



**College of Optometrists of Ontario
Council Meeting
December 8, 2023**

Attendance:

Dr. Mark Eltis, President
Dr. Pooya Hemami, Vice President
Ms. Suzanne Allen
Dr. Lisa Christian
Dr. Camy Grewal
Ms. Lisa Holland
Ms. Esther Jooda
Mr. Howard Kennedy

Dr. Richard Kniaziew
Dr. Dino Mastronardi
Dr. Kamy Morcos
Mr. Narendra Shah
Mr. Andre Tilban-Rios
Dr. William Ulakovic
Dr. Abraham Yuen

Staff:

Mr. Joe Jamieson, Registrar & CEO
Ms. Hanan Jibry, Deputy Registrar
Mr. Chad Andrews
Mr. Edward Cho

Ms. Jaslin Facey
Ms. Debbie Lim
Ms. Adrita Shah Noor
Ms. Bonny Wong

Regrets

Dr. Areef Nurani
Mr. Olutoye Soile

Guest:

Ms. Julia Martin, legal counsel

- 1 **1. Call to Order/Attendance:** Dr. Eltis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2 Dr. Eltis read the land acknowledgement and public interest statement.
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4 **2. Adoption of the Agenda:** A draft agenda was circulated prior to the meeting.
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6 *Moved by Dr. Yuen and seconded by Ms. Allen to **adopt the agenda.***
7 **Motion carried**
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9 **2a. Conflict of Interest Declaration:** Dr. Eltis asked Council members if anyone has a conflict of interest
10 with any item on the day's agenda.
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12 No conflicts of interest were declared.
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14 **3. Business Arising: Presentation by Dr. Areef Nurani**

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16 Dr. Nurani was absent and did not present.

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18 Dr. Eltis thanked Dr. Nurani for his contribution to Council during his term as a Council member.

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20 **4. Committee Updates:** The Committee Chairs presented updates on their respective committees.

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22 **5. Registrar’s Report**

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24 Mr. Jamieson presented the Registrar’s Report which included an overview of the College’s financials, an
25 update on the Tripartite Working Group, and milestone achievements from various departments.

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27 **6. Consent Agenda:** A draft consent agenda was circulated prior to the meeting. The following items
28 were included in the consent agenda:

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30 PART 1 - Minutes of Prior Council Meetings

- 31 a. September 15, 2023
32 b. Motions and Action Items Arising from the Minutes

33 PART 2 - Reports

- 34 b. Committee Reports
35 i. Executive
36 ii. Patient Relations
37 iii. Quality Assurance:
38 iv. ICRC
39 v. Registration
40 vi. Discipline
41 vii. Governance/HR Committee
42 viii. Audit/Finance/Risk Committee

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44 *Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Mastronardi to **adopt the consent agenda.***

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46 Council discussed the Registration report and suggested that there be further clarification regarding
47 ACOE schools that are “Accredited with Conditions” on the applicant webpage. Dr. Yuen confirmed they
48 will discuss the suggestion at the next Registration committee meeting.

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50 Council also discussed the arising issue of national licensure and the concerns regarding investigating
51 and receiving complaints for residents within each province or territory. Dr. Jamieson provided context
52 for the idea of national licensure and clarified that while the College cannot delegate out its authority
53 power, it is an issue that has not yet fully developed and must be set aside for the time being.
54 Ms. Jibry added that there is recognition that every province/territory has its own legislation that cannot
55 be changed swiftly.

56
57 Council discussed the issue of having only one English-speaking optometry school in Canada, and the
58 importance of having a Canadian present at the ACOE table.

59

60 Moved by Dr. Grewal and seconded by Ms. Jooda to approve the agenda.

Motion carried

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63 7. Presentation from RBC Dominion Securities

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65 Dr. Eltis welcomed Mr. Jonathan Santos from RBC Dominion Securities, and then asked to move in-
66 camera to discuss financial matters.

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68 *Moved by Dr. Hemami and seconded by Dr. Yuen to **go in camera**.*

Motion carried

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71 **IN CAMERA Session: Discussing Financial Matters**

72 In accordance with Section 7(2)(b) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, which is Schedule 2 to the
73 *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*.

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75 Council went in camera at 10:38 a.m.

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95 Council came out of camera at 11:13 a.m.

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97 Dr. Eltis announced Council went into camera to discuss financial matters, and that Council was now out
98 of camera.

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100 **8. Motions Brought Forward from Committees**

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102 **a) Audit/Finance/Risk**

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104 **i. To approve the balanced operating budget for 2024**

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106 Mr. Shah presented the motion to approve the balanced operating budget for 2024.

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108 Council discussed the motion and inquired about member fee increases. Mr. Jamieson added that there
109 are no proposed increases in fees for 2024 but that the AFR committee will be assessing various
110 scenarios including returning the Certificate of Authorization fees to pre-COVID levels in 2025.

111
112 Dr. Yuen inquired about how much revenue is generated from leasing our space to other regulatory
113 health Colleges. Mr. Jamieson said the College of Kinesiologists of Ontario leased boardroom space for
114 their Council meetings in 2023 and he clarified it is more emphasis on collaboration with other Colleges
115 for CPMF purposes, rather than benefitting from financial cost.

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117 *Moved by Mr. Shah and seconded by Dr. Kniaziew to **approve the balanced operating budget for 2024.***

118 All in favour
119 **Motion carried**

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121 **ii. To maintain contingency funds of \$2.5M in 2024**

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123 Mr. Shah presented the motion to maintain contingency funds of \$2.5M in 2024.

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125 *Moved by Mr. Shah and seconded by Mr. Tilban-Rios to **maintain contingency funds of \$2.5M in 2024.***

126 All in favour
127 **Motion carried**

128 **9. Dates of Upcoming Council Meetings**

- 129 a. Friday, January 19, 2024
130 b. Friday, February 9, 2024 (Orientation)
131 c. Friday, March 22, 2024
132 d. Thursday, June 20, 2024 (AGM)
133 e. Friday, June 21, 2024
134 f. Friday, September 13, 2024
135 g. Friday, December 13, 2024

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137 **10. List of Acronyms**

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139 **11. Governance Guide: Robert's Rules**

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141 **12. Council Feedback Survey**

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143 **13. Adjournment:** *Moved by Mr. Tilban-Rios and seconded by Dr. Ulakovic to **adjourn the meeting at***
144 **11:28 a.m.**

145 **Motion carried**