

Dr. Richard Kniaziew

District 5 – Provincial Electoral District

Bio

Education:

McMaster University Hamilton 1971- Natural Science Programme

University of Waterloo School of Optometry 1975- Doctor of Optometry

Southern California College of Optometry 2000-TPA

Business Involvement:

Kniaziew Optometry (10 Optometric clinics with 15 Optometrists)

Canadian Association of Optometrists

Past director 1999-2002

Liaison with University of Waterloo School of Optometry.

Liaison with Canadian Optometric Regulatory Authorities (CORA)

University of Waterloo School of Optometry

Clinical supervisor 1976

Clinical rotation clinical externships

Ontario Association of Optometrists

Past President 1995-1997

Director for Southwestern Ontario 1980-1982, 1990-2001.

Court- approved expert in assessing the marketability of Optometric practices in Canada.

Mediation in partnership dissolution

Set up and chaired practice management committee in Ontario 1979.

Past chief negotiator with the Ontario Ministry of Health



College of Optometrist of Ontario

Past president 2008-2012

Councilor for Southwestern Ontario 2005-present

Executive committee 2006-2008, 2016-2020

Chair of registration committee 2013-2015

Chair of Complaints committee 2020-2021

Ontario representative at ARBO 2008-2013, 2017-2018

ARBO

International Committee 2013-2014

OE- tracker 2013-2014, 2017-2018

Community involvement

Member of St. Michael's Parish

Past member of St. Michael's Parish Council

Member of Knights of Columbus

Athletic Involvement

Canadian National Triathlon Team Member (age group) 16 World Triathlons championships 1990-present

A Founder of Triathlon "Kids of Steel" program in Canada 1986

Past race director of Canadian Junior Triathlon Championship

Ten time Ironman finisher

Political Involvement

Past School Board Trustee

Past candidate in Provincial Election representing Essex riding

Member of Essex-Kent conservative party



Awards

Ontario Association of Optometrists Distinguished Service Award, 2000

The H. James Cobean, O.D. Memorial Award

Canadian Triathlon Master Triathlete of the Year.

If elected to College Council, here is how I propose to ensure public protection.

I would like to ask for your vote for the election to College of Optometrist of Ontario Council.

As you can see from my Curriculum Vitae, I have been involved during my professional life in community, different organizations, and the Optometric profession. I have had the privilege of serving the Ontario population as a councillor at the College of Optometrists for 14 years.

During my Presidency the College accomplished several important changes. The TPA regulation is one of the most important. The Registration Regulation, Conflict of Interest, and Professional Misconduct are also very important achievements under my tenure.

Executive committee often deals with stakeholder's inferences and relationships and I know all the provincial colleges, I understand the MOH and how legislation is influenced, I understand how to manage the dynamic between College and Association.

We worked very hard to have Professional representation on the council based on age, gender, and work experience. As of today, we have a very good balance.

I would like to continue as Councillor for next three year to provide support to the Council and our President to have a smooth transition for our new Registrar. I will be able to mentor and support a new Registrar because I own 10 optometry clinics and have a large staff. This gives me important practical experience in management which I have learned from owning world famous branded franchises and appreciation for value of brand equity and reputational value.

I will advocate for further scope of practise to serve the Ontario population especially in small towns and rural communities.

My life belief is the more you do for others the more society benefits as a whole.

Again, thank you for your consideration in voting for me.