

## Strategic Priorities Tracker

The College has the legislated duty to fulfill its mandate in the public interest. The Strategic Plan supports the fulfilment of the mandate of the College and provides further strategies to promote good governance, risk mitigation, communication with the public and registrants and operational excellence.

The implementation of the strategic priorities is an ongoing exercise of collaboration between College Council, committees, staff, and stakeholders. Below you can find the status on any strategic priority initiatives that have begun or have been completed.

Strategic Priority	Activity	Date
Broaden Stakeholder Engagement	- First phase of online registration for General Certificate applications launched	September 2022
	- The online application portal was launched for International graduates, Academic Certificate, and labour mobility applicants	September 2023
	- Successfully carried out Focus Groups with optometrists and members of the public, with ethics approval from University of Waterloo	2023
	- Jurisprudence examination enhanced to provide save features and regular reports generated on candidate performance in different areas	September 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New registrants surveyed six months following registration to assess usefulness and ease of registration process and monitor their tendency to volunteer with the College in the future</li> </ul>	December 2023 (ongoing)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Certificate of Authorization applications automated with online fee payment capacity</li> </ul>	October 2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided College presentations to students at the University of Waterloo School of Optometry and Vision Science to increase professional awareness, knowledge of jurisprudence, establish a relationship with the College and heighten awareness of the privilege of professionalism. Target presentations in years 1 and final</li> </ul>	2023 and 2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentations were also provided to Canadian students at the New England College of Optometry, and the Illinois College of Optometry to increase awareness of the College and educate future applicants of the registration process</li> </ul>	2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create an ongoing survey to provide participants in the complaints process (both the optometrist under investigation and the complainant) the opportunity to provide feedback after the complaint matter has concluded. Completion of the survey is optional and is available in web format and hard copy</li> </ul>	2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To leverage technology to promote operational excellence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance and continue hosting townhall meetings with candidates for registration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2023/2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research Steering Group has overseen research grant program, with original research from these projects now being published</li> </ul>	2022-2024

<p>Develop and Carry Out a Research Agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two internal research projects carried forward: 1) an analysis of the health profession regulatory landscape in Ontario, which is close to being published and 2) a focus group project collecting perspectives on optometry and its regulation in Ontario</li> </ul>	<p>2022-2024</p>
<p>Ensure the Public's Access to Care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focus group research project asks participants about barriers to care; resulting data will help the College develop better policies and programs to ensure access. Additionally, plans are now being developed to carry out an internal research project that investigates access to optometric care.</li> </ul>	<p>2022-2024</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide the public and profession with up-to-date information regarding government and not for profit funding for eyecare in addition to mechanisms such as OHIP or ODSP.</li> </ul>	<p>2024</p>
<p>Enhance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of DEI Plan as part of the Strategic Plan; to view the status of the benchmarks within the DEI plan, <a href="#">click here</a>.</li> </ul>	<p>2022</p>
<p>Constructively Implement Governance Reform</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be an active and proactive participant in shaping regulatory reform proactively through College participation and representation on MOH and HPRO boards, workgroups, advisory teams: Registrar sat on HPRO Management Committee and engages in continual dialogue vis-à-vis modernization</li> </ul>	<p>2022/2023</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Governance-HR Committee is briefed regularly on reform topics and all policies, bylaws, etc., and designed with modernization in mind.</li> </ul>	<p>2022-2024</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be an active and proactive participant in shaping regulatory reform proactively through College participation and representation on MOH and HPRO boards, workgroups, advisory teams: Deputy Registrar sat on FORAC Funding Review Committee and the National Licensing Working Group</li> </ul>	<p>2024</p>