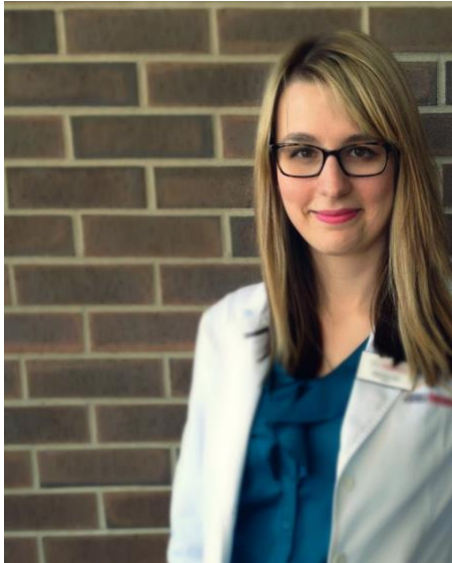


Candidate: Dr. Natalija Ilic



District

Eastern Electoral District

Biography

Like many of you reading this, I first obtained a Bachelor's in Science which I followed by completing the optometry program at the University of Waterloo. There, I volunteered as an Inter-professional Liaison, which highlighted the importance of a collaborative approach in tackling unique situations. Since graduation, I have practiced in Ottawa in a variety of clinical settings, which gives me a unique perspective into the challenges of our profession. I have also volunteered with the College of Optometrists on various committees—the Patient Relations Committee, Quality Assurance Panel and, currently, the Discipline Committee. These serve as an outlet for my passions for both policy work and collaboration, but they also give me the breadth of knowledge that is helpful when serving as a Council member and overseeing the Committees. The above is not why you should vote for me, however. The reasons why have much more to do with my values than any academic or professional achievements. I believe in an evidence based, transparent and collaborative approach to achieving the College mandate of public protection. It is important to have strong, and well-thought out reasoning behind College decisions, transparency in the process, and an efficient approach to dispersing them. Fundamentally, I believe clear communication is the foundation for success and that our patients deserve the best care both in a clinical sitting and, more globally, on a regulatory level.

An experience where you contributed to protecting the public interest

I have protected the public interest by upholding College values during my time on various College Committees. My contribution to these groups has been in the form of analyzing the specific topic at hand, while keeping in mind current College practice standards. My personal approach is to contribute when needed, but also to step back and allow others to share their

knowledge, especially on topics where other Committee members have expertise that is more relevant than mine. Committee work requires decisions to come from a team-based approach and I think the process to arrive to the decision should mimic that.

CV

Education

Doctor of Optometry Degree – University of Waterloo [2014]

B.Sc. Honours in Microbiology and Immunology with High Honours – University of Saskatchewan [2009]

Committee and Volunteer Experience

College of Optometrists of Ontario Committee Member
Discipline Committee [2022]

- Provided input regarding issues related to professional misconduct
Quality Assurance Committee [2020 and 2021]

- Upheld current standards of practice through committee work

Patient Relations Committee [2019]

- Provided input on issues of an ethical nature, including sexual abuse

Canadian Association of Optometry Students – Inter-professional Liaison/Inter-professional
Liaison Elect [2011-2013]

- Upheld connections between Optometry, Medicine, Pharmacy and Social Work to promote inter-professionalism
- Member of the Canadian Inter-professional Student Network and was one of the coordinators of the Geriatric Inter-professional Conference
- Member of the Waterloo Health Professions Committee [2011-2014]

Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH) Santa-Cruz Mission – Student Volunteer
[2012]

- Volunteered in Lima, Peru providing eye care to a community in need

Selected Optometry Work Experience

Eye Care For You – Associate Optometrist [2019 – present]

- Provided comprehensive eye care in a small group practice

iCare Surgical Centre – Optometrist [2019 – present]

- Provided care in a collaborative, team-based environment

Dr. Janelle King's Optometric Clinic – Associate Optometrist [2016 – 2019]

Vezina Opticians - Associate Optometrist [2016 – 2018]

Language Skills

Fluent in English, Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian

Intermediate French

Awards

Biomedical Summer Student Research Award - awarded for the research project titled "Roles of Chemokines in Melanoma Tumor Growth and Metastasis" [2009]

Western College of Veterinary Medicine Poster Day Winner [2009]