policy

The Registration Committee reviewed the temporary addendum to the Contact Lens Mentor policy that addressed the challenges being posed to students in obtaining the requisite number of contact lens fits.

The Committee noted that students in certain opticianry programs continued to face challenges in finding preceptors to supervise the required Rigid Gas Permeable (RGP) lens fits. For the practicality of finding mentorship, the Committee recommended, and the Board approved that the temporary provision to permit contact lens course instructors to act as contact lens mentors would remain in effect until the College completed the planned review of the current practical entry-to-practice requirements and the new practicum requirements were put in place.

Policy Development

The Registration Committee undertook the development of new registration and examination policies, specifically:

- Inactive Class Policy
- Approved Education Programs Policy
- National Examinations Policy

The new registration policies supported registration-related changes stemming from the amendments to the Registration Regulation. The new examination policy established criteria for eligibility in administering NACOR's national examinations.

Upon review and consideration of the information presented, the Committee recommended, and the Board approved the proposed new registration and examination policies.

Refresher Program

Under the new Registration Regulation, individuals seeking to maintain, transfer, or obtain a Registered Optician certificate must demonstrate currency of knowledge and skills. Opticians who do not meet this requirement may be required to complete an approved refresher program to address any gaps in knowledge, skill, and judgment.

At its meeting on September 4, 2024, the Registration Committee considered whether the bridging module courses developed by the NACOR could be utilized as a refresher. To inform their decision-making, the Committee reviewed an environmental scan of other Ontario regulators' approaches to address currency deficiencies, an overview of the NACOR bridging course modules and competencies, and the outcomes of the Competency Gap Analysis for applicants seeking reinstatement after over 3 years of non-practice.

Upon review of the information presented, the Registration Committee tasked COO staff to work with NACOR to develop course bundles that would address potential knowledge gaps at the introductory or advanced levels.

Life Member Status

The Committee reviewed the impact of the automatic revocation provision under the new Registration Regulation on registrants currently holding Life Member status.

The Committee deliberated whether Life Member designations should be discontinued, or an alternative mechanism should be implemented to recognize service to the profession. To inform the decision-making, the Committee reviewed an environmental scan regarding life membership or comparable status offered by other Ontario health regulatory colleges.

The Committee subsequently proposed an alternative to the current process that would balance protection of public interest and recognition of service to the profession.

The Committee's proposal was circulated for feedback from registrants and other system partners in January 2025. The results are presented to the Board for consideration at its meeting in March 2025.

File Review

In 2023, the Registration Committee reviewed one initial application for a certificate of registration, one initial PLAR application, one PLAR assessment result, 13 initial reinstatement applications (over 3 years), one reinstatement assessment result, 13 upgrading proposals, and one request for an extension to sit the national examinations.

Submitted by:

Derick Summers, RO, Chair
Anna Jeremian, Director, Registration

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

2024 Annual Report

Registration Trends:

A 5-year snapshot of practising opticians*

*Based on Registered Opticians displayed on the public register as "entitled to practice" as of Q1 in each of the previous 5 years (2020-2024)

Key Trends:

- Noted upward trend of registered opticians over the course of 6 years

A 5-year comparison of annual first-time optician and intern registrations

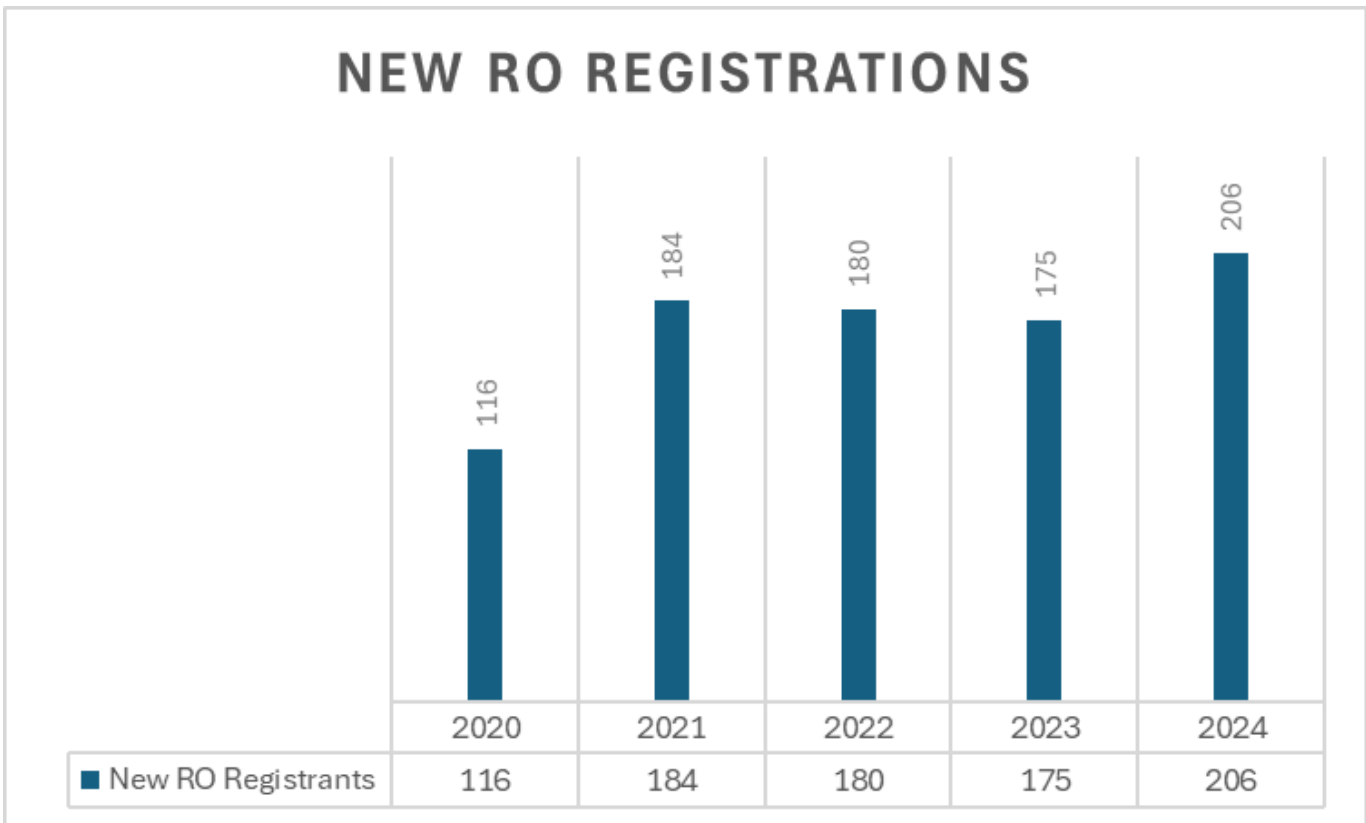
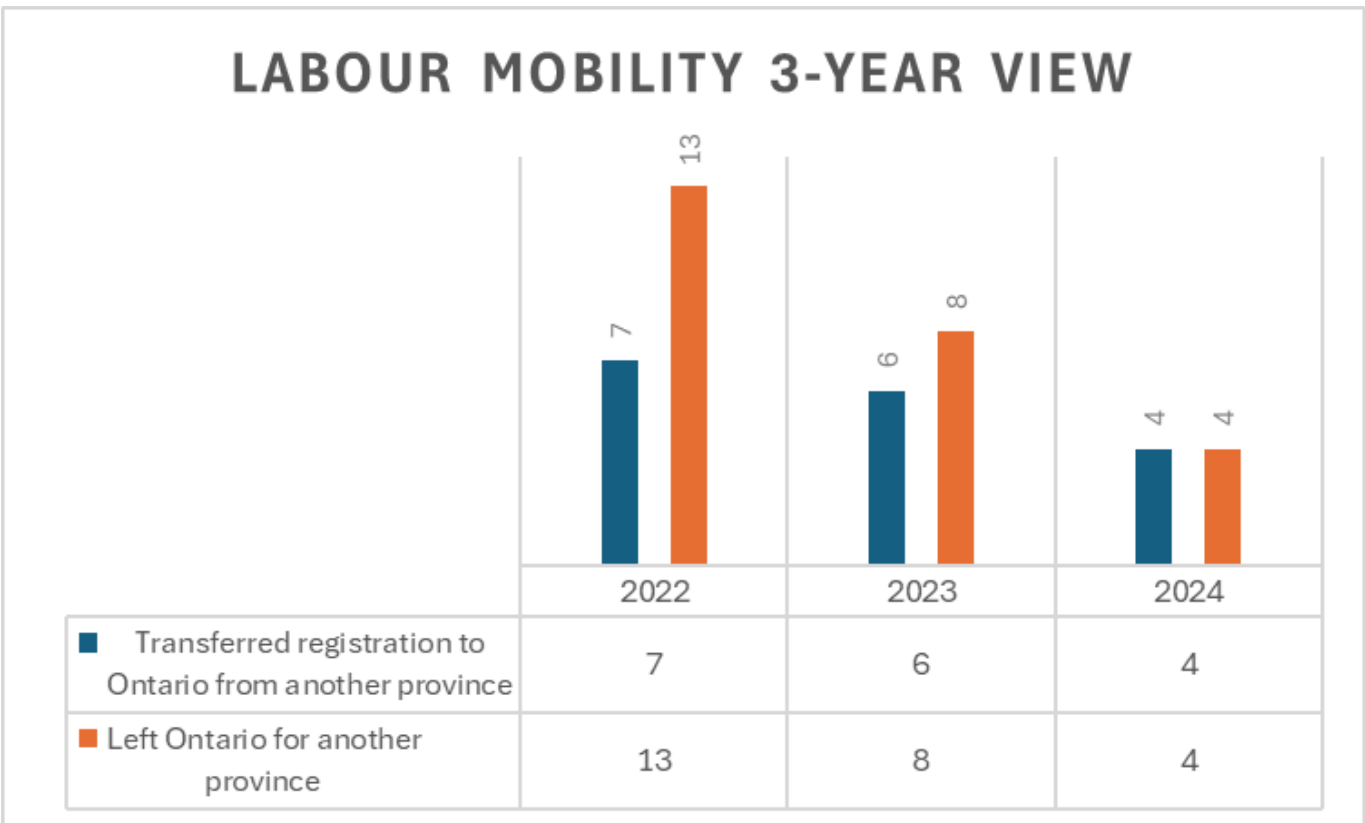
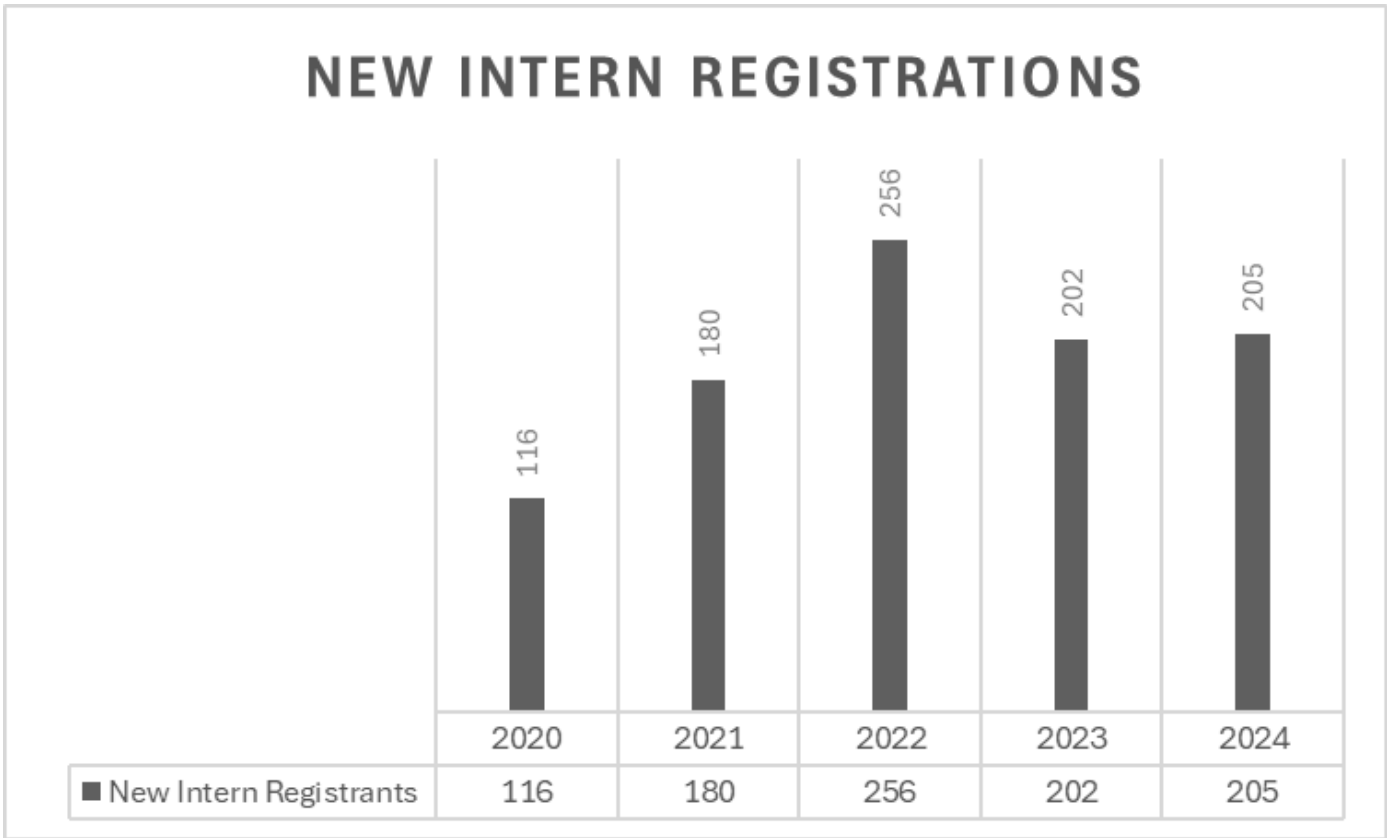
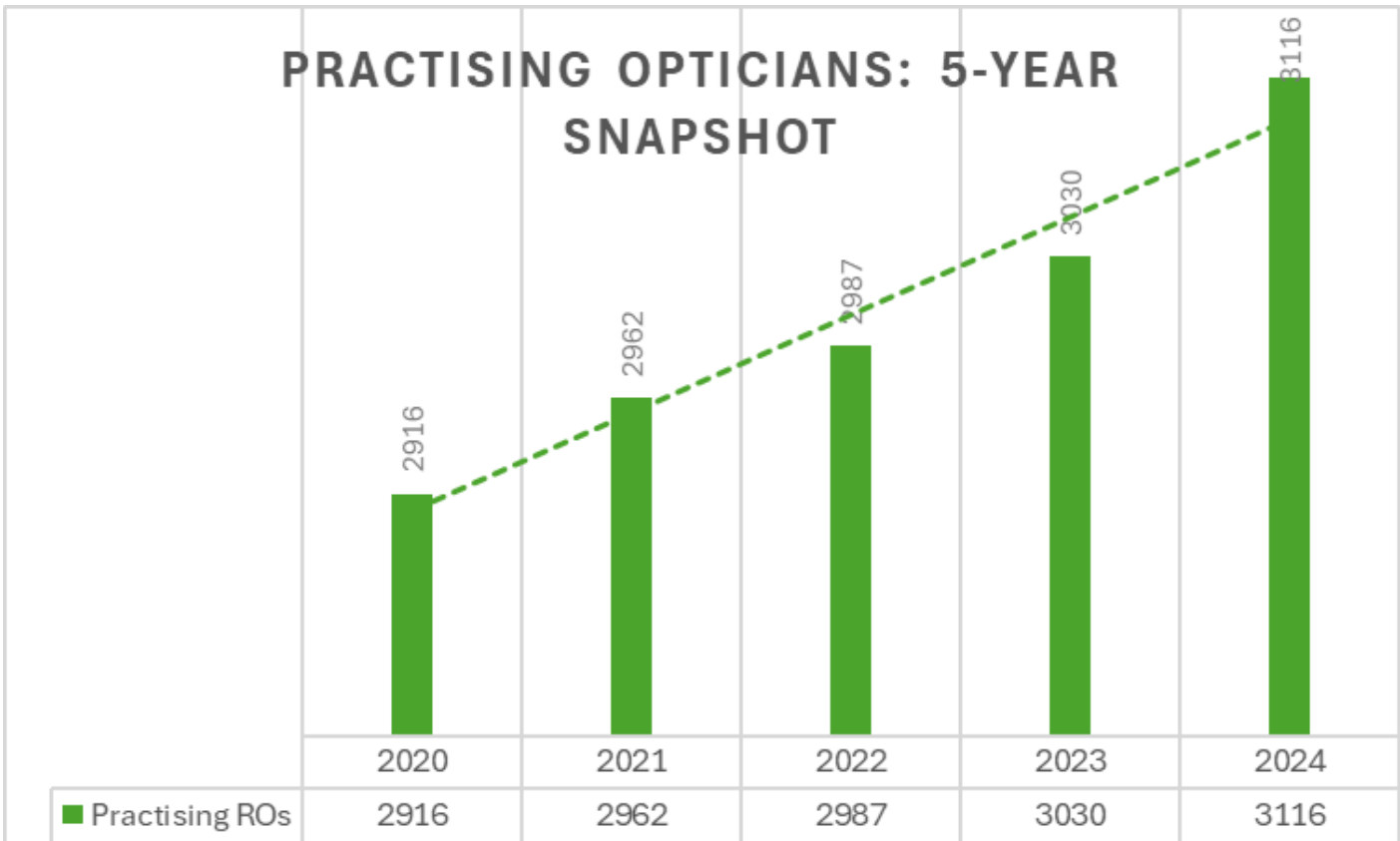
Key Trends:

- Consistent supply of intern opticians following the pandemic
- Over 95% of intern opticians register as an optician following successful completion of the national examinations

Labour Mobility Trends:

- Noted decrease in the number of opticians leaving Ontario for another province over the course of 3 years

Current number of practising opticians:
3331



CLINICAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

2024 Annual Report to Council

Committee Members:

Parneet Dhillon, RO, Chair, Professional Appointee
Grazyna Sepczynska, RO, Vice-Chair, Board Professional Member
Elliot Borins, Community Appointee
Parminder Kalsi, RO, Professional Appointee
Stephanie Kelly, RO, Professional Appointee

Number of Meetings:

Report: 4

Orientation and Training

Committee members were provided orientation and training at the first meeting of the year.

At a subsequent meeting, Anastasia-Maria Hountalas of Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc provided the Committee with an overview of what professional judgement means.

Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines

In 2024, the Committee began a scheduled review of the Standards of Practice and Practice Guidelines. As part of this review, an initial consultation took place to gather feedback from registrants and other sources on areas where more guidance or clarity is needed.

Some areas identified by respondents as needing clarification include:

- Prescription expiry dates
- Obtaining patient consent
- Specialty lenses
- Record keeping
- Remote practice
- Delegation

The Committee met on 3 occasions to review the feedback and proposed areas where:

- The standard may need to be updated/amended
- additional guidance and/or clarification may be needed
- additional education around the standard would be beneficial

The administration team continues to work on proposed amendments and guidance based on the direction of the Committee.

Submitted by:

Parneet Dhillon, RO, Vice Chair, Professional Appointee

Peggy Dreyer, RO, Director, Professional Practice & Quality Assurance