

Coalition of Ontario Optometrists for Reform

Governing Principles

We, the undersigned optometrists, believe and support a professional College to regulate and enforce professional standards for all optometrists of Ontario relating to standards of care and patient service issues.

We believe it is every patient's right to lodge a complaint with the College over any alleged standard of care or professional misconduct issue.

We further believe that the time has come to bring current regulations affecting the profession in line with the direction from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to allow for a more collaborative approach to eye care.

We support the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Committee's mandate to foster greater collaboration between eye care professionals in the interest of delivering a higher standard of care.

We believe optometrists should be free to deliver the best care possible to their patients in a practice environment of their choice. In our view, this is best achieved by eliminating all regulatory provisions related to the business aspects of optometry, in a manner consistent with freedom of association and expression as protected under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

We encourage all optometrists, whether members of OAO or the College, to petition the College and its leadership to re-call the currently proposed Regulatory Amendments submitted to the Ministry of Health and to undertake a complete revision of the Regulations which eliminates all business and business related Regulations while respecting the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

We also urge the College to re-focus its efforts on its primary role - enforcing standards of *patient care* in the province. The College must desist from taking any further actions that attempt to dictate the business practices of optometrists.

We empower our Coalition leadership to act on our behalf on all matters set out in the above:

Signed

Per:

Name Printed

Date

Practice Name