

# REPORT

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

**DATE:** June 1, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Registrar's Report

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## Highlights:

- Government Relations
  - Inaugural Queens Park Opticianry Day Event
- Board Elections
- Registrant Support
- License Harmonization
- Scope Expansions
- External Relations

## Government Relations:

### Inaugural Queens Park Opticianry Day

Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup> marked the College's first Queens Park Opticianry Day. The College in conjunction with the Ontario Opticians Association and Lions Club of Canada, held a luncheon event to meet with and help create awareness and understanding of the role of opticians in the eye care field. The Association team was providing complimentary frame repairs and adjustments while the Lions Club volunteers were collecting used and broken eyewear for donation or recycling.

The day started with introductions of the College and Association in the legislature by MPP Dawn Gallagher-Murphy followed by a brief opportunity to meet the Premier, Doug Ford followed by our luncheon reception where several MPPs and their support staff attended our event, meeting with representatives from both organizations.

### Premier Doug Ford/MPP Dawn Gallagher-Murphy Reception

The Registrar attended a reception hosted by MPP Dawn Gallagher-Murphy with guest of honour, Premier Doug Ford in attendance and former Minister of Health, Christine Elliot. As the College has discontinued engaging government relation services on a monthly retainer, events like this provide an excellent opportunity to engage directly with key political representatives to continue to establish awareness and understanding of the profession and the various strategic initiatives undertaken by the College.

**Board Elections:**

Terms for Districts 1 (Paul Imola), 5 (Golta Mohammadi) and 8 (Carlos Pacheco) are expiring at the end of December 2026. Elections for these seats fall under the new, One-District elections model. Nominations opened April 23<sup>rd</sup> and closed on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The openings were promoted on social media as well as at the continuing education events that the College attended this spring. Interest was high and we are pleased to have received a record 8 applicants for the positions. Screening will take place in the coming weeks to confirm eligibility to stand for elections. Elections will follow in the fall.

**Registrant Support:**

The College regularly hosts support webinars for our registrants to assist with understanding updated legislation and policies. The College held a webinar February 19<sup>th</sup> regarding the Standards of Practice as well as a webinar April 28<sup>th</sup> regarding running for an elected seat on the Board of Directors of the College.

**License Harmonization:**

As of April 1, 2026, British Columbia has harmonized their eyeglass and contact lens licenses, in line with Ontario. Prior to this, registrants in BC could hold an eyeglass-only license. Opticians registered prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> who do not have the required training to fit contact lenses will have a permanent Term Condition and Limitation (TCL) noted on the public register that restricts them from fitting contact lenses. This TCL can be lifted in the event that the optician chooses to complete the education and licensing exam with respect to contact lenses.

While this change is welcomed and helps to align opticianry licensure at a national level, in the short run, this change may have implications for Ontario under labour mobility requirements. We have sought external legal advice. Other provinces including Alberta and Manitoba are also considering similar harmonization.

**Scope of Practice Expansions:**

Several professions including Optometry, Physiotherapists, Chiropractors and Dental Hygienists have received scope of practice expansions. More information can be found [here](#).

**External Relations:**

Below is a list of upcoming external events this fall:

**February 19, 2026:** COO Standards of Practice Lunch and Learn Webinar

**March 1, 2026:** Independent Opticians Business Tradeshow, Toronto

**March 22, 2026:** AOE Continuing Education and Tradeshow, Markham

**April 14, 2026:** NACOR Administrator's National Meeting

**April 19, 2026:** OOA Continuing Education and Tradeshow, Vaughn

**April 28, 2026:** Running for an Elected Board of Directors Position Lunch and Learn Webinar

**May 7, 2026:** COO/OOA Queens Park Opticianry Awareness Day

**May 19, 2026:** Doug Ford/Dawn Gallagher-Murphy reception

The College has had a busy Spring session with attendance at the AOE and OOA Continuing education days where we conducted interactive practice advice sessions with the registrants built around commonly asked questions that are received by our practice advice department as well as issues or trends being seen by our Quality Assurance or Conduct departments. Positive feedback was received from both attendees of the AOE and OOA shows.



*COO/OOA Queens Park Opticianry Awareness Day*



*COO/OOA Queens Park Opticianry Awareness Day*



*Fazal and Amy presenting at the AOE*



*COO booth at the AOE*

Fazal Khan, RO Registrar, CEO