



**College of Optometrists of Ontario
Council Meeting
June 21, 2024**

Attendance:

Dr. Mark Eltis, President	Dr. Dino Mastronardi
Dr. Camy Grewal, Vice President	Dr. Kamy Morcos
Ms. Suzanne Allen	Dr. Patrick Quaid
Dr. Lisa Christian	Mr. Narendra Shah
Dr. Pooya Hemami	Mr. Toye Soile
Ms. Lisa Holland	Mr. Andre Tilban-Rios
Ms. Esther Jooda	Dr. William Ulakovic
Mr. Howard Kennedy	Dr. Abraham Yuen
Dr. Richard Kniaziew	

Staff:

Mr. Joe Jamieson, Registrar & CEO	Ms. Jaslin Facey
Ms. Hanan Jibry, Deputy Registrar	Ms. Debbie Lim
Mr. Chad Andrews	Ms. Adrita Shah Noor
Mr. Edward Cho	Ms. Bonny Wong

Guest:

Ms. Julia Martin, legal counsel
Mr. Martin Sconci, BDO Canada
Ms. Nina Mann, BDO Canada

- 1 **1. Call to Order/Attendance:** Dr. Eltis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2
3 Dr. Eltis read the land acknowledgement and public interest statement.
4
5 **2. Adoption of the Agenda:** A draft agenda was circulated prior to the meeting.
6
7 *Moved by Dr. Ulakovic and seconded by Dr. Quaid to **adopt the agenda.***
8 **Motion carried**
9
10 **2a. Conflict of Interest Declaration:** Dr. Eltis asked Council members if anyone has a conflict of interest
11 with any item on the day's agenda.
12
13 No conflicts of interest were declared.
14
15 **3. Committee Updates:** The Committee Chairs presented updates on their respective committees.

16
17 **4. Consent Agenda:** A draft consent agenda was circulated prior to the meeting. The following items
18 were included in the consent agenda:

- 19
20 PART 1 - Minutes of Prior Council Meetings
21 a. March 22, 2024
22 b. Motions and Action Items Arising from the Minutes
23 PART 2 - Reports
24 b. Committee Reports
25 i. Executive
26 ii. Patient Relations
27 iii. Quality Assurance:
28 iv. ICRC
29 v. Registration
30 vi. Discipline
31 vii. Governance/HR Committee
32 viii. Audit/Finance/Risk Committee
33

34 *Moved by Ms. Allen and seconded by Mr. Shah to **adopt the consent agenda.***

35
36 Council inquired about the allegations in the ICRC report, and staff confirmed that the allegations
37 against the registrant being referred to Discipline cannot be discussed at Council. Council also inquired
38 about the Governance/HR report and the thought process behind the Registrar’s review being
39 conducted every two years instead of every year. Dr. Christian clarified the yearly review is not
40 necessary if the registrar is performing well but it is at the discretion the Chair of Governance/HR.

41
42 Dr. Christian raised a point about the Governance/HR report and clarified that there is a section in the
43 registrar’s performance framework that is the purview of the AFR committee, rather than Gov/HR, and
44 the Gov/HR committee is requesting to strike revenue growth from the scorecard.

45
46 Council asked about the demographic survey mentioned in the Executive Committee report and how the
47 results would be used. Mr. Jamieson explained the survey will ask two questions regarding providing
48 services in the French language and Indigenous background. He stated the survey would be both
49 voluntary and anonymous, and the results of the survey could be used in a variety of ways, but that
50 nothing would be done immediately.

51
52 Council requested further information about an incident with the spokesperson by-law mentioned in the
53 Executive Committee report. Dr. Eltis explained there was an unauthorized lecture provided at a high
54 school and it was posted on social media. Dr. Eltis said he and Mr. Jamieson met with the officer of the
55 College involved in the incident and addressed the issue.

56
57 *Moved by Dr. Quaid and Dr. Yuen to **adopt the consent agenda.***

58 **Motion carried**

59
60 **5. Registrar’s Report**

61
62 Mr. Jamieson presented his report which touched on modernization in health regulation, artificial
63 intelligence, and accessibility on the College website.

64
65 Council asked several questions about the registration report including the number of applications
66 started and the number completed, and how many Canadians are challenging the NBEO exam.

67
68 Council took a break at 10:35 a.m.

69
70 Council resumed at 11:04 a.m.

71
72 **6. Presentation from the Auditors**

73
74 Mr. Marcus Sconci and Ms. Nina Mann from BDO Canada presented the audited financial statements for
75 2023.

76
77 Council inquired about several aspects of the financial statements including the growth of assets, the
78 disclosure of elected Council member compensation, and where the OEBC funding would come from.
79 Regarding the disclosure of elected Council member compensation, Council suggested adding dots on
80 the Committee table to demonstrate the President’s involvement on every Committee. Dr. Eltis thanked
81 Mr. Sconci and Ms. Mann for their presentation. They then left the meeting.

82
83 **7. Motions Brought Forward from Committees**

84
85 **a) Audit/Finance/Risk**

86
87 **i. Approval of the audited financial statements for 2023**

88
89 Mr. Shah presented the motion.

90
91 *Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Grewal to **approve the audited financial statements for***
92 **2023.**

93
94 All in favour
95 **Motion carried**

96 **ii. Approval of the reappointment of BDO Canada as auditors for 2024.**

97
98 Mr. Shah presented the motion.

99
100 *Moved by Dr. Yuen and seconded by Dr. Hemami to **approve the reappointment of BDO Canada as***
101 **auditors for 2024.**

102
103 All in favour
104 **Motion carried**

105 **iii. Approval of the proposed College’s membership and corporation fees for 2025**

106
107 Mr. Shah presented the motion.

108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154

Moved by consent to approve the proposed College’s membership and corporation fees for 2025.

Council discussed the motion in detail and considered various aspects of it, including what the fees are used for, registrants’ perception of the College, the option of using restricted funds as an alternative solution, and how long the College has gone without a fee increase.

All opposed
Motion defeated

Council adjourned for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

Council resumed at 12:47 p.m.

8. Motions Brought Forward from Committees cont’d

a. Registration

i. Request Council’s review of FORAC-FAROC Position Statement on National Licensure

Dr. Yuen presented the motion.

Council asked for clarification about what FORAC is looking for in terms of expressing support or not support, or if the FORAC statement will come back to Council after the September meeting. Ms. Jibry said FORAC specifically requested the Councils review the statement as it is going back to the FORAC board in September. She reminded Council that Dr. Eltis is part of that board and will be voting on it then.

ii. Approval of the 2024 OEBC written exam and OSCE as one of two standards assessment examinations for registration purposes.

Dr. Yuen presented the motion. Dr. Quaid removed himself from the discussion on the motion as a conflict of interest.

Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Grewal to approve the 2024 OEBC written exam and OSCE as one of two standards assessment examinations for registration purposes.

All in favour
Motion carried

iii. Approval to provide OEBC with \$64,230 in funding for 2024

Dr. Yuen presented the motion.

Moved by Dr. Grewal and seconded by Dr. Morcos to provide OEBC with \$64,230 in funding for 2024.

Council discussed the motion at length and considered the sustainability of the agreement, whether the funding will be on a yearly basis, where the money would come from, and the role of the College’s mandate in providing registrations examinations Council discussed the option of including a statement

155 with the payment notifying OEBC that Council are looking for information on how they are going to
156 sustain themselves.

157
158 1 opposed
159 **Motion carried**

160 **iv. Approval of the 2024 National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) exam as an alternate**
161 **standards assessment examination for registration purposes**

162
163 Dr. Yuen presented the motion.

164
165 *Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Hemami to approve the 2024 National Board of Examiners*
166 *in Optometry (NBEO) exam as an alternate standards assessment examination for registration*
167 *purposes.*

168
169 Mr. Jamieson suggested removing the word ‘alternate’ from the motion.

170
171 Dr. Yuen announced he will abstain from voting on this motion due to a conflict of interest.

172
173 Council voted on the amended motion which removes the word “alternate”.

174
175 All in favour
176 **Motion carried**

177 **v. Approval of the 2024 Jurisprudence exam for registration purposes**

178
179 Dr. Yuen presented the motion.

180
181 *Moved by Dr. Grewal and seconded by Ms. Jooda to approve the 2024 Jurisprudence exam for*
182 *registration purposes.*

183
184 All in favour
185 **Motion carried**

186 **b. Quality Assurance**

187
188 **i. Approval of the proposed amendments to various acts and regulations with respect to scope of**
189 **practice for Optometry in Ontario and their circulation to College registrants and stakeholders for 60**
190 **days**

191
192 Dr. Morcos presented the motion.

193
194 *Moved by Dr. Kniaziew and seconded by Dr. Hemami to approve the proposed amendments to various*
195 *acts and regulations with respect to scope of practice for Optometry in Ontario and their circulation to*
196 *College registrants and stakeholders for 60 days.*

197
198 Council discussed the motion and the proposed changes to scope of practice.

199
200 All in favour
201 **Motion carried**

202 **c. Governance/HR**

203

204 **i. Approval of the newly revised Code of Conduct, Confidentiality, Harassment, and Conflict of Interest**
205 **policies**

206

207 Dr. Christian presented the motion.

208

209 *Moved by Ms. Jooda and seconded by Dr. Yuen to **approve the newly revised Code of Conduct,***
210 ***Confidentiality, Harassment, and Conflict of Interest policies.***

211

All in favour
Motion carried

212

213

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

215 a. Friday, September 13, 2024

216 b. Friday, December 13, 2024

217

218 **10. List of Acronyms**

219

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

221

222 **12. Council Feedback Survey**

223

224 **13. Adjournment:** *Moved by Ms. Allen and seconded by Ms. Jooda to **adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m.***

225

Motion carried