

REPORT

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Fazal Khan, Registrar, CEO

DATE: May 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Registrar's Report

Highlights:

- Pandemic Updates
- Registration Exams
- Remote Operations
- Government Relations
- External Relations
- Ongoing Work

Pandemic Updates

Since the last Board meeting, the administrative team has been coordinating with various Public Health Units to assist in informing opticians of their eligibility to receive a vaccination. Targeted emails to our registrants are typically sent out the same day that we receive notification from the health unit to ensure opticians are able to register quickly.

Registration Examinations:

Seneca College has once again provided access to their classrooms and labs to facilitate the registration examinations. A large session with over 120 candidates was scheduled for May 1 to May 6, 2021. Unfortunately, the session was terminated at the end of May 5th as NACOR received notification that a candidate had tested positive for COVID19. More details to be given in the Exams Report.

Remote Operations:

The College continues to operate remotely with no impediment to timelines or workflow. Under the updated provincial restrictions, staff are only attending the office for necessary functions.

Government Relations:

Internal bi-weekly update meetings are being held with Counsel Government Relations. Counsel is actively following up on long pending regulation updates as well as monitoring the landscape for possible governance and regulatory model changes. Counsel facilitated a meeting with representatives from the Minister of Health's office on April 6th. This session was used to update the Minister's staff on the various projects and initiatives undertaken by the College as well as ensuring progress was being made with the pending Registration and Professional Misconduct Regulations.

External Relations:

Collaboration with Regulators and Other Stakeholders:

The College staff continue to participate in regular board meetings of HPRO - Health Professions Regulators of Ontario (formerly FHRCO) with the current focus on the pandemic and coordinating with the Ministry of Health.

Collaboration with Optometry:

There have been several positive conversations with the new Registrar at the College of Optometrists with indication that there is a desire to collaborate on future projects as well as the ongoing coordination of communications during the pandemic.

Ongoing Work

Enhancements, updates and refinements are being made to the College website to further enhance how information is found, create a collective area (hub) for all French language documents and to promote informational content in the form of patient and registrant blogs.

Respectfully submitted by:

Fazal Khan, RO
Registrar, CEO