



**College of Optometrists of Ontario
Council Meeting
September 19, 2017
APPROVED**

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Attendance:

Dr. Pooya Hemami, President
Dr. Richard Kniaziew, Vice President
Ms. Irene Moore, Treasurer
Dr. Linda Chan
Ms. Maureen Chesney
Dr. Bill Chisholm
Dr. Patricia Hrynchak
Mr. Bashar Kassir
Mr. Hsien Ping (Albert) Liang

Dr. Dino Mastronardi
Dr. Kamy Morcos
Ms. Luisa Morrone
Dr. Areef Nurani
Ms. Ellen Pekilis
Dr. Patrick Quaid
Mr. Brian Rivait
Mr. John Van Bastelaar
Dr. Marta Witer

Staff:

Dr. Paula Garshowitz, Registrar
Ms. Hanan Jibry
Ms. Mina Kavanagh

Mr. David Whitton
Dr. David Wilkinson
Ms. Bonny Wong

- 1 **1. Call to Order:** Dr. Hemami called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Hemami welcomed everyone
2 in attendance, including guests, to the meeting.
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4 Dr. Hemami welcomed to Council a new public member, Mr. Hsien Ping (Albert) Liang.
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6 **2. Adoption of the Agenda:** A draft agenda was circulated prior to the meeting. One item was added to
7 the agenda: a motion to approve the addition of Mr. Liang to the Discipline Committee.
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9 **a. Conflicts of Interest:** Dr. Hemami asked Council members if anyone had a conflict of interest with any
10 item on the day's agenda; no conflicts of interest were declared.
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12 **3. Ms. Allison Henry, Director, and Mr. Stephen Cheng, Manager, of the Ministry of Health and Long-**
13 **Term Care, Regulatory Policy Unit, addressed Council at 10:30 a.m.:** Council heard a presentation from
14 representatives of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Health System Labour Relations and
15 Regulatory Policy Branch. Ms. Allison Henry, Director, and Mr. Stephen Cheng, Manager, offered an
16 overview of their work, their organization, and current and upcoming initiatives, and discussed the
17 future of the regulatory framework. After the presentation, Council and the presenters engaged in a
18 productive Q&A session.
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20 **4. Adoption of the Consent Agenda:** A draft consent agenda was circulated prior to the meeting. No
21 items were removed for further discussion.
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23 Moved by Dr. Morcos and seconded by Dr. Chisholm **to adopt the consent agenda.**

24 **Motion carried**

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26 **5. Financial Matters:**

27 **5.1 Treasurer’s Report:** College Treasurer Ms. Irene Moore presented the report.

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29 **5.2 Financial Dashboard:** The updated financial dashboard was circulated prior to the meeting.

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31 **5.3 Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Report – to July 31, 2017:** The July I/E indicates that the
32 College is in line with its 2017 budget. Discipline Committee legal amounts are well over budget, but to
33 date \$25,665 has been recovered.

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35 **5.4 Investment Policy and Guidelines:** The final draft of the investment policy was presented for Council
36 approval. The purpose of the College’s investment policy is to ensure that membership fees collected by
37 the College for operations and long-term restricted fund purposes are protected and funds are not put
38 at undue risk. Considerable time was spent making sure that all aspects of the policy were considered,
39 to remain current but prudent. If approved, the policy will be shared with the College’s investment
40 portfolio managers. The Executive Committee continues to monitor the activity and performance of the
41 investment account and the portfolio; given the current market conditions they have experienced
42 growth.

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44 Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Quaid **to approve the revised version of the College’s**
45 **investment policy as presented.**

46 **Motion carried**

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48 **5.5 Preliminary 2018 Budget and 2017 Budget Variance:** The preliminary 2018 budget was circulated
49 prior to the meeting. An adjustment in the 2017 budget was needed to reflect increased expenses
50 related to website, software, and database implementation. For the database, the requested increase
51 relates to financial setup/training, development work associated with online applications and receipts,
52 and preliminary discussions about the eHealth application. The website and software increase is related
53 to costs of launching the e-learning module, including the purchase of a learning management system
54 and security certificates. To balance this, reductions in CEO contribution and credential assessment lines
55 have also been proposed as funds will not be required for them. Once we review the numbers closer to
56 year end, next year’s estimates will be fine-tuned and brought to Council for approval.

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58 Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Mr. Rivait **to approve the proposed variance to the 2017**
59 **budget.**

60 **Motion carried**

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62 **6. Motions Brought Forward From Committees:**

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64 **6.1 Executive:** The proposed motion, including relevant background information, was circulated prior to
65 the meeting. Council reviewed amendments to sections 13.01 and 18.02 of the College by-laws. The
66 changes to the by-laws are necessary to be consistent with the recently enacted *Protecting Patients Act,*
67 *2017* (PPA) and subsequent amendments to the *Health Professions Procedural Code.* Relevant to this
68 motion are changes to provisions to increase the transparency of Council materials and to provide more

69 information on the register about members. The amendments were not circulated for member
70 comment as they were mandated by the PPA.

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72 Moved by Dr. Morcos and seconded by Mr. Van Bastelaar **to approve the proposed amendments to**
73 **Sections 13.01 and 18.02 of the College by-laws.**

74 **Motion carried**

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76 **Action item:** Staff to update the by-laws and post to the College website as soon as possible.

77
78 At its June meeting, Council approved a motion amending College by-law 14.05 to appoint all public
79 members to the Discipline Committee. As a new public member, Mr. Hsien Ping (Albert) Liang must be
80 approved to sit on the Committee.

81
82 Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Mr. Van Bastelaar **to approve the appointment of Mr. Hsien**
83 **Ping (Albert) Liang to the Discipline Committee.**

84 **Motion carried**

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86 **6.2 Quality Assurance**

87 **6.2.1 Quality Assurance Panel:** The proposed motion was circulated prior to the meeting. Members are
88 required to participate in the Continuing Education (CE) component of the College's QA program to
89 ensure their continuing competence and quality improvement. CE criteria and the number of hours
90 members are required to obtain in every three-year period are detailed in the College's CE Policy for the
91 2018–2020 cycle. Council discussed how many hours would be adequate in any three-year period, and
92 wording changes.

93
94 Moved by Dr. Chisholm and seconded by Mr. Rivait **to approve the proposed Continuing Education (CE)**
95 **policy for the 2018–2020 CE cycle.**

96 **Motion carried**

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98 **6.2.2 Clinical Practice Panel:** The proposed motions, including relevant background information, were
99 circulated prior to the meeting. The Panel corrected the Regulatory Standards section of OPR 4.8 with
100 respect to the number of controlled acts (i.e., 14) identified in the *Regulated Health Professions Act*.

101
102 Moved by Dr. Nurani and seconded by Dr. Chisholm **to approve revisions to OPR 4.8 Standards of**
103 **Practice – Collaboration and Shared Care.**

104 **Motion carried**

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106 The Panel was unsure how “failing to reveal the exact nature of a secret remedy or treatment” applied
107 to the management of patients with cataract, so it removed reference to this regulatory standard within
108 the document OPR 7.3. It is noted under Professional Standard that the taking of systemic history should
109 include a discussion of any medications used.

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111 Moved by Dr. Hrynychak and seconded by Mr. Rivait **to approve revisions to OPR 7.3 Standards of**
112 **Practice – Patients with Cataract.**

113 **Motion carried**

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115 At the June meeting, Council directed the Panel to revisit discussions regarding telehealth, including how
116 patients might seek optometric care in the future. The result of those discussions is the new Telehealth
117 Policy for Optometrists. The document articulates the College’s position regarding telehealth and
118 provides guidance to members. It is consistent with similar policies in other health professions and other
119 jurisdictions. It complements the previously approved policy, Spectacle Therapy Using the Internet.

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121 Moved by Dr. Hrynchak and seconded by Dr. Chisholm **to approve the draft Telehealth Policy for**
122 **Optometrists.**

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Motion carried

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125 CPP will be asked to consider how to incorporate this policy into the OPR.

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127 **7. Registration Committee:** IN CAMERA SESSION (under Section 7(2) (b) of the *Health Professions*
128 *Procedural Code*)

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130 Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Quaid **to have the meeting go in camera.**

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Motion carried

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133 *Guests left the meeting.*

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Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Ms. Morrone **to have the meeting go out of camera.**

Motion carried

Guests returned to the meeting.

8. Injunction Application – Update: In December 2016, the College of Optometrists of Ontario and the College of Opticians of Ontario filed an injunction against Essilor/Clearly. The injunction hearing scheduled for September 11, 2017 has been rescheduled to October 11. More information will be available after that date.

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9. Regulation Updates:

a. Spousal Exemption to MOHLTC: These provisions have been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; the College has yet to hear any feedback.

b. QA Regulation: This regulation amendment has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; the College has yet to hear any feedback.

c. Designated Drugs Regulation: This regulation amendment has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care; the College has yet to hear any feedback.

10. Correspondence

- a. Memo from ADM, Ms. Denise Cole, Dated June 19, 2017
- b. Letter to Dr. Hemami from the OAO, Dated July 4, 2017
- c. Response from Dr. Hemami to OAO, Dated August 3, 2017
- d. Order-in-Council, Mr. Hsien Ping (Albert) Liang, Dated July 11, 2017
- e. Revocation, Ms. Shoshana Gladstone, Dated June 28, 2017
- f. Letter to Hon. Victor Boudreau, Minister of Health, New Brunswick, Dated July 28, 2017
- g. Response from Minister Boudreau, Dated August 18, 2017
- h. Letter to Council from CAOS, Dated August 11, 2017
- i. Response to CAOS, Dated September 1, 2017

11. List of Acronyms

12. Dates of Upcoming Council Meetings:

- Monday, January 15, 2018
- Monday, April 9, 2018
- Thursday, June 21, 2018

13. Adjournment: Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Hrynychak **to adjourn the meeting at 3:17 p.m.**

Motion carried