

The College of Opticians of Ontario

Annual Report 2009



College of
Opticians of
Ontario

Protecting the Public

An Informed Public

Help educate the public about vision care and how Opticians can help. An informed public will understand the importance of vision and proper care. We encourage you to reinforce these important messages with your patients/clients/health care consumers:

- Opticians are Licensed, registered with the College of Opticians of Ontario (COO). This means that they are professionals who are regulated under the law and work to published standards of practice and ethics.
- Licensed Opticians have passed rigorous national examinations that reflect measurable International standards. Accuracy of eyewear depends on strict tolerances. Standards of practice and continuing competence programs help ensure that Opticians are qualified to perform acts authorized for their profession.
- Part of the vision care team and often the point of entry, Opticians refer people with complex eye conditions to other health care professionals, such as physicians and optometrists.
- Opticians help patients identify the most appropriate type of eyewear to dispense based on a prescription from an optometrist or physician, taking into account individual circumstances such as a person's occupation or daily activities.

In addition to visiting the college website, we encourage you to visit and direct your patients to the national Licensed Optician website www.LicensedOptician.ca



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Protecting The Public

Health Colleges in Ontario are regulatory bodies created under the *Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA)* and its component parts, *the Health Professions Procedural Code (the code)* and the profession-specific acts. Colleges were created by statute to protect the public from harm. The College Council is granted the authority to set the direction for the work of the College. Council, along with Committee's and staff strive for excellence in all areas including registration, continuing education, standards of practice, investigations and overall leadership.

In essence, the role of the regulatory college is to protect public safety by ensuring that health care is provided by competent and accountable health care practitioners in an effective, safe and ethical manner.

It is with great pleasure that we present the College of Opticians of Ontario's 2009 Annual Report.

Opticians and the College- A Partnership

The Members

Opticians in Ontario are highly skilled, regulated health professionals providing vision care services to Ontarians. Front line, accessible, skilled and knowledgeable, Opticians educate and advise health care consumers about product choices that provide maximum visual acuity.

The Regulatory Body

The College of Opticians of Ontario is the statutory self-governing body for approximately 2,400 Opticians in the Province of Ontario. We have a long history of effective regulation in the public interest dating back to the *Health Disciplines Act*, the predecessor to the RHPA. Our Council of fifteen, including the seven public members

appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, clearly understands its mandate of public protection and rigorously responds through the development and implementation of regulations, bylaws, standards of practice and policies.

A Partnership

The College directs the public to Opticians and their teams; Opticians ensure optimal vision. The College sets the standards of practice for the profession; Opticians meet or exceed the standards. The College communicates the published standards, and informs the public what standard of care to expect; Opticians provide this care. This is team work.

The work of a regulatory college is often ongoing and long term; it can be rewarding to see momentum or action in response to challenges faced. Legislative amendments and policy work are processes often fraught with delays and sometimes setbacks. Changes in direction from government and policy makers can affect timelines and outcomes. We accept this as being the nature of the beast. One project however, has gone from much discussion about lack of public awareness about the profession, to a concept, to a plan, to a full national public education campaign. The Licensed Optician public awareness initiative is the result of years of hearing anecdotally that the public is not aware of the roles and responsibilities of health care practitioners in vision care. This lack of awareness makes it extremely difficult for members of the public to determine an appropriate vision care provider, especially if they are experiencing visual acuity problems. The Licensed Optician initiative will enable the public to gain a fuller understanding of a number of vision related issues; the importance of sight, regular eye examinations and healthy sight. Continued consistent use of the term Licensed Optician will also guide the public on whom to

see, who can help, and what standard of care they can expect to receive.

Opticians' role in this partnership is professionalism and dedication to ensuring patients and consumers receive the best vision care possible. This means the provision of appropriate, qualified care and services to the public including the referring of complex vision issues to another health care professional best suited to help.

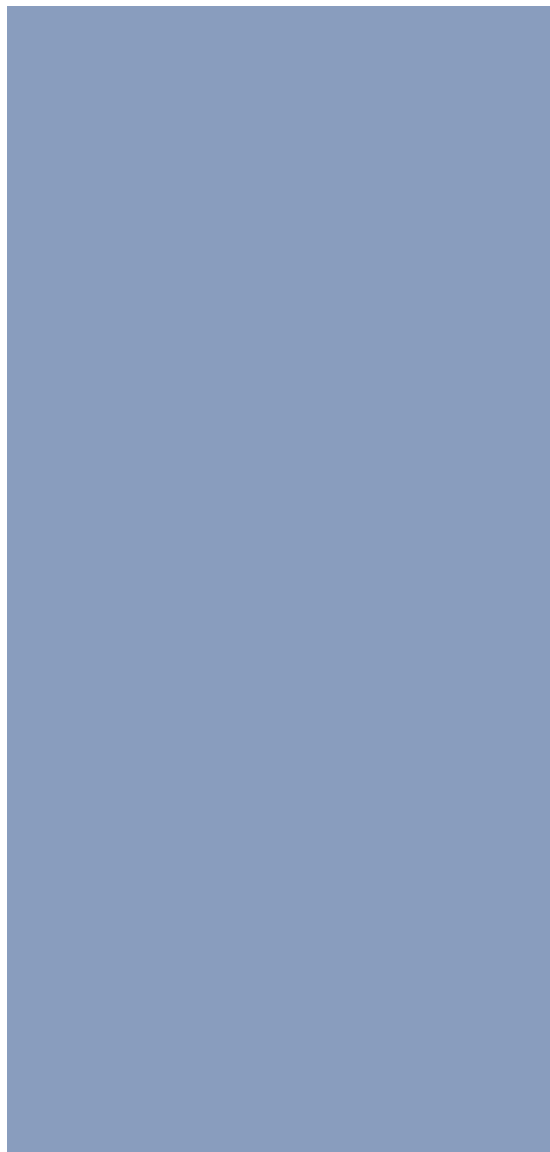
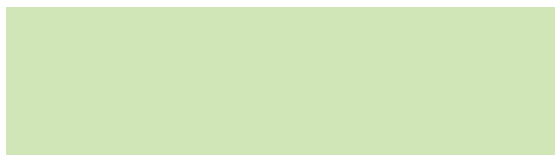
The College will continue to build upon membership communication and engagement opportunities in support of your vital role as part of the vision health care team. The College will assess the changing practice environment, and efforts will continue to be focused on setting out clear guidelines and policy that will guide the profession to practice to their fullest ability in the best interest of patients.



Jeff Fernandes, RO
President



Caroline Maclsaac-Power, RO
Registrar



2009 COO Council Members

Council Members

Jeff Fernandes, RO, President
Mike Smart, RO, Vice-President
Gloria Baltazar, Public Member
Parminder Dhillon, RO, Optician Member
Frances-Clare Fraboni, Public Member
Junaide Hakim, RO, Optician Member
Eve Hoch, Public Member
Librado Ibe, Jr., Public Member

Fazal Khan, RO, Optician Member
Puttaveeraiah Prabhakara, Public Member
Marvin Ross, Public Member
Janice Schmidt, RO, Opticians Member
Bryan Todd, RO, Optician Member
Udham Tonk, Public Member
Rob Vezina, RO, Optician Member

Appointed Non-Council Members

Akwasi Boakye, RO
Rupinder Dhallwal, RO
Peggy Dreyer, RO
Marilyn Fron, RO

Niti Jassal, RO
Dennis Lam, RO
Stephen Sanger, RO
Derick Summers, RO

2009 COO Committee Members

Executive Committee

Jeff Fernandes, RO, President
Mike Smart, RO, Vice-President
Fazal Khan, RO, Elected Member
Murray Prabhakara, Public Member
Marvin Ross, Public Member

Registration Committee

Rob Vezina, RO, Chair
Fazal Khan, RO, Vice-Chair
Jeff Fernandes, RO
Eve Hoch, Public Member
Stephen Sanger, RO
Udham Tonk, Public Member

Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (as of June 4)

Complaints Committee and Unauthorized Practice Committee (before June 4)

Puttaveeraiah (Murray) Prabhakara, Public Member, Chair
Janice Schmidt, RO, Vice-Chair
Jeff Fernandes, RO
Mike Smart, RO
Bryan Todd, RO

Librado Ibe, Jr., Public Member
Udham Tonk, Public Member
Akwasi Boakye, RO
Marilyn Fron, RO
Niti Jassal, RO

2009 COO Committee Members (Continued)

Discipline Committee

Rob Vezina, RO – Chair
Derick Summers, RO – Vice-Chair
Parminder Dhillon, RO
Jeff Fernandes, RO
Junaide Hakim, RO
Fazal Khan, RO
Janice Schmidt, RO
Mike Smart, RO
Bryan Todd, RO
Gloria Baltazar, Public Member
Frances-Clare Fraboni, Public Member
Evelyn Hoch, Public Member

Librado Ibe Jr., Public Member
Puttaveeraiah Prabhakara, Public Member
Marvin Ross, Public Member
Udham Tonk, Public Member
Akwasi Boayke, RO
Peggy Dryer, RO
Marilyn Fron, RO
Nitti Jassal, RO
Dennis Lam, RO
Stephen Sanger, RO
Rupinder Dhaliwal, RO

Fitness to Practice Committee

Rob Vezina RO, Chair
Fazal Khan, Vice-Chair
Jeff Fernandes, RO
Eve Hoch, Public Member
Stephen Sanger, RO
Udham Tonk, Public Member

Quality Assurance Committee

Peggy Dreyer, RO, Chair
Parminder Dhillon, RO, Vice-Chair
Junaide Hakim, RO
Mike Smart, RO
Marvin Ross, Public Member
Derick Summers RO

Patient Relations Committee

Bryan Todd, RO, - Chair
Dennis Lam, RO, Vice-Chair
Gloria Baltazar, Public Member
Frances-Clare Fraboni, Public Member

Examinations Committee (to June 4, 2009)

Mike Smart RO, Chief Examiner for Ontario
Gloria Baltazar, Public Member



Protecting the Public

Executive Committee

Over the course of 2009, the Committee held seven meetings and two teleconferences.

The Executive Committee's busy year continued through 2009. In addition to its regular duties, the Executive discussed and monitored ongoing issues regarding;

- Great Glasses;
- ICRC Committee referrals regarding unauthorized practice;
- Inquiry regarding the College's involvement and representation on the National Association of Canadian Optician Regulators (NACOR);
- The implementation of Bill 179
- COO governance
- Other items such as Optometry conflict of interest regulation, government relations, new legislation, external relations and strategic planning for the COO
- Implementing a review of our current government relations firm, this included preliminary discussions with other GR firms.

As well, regular updates on finance, office management, construction updates as well as the HPRAC Eye Care Review and Governance Committee work were provided by the Deputy Registrar and Registrar.

The Executive Committee screening process continues to be an effective manner in which the College can assess issues. The President will continue to provide Council with Executive Committee updates after each meeting, which is meant to keep Council informed of the regular activities of the Executive Committee.

Complaints Committee and Unauthorized Practice Committee

(before June 4)

Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee

(as of June 4)

In 2009, the whole Committee met three times.

Panel 1: Four meetings & Panel 2: Four meetings & Panel 3: Five meetings & Panel 4: One meeting

As of June 4, 2009, the previously known Complaints Committee has transitioned to the Inquiries, Complaints, and Reports Committee (ICRC) under the HSIA (Health Systems Improvement Act). In addition, the Unauthorized Practice (UP) Committee has ceased to exist as a separate committee. The previously known UP Committee's mandate to review, investigate and, where appropriate commence prosecution in matters involving allegations of unauthorized practice, has been transferred to the ICRC.

The Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee is responsible for investigating all written/recorded complaints regarding the conduct or actions of members of the College of Opticians. The Committee conducts all investigations in a fair and efficient manner and endeavours to make reasonable and fair decisions.

The Committee's business has been conducted by four panels:

Panel 1	Panel 2	Panel 3	Panel 4
Jeff Fernandes	Janice Schmidt	Bryan Todd	Murray Prabhakara
Akwasi Boakye	Mike Smart	Marilyn Fron	Marilyn Fron
Buddy Ibe	Niti Jassal	Udham Tonk	Niti Jassal
Murray Prabhakara	Murray Prabhakara	Buddy Ibe	Buddy Ibe

Protecting the Public (Continued)

The panels' meetings were held exclusively via teleconferences, when needed. The whole Committee met to receive an in-depth orientation at the beginning of the year and to deal with issues common to all Panels.

Starting in 2010, there will be two Panels of five (as opposed to four Panels of four) – the Panels will alternate in-person meetings and conference calls. Although conference calls were cost effective and convenient, individual Panel members' involvement and understanding of each case could be improved by occasional in-person meetings.

There are currently eight complaints that require further investigation which involve a number of concerns: allegations of insurance fraud, member performing refraction and dispensing without having a "refracting optician" status, poor communication, and member allowing non-registered employees to dispense and making inappropriate comments.

There are currently seven open investigations of alleged unauthorized practice.

Acting upon the direction of the Council, the Committee finalized the UP "fact finding" project. A search for all optical dispensaries in Ontario was conducted using Opti-Guide, Canada 411 and Yellow Pages. Approximately 1,000 dispensaries were found. After cross-referencing the information with the records from the COO database, 206 potential unauthorized practice cases were identified. An educational package was mailed out to these dispensaries requesting information. After preliminary investigation done by the COO staff, there were 28 dispensaries potentially involved in unauthorized practice. The Committee reviewed all 28 cases and identified six for investigation by an undercover "shopper".

2009 Complaints Committee Statistical Report (Annual)

Disposition	# of Files
Complaint inquiries	22
Inquiry - became a formal complaint	12
Inquiry - abandoned	8
Inquiry - pending further information	2
Frivolous & vexatious	-
Closed with no further action	7
Referred to Discipline	2
Caution (Written/Verbal)	3
Complaints disposed of	12
Open files pending further investigation <i>(One file from 2008, seven files from 2009)</i>	8
Total # of complaints Panels reviewed in 2009 (8 from 2008 and 12 from 2009)	20
HPARB appeals (new)	1
HPARB appeals – COO Decision confirmed	2
Outstanding HPARB appeals (review not scheduled)	1
HPARB review held – decision pending	1

Nature of Complaints:

- 1. Insurance fraud 4
- 2. Member performed refraction and dispensed (not a "refracting optician"): 1
- 3. Quality of EG + Unprofessional conduct: 1
- 4. Unprofessional conduct: 5
- 5. Member encouraged non-registered individuals to dispense + inappropriate Comments: 2
- 6. Poor Communication: 2
- 7. Fraud: 1
- 8. Poor communication + Unprofessional conduct: 1
- 9. Practising under suspension + insurance fraud: 1
- 10. Fraud + Unprofessional Conduct: 1
- 11. Quality of EG: 1

Protecting the Public (Continued)

ICR Committee Statistical Report - Unauthorized Practice	# of Files
Total number of inquires in 2009	29 *
Inquiry abandoned – not enough information	11
Open files pending further investigation (2008-2009)	7
Files closed – No further Action	5
Injunction approved – in progress	1
Injunction completed – court decisions – COO successful	3

* 7 of these inquires were about "Great Glasses"
N.B. The numbers reported do not include the UP Fact
Finding Project – please refer to the Report

Discipline Committee

There are currently five discipline matters that are being addressed by the COO.

In 2009, the COO held a total of two Pre-Hearing Conferences, and five Discipline Hearings. All five hearings have been completed and decisions rendered. Orders have been given in three of these hearings. In two of these hearings, decisions have been rendered however penalties are still forthcoming. Currently there are two penalty hearings and two discipline hearings scheduled for early 2010.

Fitness to Practice Committee

The Fitness to Practice Committee holds hearings to determine if a member is incapacitated to such a degree that this prevents him / her from practicing safely and effectively. The Committee meets on an as-needed basis, should allegations of incapacity of a member be referred.

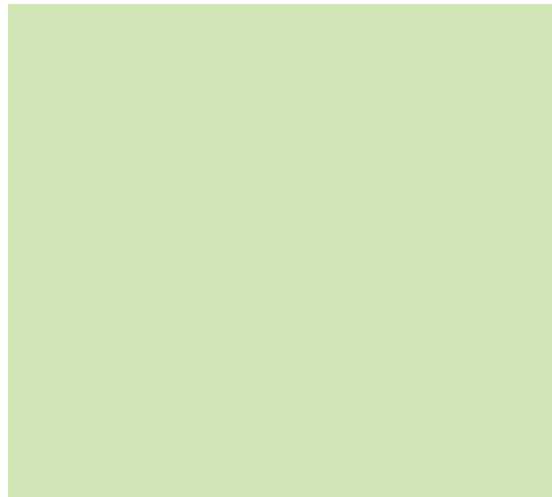
No referrals have been made to the Committee in 2009.

Patient Relations Committee

The Patient Relations Committee met twice in 2009.

This year, the committee updated and finalized the Sexual Abuse Prevention Presentation, and accompanying quiz. This was submitted to the Quality Assurance Committee for accreditation and was posted on the COO website in September, 2009.

The committee also discussed and researched the possibility of incorporating a Jurisprudence component into the COO's Quality Assurance proposed portfolio. Research took place by reviewing Jurisprudence components at other colleges and the Committee decided that further discussion amongst the committee, as well as discussions with the Quality Assurance committee in 2010, would assist with making recommendations to council in 2010.



Ensuring Quality Care

Quality Assurance Committee

The mandate of the Quality Assurance Committee is to ensure the quality of professional practice by developing and maintaining programs and standards to promote continuing competence among members.

In 2009, the Committee held six meetings during the year. Additionally, committee work was completed electronically. Over the course of 2009, the QA Committee:

- Circulated the new proposed regulation amendments with the explanatory guide to Members/Stakeholders in January 2009.
- Considered feedback received from Members/Stakeholders; working towards the completion of the Professional Portfolio.
- Considered feedback received from Council and made significant strides working on revising, simplifying and condensing the Professional Portfolio Toolkit to enable ease of use and implementation for Members.
- Continued working on the development of a new QA Peer/Practice Assessment Program.
- Continued developing marketing documentation to ease the transition for Members from a credit system to a Professional Portfolio system.
- Completed the QA Regulation Submission template. The proposed QA regulation amendments were submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in November of 2009.
- Mailed out notices to applicable Members on October 6, 2009 stating that their credits were due, pointing to the COO website for documentation. To date, 13 requests have been made for hard copy packages to be mailed which enables the College to keep to the low budget mailing cost. We anticipate 267 people to submit their QA Claims packages by December 31, 2009.

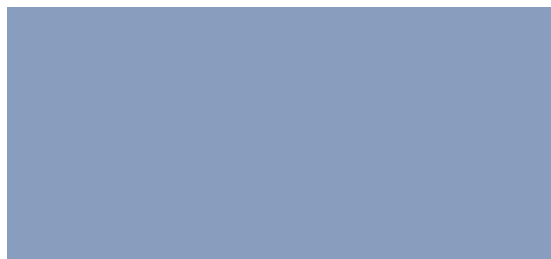
- Continued to work via email using the COO virtual boardroom to accredit many submissions made by providers of continuing education. The QA Committee was very busy accrediting the many requests that were submitted.

Registration Committee

In 2009, the Committee held two in-person meetings and three assessment test sessions. The majority of the Committee's work in between meetings was conducted electronically.

Registration Regulation

Due to important legislative changes related to the Agreement on Internal Trade and labour mobility, based on legal advice, the Registration Committee re-drafted the COO Registration Regulation, with the assistance of legal counsel. A new draft Registration Regulation was provided to Council for first reading in May. The draft Registration Regulation was then circulated to members and stakeholders for comments by September 1. The Committee reviewed and discussed all the comments. As a result, the draft Regulation was revised, mostly to fine-tune the wording and clarify some of the provisions. The Committee brought the final version of the draft Regulation to Council in December. The Council approved the draft Registration Regulation, which will be submitted to the Ministry of Health in early 2010.



Ensuring Quality Care (Continued)

FARPA Compliance Audit

The Office of the Fairness Commissioner (OFC) was established under the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act* (FARPA), 2006, to oversee compliance with the legislation. The mandate of the OFC is to ensure regulators' registration practices are transparent, objective, impartial and fair. The COO, and specifically the Registration Committee, has continued to work with the OFC in fulfilling their mandate.

One of the important requirements of FARPA is a compliance audit of the regulators' registration practices. The COO audit started on October 5. The auditors reviewed all aspects of the COO registration processes: availability of information for applicants, timeliness of decisions, responses and reasons; internal reviews, information on appeal rights, assessment of qualifications, and access to records. The report has been submitted to the ORC and the auditor concluded the COO's general duty to maintain a transparent, objective, impartial and fair registration process was "good" (which is the highest rating), with no instances of non-compliance. There were several recommendations made to improve the existing processes and the Committee will ensure they have been implemented in 2010.

Opticianry Programs across Canada – NACOR Opticianry Program Accreditation

The Committee gathered information about Opticianry programs across Canada. The progress of the NACOR opticianry program accreditation process, with the anticipated completion date of December 31, 2009, was also monitored by the Committee. According to the provisions of the MRA, regulatory bodies will have the option of not issuing licenses to graduates of non-accredited schools who have not already been licensed by another province. These applicants will have to undergo a prior learning assessment process to be conducted by the Committee.

Registration Committee Statistical Report

Internationally Educated Applicants	
Initial inquiries received	24
Application package received – file opened	6
Pending receipt of additional documentation & payment	4
Credentials evaluated	2
Assessment test administered (also applies for reinstatements)	6
Miscellaneous	
Applications for reinstatement of suspended members (3 + yrs)	10
Directed to sit an Assessment test	3
Allowed to reinstate	7
Appeals to HPARB – decision pending	1
Upgrading proposal approved – upgrading in progress	2
Completed Upgrading approved	1

Examinations Committee

The Spring session of the National Examinations was held in April, and the Fall session in October 2009. The location for both sessions was Georgian College, Barrie.

Mr. Mike Smart resumed his role as Chief Examiner for Ontario.

We would like to thank Mr. Terry Finkelman, from Georgian College, for his dedication and efforts; as well as the examiners, models and College staff, who all contributed to the success of the 2009 National examination sessions.

COO Registration Examination

The COO Registration Examination was not held in 2009.



Setting and Maintaining Standards

National Exam Stats (Ontario) National Eyeglasses Exam

Spring 2009

# of Candidates			Passed		Failed	
Ontario Candidates	7	(54%)	6	(86%)	1	(14%)
Out of Province	6	(46%)	N/A	-	N/A	-
<i>Total # of Candidates</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>(100%)</i>	-	-	-	-

Fall 2009

# of Candidates			Passed		Failed	
Ontario Candidates	78	(95%)	75	(96%)	3	(4%)
Out of Province	4	(5%)	N/A	-	N/A	-
<i>Total # of Candidates</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>(100%)</i>	-	-	-	-

National Contact Lenses Exam Spring 2009

# of Candidates			Passed		Failed	
Ontario Candidates	12	(66%)	8	(67%)	4	(33%)
Out of Province	6	(33%)	N/A	-	N/A	-
<i>Total # of Candidates</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>(100%)</i>				

Fall 2009

# of Candidates			Passed		Failed	
Ontario Candidates	88	(94%)	71	(81%)	17	(19%)
Out of Province	6	(6%)	N/A	-	N/A	-
<i>Total # of Candidates</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>(100%)</i>				

Auditor's Report

To the Council of College of Opticians of Ontario

We have audited the statement of financial position of College of Opticians of Ontario as at December 31, 2009 and the statements of revenue and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the College's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of College of Opticians of Ontario as at December 31, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Sevitt Associate

Toronto, Ontario
March 10, 2010



Licensed Public Accountants
Chartered Accountants

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2009	2009	2008
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current		
Bank	483,525	266,885
Investments (Note 3)	280,120	1,009,802
Interest receivable	338	21,040
Prepays	13,273	3,376
	<u>777,256</u>	<u>1,301,103</u>
Capital Assets (Note 4)	283,016	34,923
	<u>1,060,272</u>	<u>1,336,026</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Payables and accrued liabilities	128,504	98,628
Accrued rental benefit (Note 6)	-	11,012
Deferred registration fees	533,315	520,720
	<u>661,819</u>	<u>630,360</u>
Net Assets		
Reserve for Funding of Therapy or Counselling	22,320	22,320
Invested in capital assets	283,016	34,923
General reserve	93,117	648,423
	<u>398,453</u>	<u>705,666</u>
	<u>1,060,272</u>	<u>1,336,026</u>

Commitments (Note 8)



Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2009

1. Organization

The College of Opticians of Ontario was incorporated without share capital as a not-for-profit organization under the laws of Ontario for the purpose of assuring public protection in the practice of opticianry and is responsible for administering and enforcing the Regulated Health Professions Act and the Opticianry Act. Accordingly, it is not required to pay income taxes.

2. Significant Accounting Principles

Capital assets

All capital assets acquisitions are capitalized at cost. Amortization is provided annually as follows:

Furniture and fixtures - 20% declining balance

Computer equipment - 30% declining balance

Leaseholds are amortized over five years on a straight line basis.

In the year of acquisition, amortization is provided at one-half of the annual rates.

Deferred registration fees

Deferred registration fees are represented by amounts received before year end for licensing in the next year. This amount of \$533,315 (2008 - \$520,720) is included in cash and cash equivalents on the balance sheet.

Fund accounting

The general costs of activities for which reserves have been established are not considered for as separate funds and full disclosure will be provided in the notes to the financial statements.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, balances with banks and short term deposits with original maturities of three months or less.

Net Assets

The financial statements have been prepared in a manner which segregates net assets balances as follows:

- (a) Reserve for Funding of Therapy or Counselling represents amounts that have been allocated from general operations in order to comply with provincial regulations relating to financing of therapy or counselling sessions which may be required in cases of sexual abuse of patients by members.
- (b) Invested in capital assets represents the College's net investment in property which is comprised of the amount of its capital assets purchased with unrestricted funds.
- (c) General Reserve represents amounts available for operations.

3. Investments

The investments comprise of the following guaranteed investment certificates held with the Bank of Montreal.

Type	Term	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Amount \$
GIC	three years	November 17, 2012	<i>see below</i>	<u>280,120</u>

Cashable Rate Riser GIC

The above GIC was purchased on November 17, 2009 with a term of three years. The annual rate of return is 1% in year one, 1.1% in year two and 1.25% in year three. The GIC is cashable by the holder at any time at their discretion.

The financial statements include accrued interest earned to December 31, 2009.

Notes to Financial Statements

(Continued)

December 31, 2009

4. Capital Assets

	Cost \$	Accumulated Depreciation \$	Net Book Value 2009 \$	2008 \$
Furniture and fixtures	229,269	140,380	88,889	10,851
Computer equipment	224,962	202,602	22,360	24,072
Leasehold improvements	210,089	38,322	171,767	-
	<u>664,320</u>	<u>381,304</u>	<u>283,016</u>	<u>34,923</u>

5. Bank Indebtedness

As at December 31, 2009 the College has an unused unsecured credit facility of a \$100,000. Operating Line of Credit at prime plus 1%.

6. Accrued Rental Benefit

In 1997 the College signed a lease on premises for 12 years of which the first 2 years were rent free. This rent free period is taken into income on an annual basis over the twelve years. This lease ended during the current year on August 31, 2009 and hence this is the last year that any rental benefit will be recognized.

7. Financial Instruments

The College's estimate of the fair value of financial instruments included in current assets and current liabilities approximates their carrying values.

8. Commitments

The College has entered into agreements to lease its premises and office equipment for various periods. During the current year, the premises lease was extended at the same location commencing September 1, 2009 for a new ten year period. However at the option of the landlord, the lease may be terminated after five years provided written notice is provided to the College. The annual rent of premises consists of a minimum base rent plus operating expenses, realty taxes and hydro charges for that period. Minimum base rent payable for premises and equipment in aggregate is as follows:

	Premises \$	Equipment \$	Total \$
2010	66,267	20,100	86,367
2011	66,267	20,100	86,367
2012	66,267	20,100	86,367
2013	66,267	20,100	86,367
2014	68,986	-	68,986
2015	74,424	-	74,424
2016	74,424	-	74,424
2017	74,424	-	74,424
2018	74,424	-	74,424
2019	49,616	-	49,616
	<u>681,366</u>	<u>80,400</u>	<u>761,766</u>

9. Comparative Amounts

All comparative amounts are from the 2008 audited financial statements by Sevitt and Associates LLP report dated May 7, 2009. Certain categories have been reclassified where applicable to conform with the current year's presentation.

Schedule of Council and Committee Expenditures

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

	Honoraria \$	Expenses \$	2009 Total \$	2008 Total \$
Statutory/By-Law Committees				
Council	41,200	27,717	68,917	50,786
Discipline	16,088	9,043	25,131	23,906
Examinations	-	-	-	687
Executive	17,550	4,855	22,405	21,121
ICRC / Complaints	14,530	4,737	19,267	15,920
Patient Relations	1,250	3,475	4,725	1,570
Quality Assurance	22,188	6,384	28,572	17,240
Registration	5,113	2,626	7,739	18,127
Ad-Hoc Committees				
Delegation Ad hoc	1,400	2,135	3,535	2,482
Miscellaneous	7,263	5,250	12,513	10,169
HPRAC	1,163	1,220	2,383	3,510
HPRAC	<u>127,745</u>	<u>67,442</u>	<u>195,187</u>	<u>165,518</u>

A Profile of Members 2009

The College has provided some statistics for your information on all registered members in the 2009 year. The data presented is a snapshot of the College membership profile as of December 31, 2009 and is subject to change thereafter.

Data Source: College of Opticians Database,

*RO: Registered Optician

*NAIT: Northern Alberta Institute of Technology

Table: 1.0 All Members by Class and Status 2009		
Class	Status	Total
Registered Optician	Current and Active (2316)	2378
	Current and Inactive (62)	
Student Optician	Current and Active	282
Intern Optician	Current and Active	92

Table: 2.0 *RO Work Status 2009	
Work Status	Total
Full-Time	1930
Part-Time	296
Not Currently Dispensing	91
Not Dispensing Signed Undertaking	61
Self-Employed	525
Owner	53
Self-Employed & Owner	104

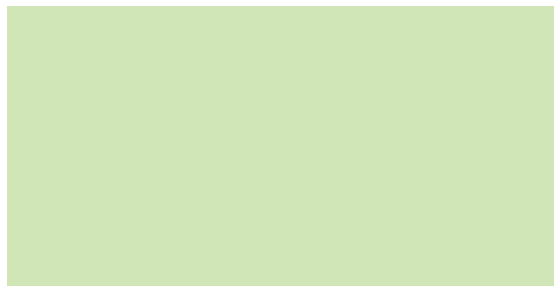


Table: 3.0 *RO Specialities 2009	
Speciality	Total
Eye Glasses Only	403
Contact Lenses Only	13
Both Eye Glasses & Contact Lenses	1931
Difficult Contact Lens Fitting	313
Low Vision Aids	242
Geriatrics	343
Artificial Eyes	21
Pediatrics	403
Mobile Services	154
Safety Glasses	1250
Other Services	68

*Other Services include: Alternate health care sources: herbs, vitamins, minerals, etc. Collect old glasses and send to the needy in different countries, Consulting, e.g. Ergonomic Vision Consulting, Gift of Sight Local Missions, Hearing Aids, High tech vision aids for the blind, Lab (manager, whole finishing and manufacturing), Lab Work, Lens Consultant, Locum Service, Optical Laboratory (surface and finish) Optical Manufacturing, Orthokeratology, Repairs – Soldering etc., RGP assessment, Rigid Bifocals, Sales Representative, Sales Representative (Optical Frame), Specialty Golf glasses, Sports Eyewear, Teaching (Opticianry Courses), Translation services, Vision screening, Vision testing.

Table: 4.0 Did Not Renew Certificate of Registration as an *RO 2009	
Reason	# Of Members
Deceased	0
Retired	8
Maternity Leave	14
Medical Reason	5
Moved out of Province	4
Inactive Reason Unknown	42
Total	73

Note: The above data applies to all inactive (ie. not currently registered) *RO's in the 2008 registration year who did not renew or reinstate their certificate of registration for the 2009 year.

A Profile of Members 2009 (Continued)

Table: 4.1 *RO Suspensions/Reinstatements 2009	
Suspended	91
Reinstated	51

*Note: The above data applies to all Suspended and/or Reinstated *RO's in the 2009 Registration Year.*

Table: 5.0 New Student Opticians 2009 by Educational Institution Enrolled	
Georgian College, Ontario	65
Seneca College, Ontario (Part-Time Program - 20, Full-Time Program - 39)	59
*NAIT	0
Total	119

Note: The above data applies to New Student Opticians registered in 2009.

Table: 5.1 New *RO's 2009 by Canadian Educational Institution Graduated	
Georgian College, Ontario	52
Seneca College, Ontario	32
BC College of Optics, British Columbia	68
*NAIT	4
Total	156

Table: 5.2 New Internationally Trained Opticians 2009 by Country of Transfer	
United Kingdom	1
India	1
Total	2

Table: 6.0 Contact Lens Mentors/Certified Contact Lens Fitters	
Soft & Rigid Contact Lens Mentors - 4 New	69
Soft Contact Lens Mentors - 20 New	116
Certified Contact Lens Fitters	427

Table: 6.1 Refraction Status	
Refraction Status	43



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