



Alberta
Association
of Optometrists



Annual Report **2025**



Our **Mission**

To provide leadership and support for our members to be every Albertan's first and continual access point for world leading eye care.

Our **Vision**

Advancing the profession of optometry to deliver leading edge eye care for every Albertan.

Our **Values**



Accountable



Professional



Innovative



Visionary



Inclusive

ON THE COVER: Dr. Kiani received the inaugural *Speaker of the Year Award* in recognition of her outstanding contributions to our public engagement efforts. Over the past year, she has represented the profession at numerous speaking engagements organized by the AAO in collaboration with a range of stakeholder organizations across Alberta.

Learn more about the *Speaker of the Year Award* on page 22.

Table of Contents

4-5	President's Message
6	2024/2025 Council
7-9	2024 AAO Committees
10-11	The Membership
12-13	New Graduate & Student Members
14-15	2024 Practice Awards Recipients
16	Service Award
17	Honourary Member
18-19	Council Member Awards
20-21	President's Award
22	Speaker of the Year Award
23	On Being an Award Winner
24	Optician of the Year Award
25	Optometric Assistant of the Year Award
26	A Legacy of Leadership in Communications
27-28	Continuing Education
29	Member Programs - ESEL™
30	Member Programs - Eyesafe™
31-32	Government Relations
33-36	Communications
37-45	Find an Optometrist
46-63	Financials

President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

It has been my privilege to represent our profession over the past year. The AAO's council, committees, volunteers, CEO, and staff members have continued to work hard in support of members and advance our shared goals. This report outlines the progress we have made, highlights key achievements, and demonstrates how your dues are being effectively utilized.

Our member survey earlier this year showed strong alignment with the AAO's vision and values. You, the membership, have identified fair remuneration and expanded scope of practice as top priorities, along with concerns about third-party barriers. You asked for stronger advocacy, increased public awareness, and new approaches to outreach. We are listening and we are doing. Together, we are strengthening the future for optometry in Alberta, while remaining committed to delivering the highest standard of care to our patients.

Advocacy

This year tested our resilience, strengthened our advocacy, and reinforced the profession's role in Alberta's health system. With nearly 100 GRC members, the AAO maintained representation in 92% of ridings and remained active in discussions on scope expansion and fee negotiations.

Despite strong advocacy, Alberta Health implemented Opto 35 changes in February 2025. We thank

members for their support and outreach to local MLAs. This collective effort reached patients across the province, helping them better understand how that change impacts them.

On scope expansion, Cabinet has yet to decide. The AAO Negotiation Committee is ready to move forward once union health care professionals negotiations conclude. We also raised concerns about care at Euclid Telehealth, prompting a provincial investigation and the creation of a reporting channel for further issues.

In addition, we continue to monitor the Canada Health Act's reinterpretation letter and its impact on non-physician providers. Advocacy, education, and negotiation remain central to advancing and protecting our profession.

Member Programs

The AAO's two established programs, Eyesafe™ and Eye See . . . Eye Learn™ (ESEL™), continued their growth in usage and public awareness, strengthening our role in eye safety and children's vision.

Eyesafe™ supported Alberta workers in accessing properly fitted, high-quality prescription safety eyewear throughout 2024. Feedback from employers and employees continues to be positive and in 2024, the program added 56 new clients and disbursed \$797,429 to participating optometrists.

Through ESEL™, information reached 65,000 kindergarten students across the province. As a result, 38% of five-year-olds received an eye exam, with more than 2,300 receiving free glasses. For almost 60% of these children, it was their first pair. We remain committed to increasing participation in this program to ensure no child falls behind due to an undetected vision problem.

Public Awareness & Stakeholder Outreach

The AAO continues to lead in promoting optometry as Alberta's primary eye care profession, both to the public and within the broader health system. Over the past year, members represented the AAO at many events, sharing important messages about eye health. Our collective work is increasingly recognized by physicians and allied health professionals. We are also actively involved in teaching first and second year family medicine residents in Alberta to increase awareness of optometry's role and benefit within the health care pathways.

Continuing Education

Careers in optometry are dynamic, and like many progressive professions, ongoing continuing education is essential. This past year, AAO members benefited from educational opportunities at the Annual Conference, Spring Symposium, and several virtual webinars. Our Continuing Education Committee continually seeks top speakers to deliver advanced sessions. High participation and satisfaction levels reflect both our members' commitment to world-class eye care and the quality of these programs.

Shaping Tomorrow, Together

Doctors, thank you for your trust, your commitment, and your care. It has been an honour to serve. Keep showing up, doing good work, and taking care of one another.

Dr. Sophia Leung



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Leung'.

Dr. Sophia Leung,
AAO President

2024/2025 AAO

Council

As the AAO continues to champion the profession and support the vital work of Alberta's optometrists, strategic planning remains a key focus for Council. Council plays a central role in shaping the direction of the organization, with regular reviews to ensure our priorities remain aligned with emerging opportunities and evolving industry trends.

The dedication and thoughtful leadership demonstrated over the past year have once again benefited our members and laid the groundwork for continued progress. Elected by the membership, Council is entrusted with guiding the AAO through both the professional and operational aspects of the Association, always with a forward-looking perspective.

Thank you to our Council members for their time, expertise, and commitment to representing the interests of our members and maintaining the AAO's strength as a dynamic and resilient organization.



Dr. Sophia Leung
President



Dr. Andrea Lasby
Past President



Dr. Cristy Franco
President Elect



Dr. Monica Bell
Director



Dr. Pamela Giles
Director



Dr. Darren Wagner
Director



Dr. Karen Hayward
Director



Dr. Alia Cappellani
Director



Dr. Troy Brady
CAO Representative

2024 AAO

Committees

The AAO benefits greatly from the active participation of its members on numerous committees. Every year, dedicated volunteers invest significant time and effort to provide guidance and expertise that help drive the organization's ongoing success. With over 133 members contributing their diverse skills and knowledge, these committees form a strong foundation for the work we accomplish. Beyond committee involvement, many members have also represented the profession at medical, community, and industry events, helping to elevate the understanding of optometry's role in supporting eye health across Alberta.

This essential work relies heavily on the commitment of these individuals. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who shared their time and expertise throughout 2024.



Policy Committees

Artificial Intelligence and Teleoptometry Subcommittee

Dr. Andrea Lasby, Chair
Dr. Brendon Bjarnason
Dr. Joel Baillargeon
Dr. Ashley Olford

Board Development and Nominations Committee

Dr. Andrea Lasby, Chair
Dr. Troy Brady
Dr. Pamela Giles
Dr. Alia Cappellani

Business Management Subcommittee

Dr. Pamela Giles, Chair
Dr. Daryl Berger
Dr. Heather Cowie
Dr. Peter Laansoo
Dr. Ranbir Sond

Cosmetic Optometry Subcommittee

Dr. Colin Hobson, Chair
Dr. Riaz Ahmed
Dr. Natasha Chrenek
Dr. Gene Edworthy
Dr. Aleem Jiwa
Dr. Aaron Yau

Emerging Trends Committee

Dr. Cristy Franco, Chair
Dr. Andrea Lasby
Dr. Darren Wagner
Dr. Karen Hayward

Finance, Audit, & Risk Management Committee

Dr. Darren Wagner, Chair
Dr. Colin Hobson
Dr. Kent Manville
Dr. T.H Poon
Dr. Connor West

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE ➔ ● ● ●

Policy Committees

continued

Local Optometric Societies Committee

Dr. Pamela Giles, Chair
Dr. Monica Bell, CSO
Dr. Tatiana Cook, LSO
Dr. Jade McLachlin, ESO
Dr. Jodi Sehn, MSO
Dr. Heather Van Haren, CAOS

Vision Development and Rehabilitation Subcommittee

Dr. Cristy Franco, Chair
Dr. Rachel Bryant
Dr. Sabih Chaudhary
Dr. Charlotte Forgie
Dr. Jason Holtom

Operational Committees

Billing Committee

Dr. Amy Forrest, Chair
Dr. Yogesh Patel
Dr. Adam Reid

Continuing Education Committee

Dr. Monica Bell, Chair
Dr. Dylan Johnston
Dr. Sheila Morrison
Dr. Rima Sabbah

New Grad Committee

Mr. Brian Wik, Chair
Dr. Claudia Amaniampong
Dr. Aysha Chaudhry
Dr. Jonah Gilham
Dr. Steven Ha
Dr. Tracy Kitz
Dr. Pearl Motkoski
Dr. Jennifer Verrett



Government Relations Committee

Mr. Brian Wik, Chair	Dr. George Day	Dr. Andrea Lasby	Dr. Brent Saik
Dr. Riaz Ahmed	Dr. Hazel Delong	Dr. Paul Lathrop	Dr. Jean Shen
Dr. Jonathan Akle	Dr. Nicole Deschamps	Dr. Sophia Leung	Dr. Brittany Shewchuk
Dr. Mohammad Al-Bekai	Dr. Kirandeep Dhaliwal	Dr. Allan MacKenzie	Dr. Tanya Sitter
Dr. Monzer Al-Bekai	Dr. Blake Dornstauder	Dr. Noufal Mais	Dr. Timothy Skwarok
Dr. Trent Allred	Dr. Benjamin Doz	Dr. Jeff Mann	Dr. Sara Starko
Dr. Ziad Al-Qishawi	Dr. Laura Dwernichuk	Dr. Jade McLachlin	Dr. Jared Steblin
Dr. Guy Ambrosio	Dr. Amy Forrest	Dr. Craig McQueen	Dr. Farah Sunderji
Dr. Dave Anderson	Dr. Cristy Franco	Dr. Craig Meckelborg	Dr. Pamela Syrota
Dr. Jennifer Ash	Dr. Pamela Giles	Dr. Harpreet Minhas	Dr. Chelsea Syverson
Dr. Jim Asuchak	Dr. Ranweet Grewal	Dr. Diana Monea	Dr. Shelly Taneja
Dr. Jaswinder Bains	Dr. Jackie Hagen	Dr. Brenda Mummery	Dr. Julie Theng
Dr. Sallie Barclay	Dr. Jamie-Lee Halabi	Dr. Eve Niedergesaess	Dr. Raman Thind-Gill
Dr. Ben Barrus	Dr. Chrissy Hines	Dr. Nimrit Nijjar	Dr. James Thompson
Dr. Monica Bell	Dr. Colin Hobson	Dr. Nobe Nijjar	Dr. Jay Torbeih
Dr. Troy Brady	Dr. Michael Hopper	Dr. Justin Norris	Dr. Kevin Tsen
Dr. Kim Bugera	Dr. Clark Hyde	Dr. Sherri Norris	Dr. Mona Ubhi
Dr. Aysha Chaudhry	Dr. Sumeet Jeerh	Dr. Jon Pack	Dr. Jade Ulmer
Dr. Theresa Checkley	Dr. Aleem Jiwa	Dr. Holly Parker	Dr. Christopher Vu
Dr. Laura Chisholm	Dr. Menka Johl	Dr. Jason Pearce	Dr. Darren Wagner
Dr. Nadia Clark	Dr. Shane Keddie	Dr. Shannon Pennifold	Dr. Tom Wilk
Dr. Mark Cloarec	Dr. Tracy Kitz	Dr. Darren Phillips	Dr. Mark Wood
Dr. Heather Cowie	Dr. Michael Kreuzer	Dr. Mark Pitcher	Dr. Michael Yu
Dr. Richard Cowles	Dr. Hudson Kroeker	Dr. Jimmy Prince	Dr. Ward ZoBell
Dr. Matthew Craig	Dr. Jennifer Langfield	Dr. Christine Russo	
Dr. Yen Dang	Dr. Cory Larsen	Dr. Stan Russo	



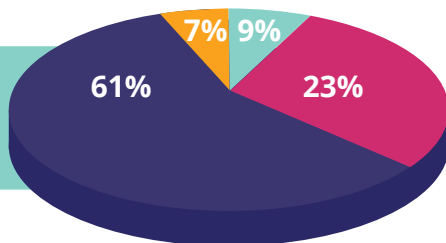
The Membership

With 901 members, the AAO represents 94% of all optometrists in the province. There is strength in numbers, and the AAO is well positioned to meet the future needs of those practicing in Alberta through advocacy, building awareness, and being innovative. What is equally impressive is that there are four generations of optometrists practicing in the province. It is a profession that allows for continued growth through education and the opportunity to develop multi-generational clinics when mentorship is easily accessible. The AAO continues to be at the top of the list with the highest membership percentage in Canada — something we can all be proud of as members.



Membership by Generation

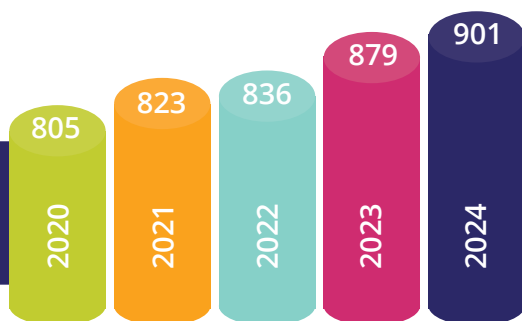
- Baby Boomers
- Generation X
- Millennial
- Generation Z



Location of Members



Number of Members



Student to New Graduate



Dr. Aaron Yau

In 2024, 92 early-career optometrists were navigating their first, second, or third year of membership with the AAO. Among them is Dr. Aaron Yau, a distinguished new grad whose path to optometry was anything but conventional.

As a child, a horseback riding accident left Aaron with a serious orbital injury, requiring surgery and years of follow-up care from ophthalmologists, optometrists, and vision therapists. After moving on from that chapter of his life, he developed an interest in architecture during high school, but it wasn't long before he found himself drawn back to eye care — not as a patient, but as a future provider.

With laser focus, he set his sights on the University of Waterloo. Eight years later, he is not only practicing in Calgary but also actively involved in the optometric community as a volunteer on the AAO's Cosmetic Optometry Subcommittee. This role allows him to pursue his passion for anterior segment disease, myopia control, and innovation in dry eye management. Dr. Yau also appreciates the social benefits of being a member, sharing, "I've come to realize just how small the optometry community is and how easy it is to meet new people. AAO meetings feel like a high school reunion in some ways when I see old friends and new colleagues."

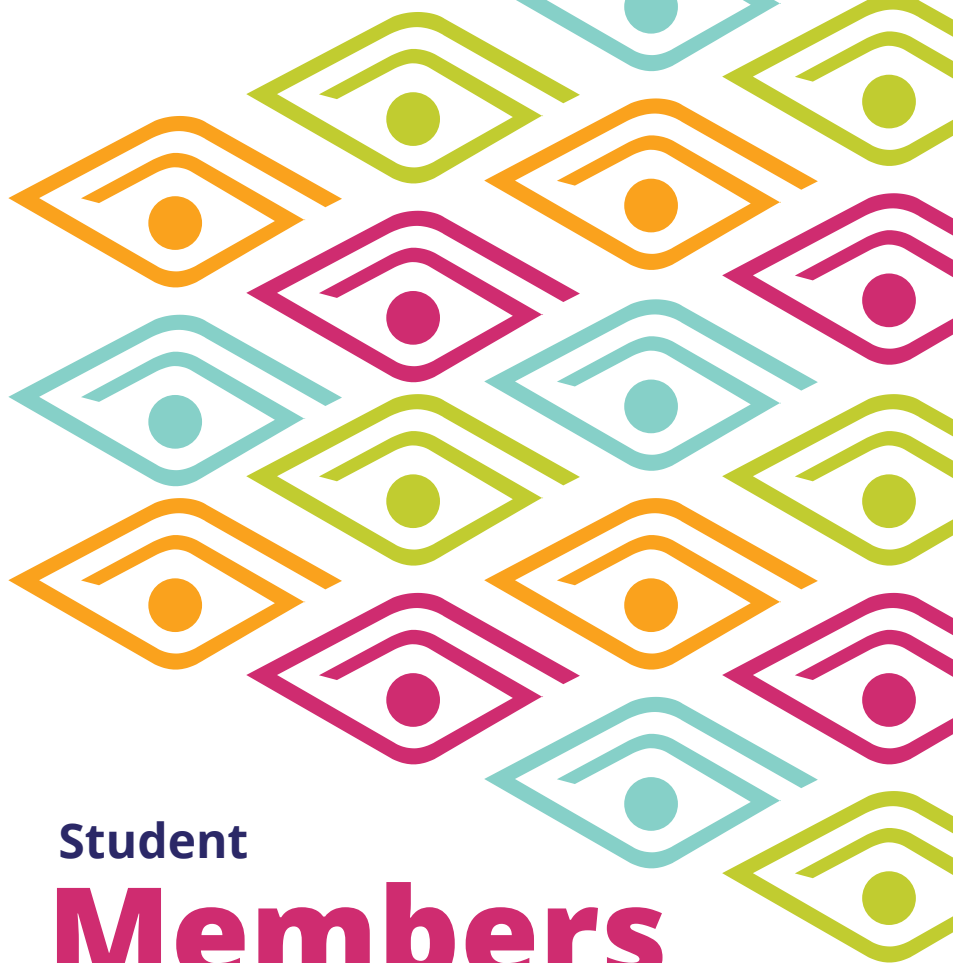
Dr. Yau describes the transition from student to new graduate as "an absolute roller coaster ride of learning." He credits the AAO's bi-weekly Billing Tips email for providing much-needed support during this time. The first two years of his practice

have enabled him to immerse himself in advanced dry eye therapies, join advisory boards, educate teachers and children in schools, attend various events, and build lasting relationships with colleagues across Calgary.

The experiences Dr. Yau has had early in his career are shaping the standards of care and patient experiences he aims to create. They have also instilled confidence. “The biggest change I’ve noticed in myself is that I’ve solidified who I am as a doctor and the values I stand for,” he said. “No matter what, nothing beats the feeling of pride in your profession when patients break down and cry tears of joy in your chair.” While embracing his new routine and priorities as a doctor, Dr. Yau admits that one student mindset lingers: he is still unlikely to turn down a free meal.

Dr. Yau encourages new graduates to carefully consider their employment agreements and not to feel pressured into signing. “After all, optometrists are in high demand, and as a new OD, you are a prized commodity – even if you don’t feel confident enough yet,” he advises.

Thank you for your contributions to our profession, Dr. Yau. We are delighted to have you in our ranks.



Student Members

Today's students are tomorrow's leaders, and the AAO's student membership helps bridge that transition. With access to the same valuable resources as practicing members, student members gain a front-row seat to the profession in Alberta. From mentorship opportunities to networking with established optometrists, membership offers students a meaningful introduction to the realities of practice in the province. In 2024, 36 students took that first step by joining the AAO community.

**25
years**

2024 Practice Award

Recipients

Each year, the AAO is honoured to celebrate its members reaching 25 and 50 years of practice. It recognizes their dedicated service to the profession and to helping ensure Albertans have the best possible eye health care. Congratulations!



Dr. Wardell ZoBell



Dr. James Asuchak



Dr. Troy Brady

Members that received awards but were unable to attend the awards presentation:

**Dr. Amy Bakelaar, Dr. Joanne Hope, Dr. Scott Lopetinsky,
Dr. Brian Nakai, Dr. Brent Neufeld, Dr. Sean Wilson**

**50
years**

2024 Practice Award

Recipients

Dr. Gerald Mezei



**Dr. Craig McQueen
was not available
for a photograph.**

Service Award

The 2024 Service Award goes to Dr. Tannis Rode, a Red Deer-based optometrist whose leadership and dedication have reached far beyond Alberta. She has played a crucial role in bringing regulatory oversight and expanded access to eye care to communities across Nunavut.

The AAO presents a Service Award annually to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution of personal time and effort to advance the profession of optometry and support the

Association's work. Nominees must demonstrate exceptional leadership and a

commitment to promoting the values and mission of the AAO. This honour celebrates those who serve the profession beyond their clinical work, strengthening optometry through advocacy, collaboration, and vision.

Dr. Rode started meeting with Nunavut government representatives in 2022 to improve eye care access for the 25 communities in Nunavut. Routine exams in Nunavut have historically been provided by travelling ophthalmic technicians. In collaboration with the Nunavut Government and the Alberta College of Optometrists, Nunavut established a licensing framework for optometrists and adopted the Alberta scope of optometric care. Dr. Rode also assembled mobile equipment kits and personally recruited a team of optometrists from Alberta and across Canada to provide much-needed services in remote communities, demonstrating how grassroots leadership can spark meaningful, nationwide impact. Optometrists have now visited 23 out of the 25 communities in Nunavut, with a particular focus on pediatric eye care.

Thank you, Dr. Rode, for your exemplary leadership and dedication to advancing our profession and improving patient care in an underserved Canadian territory that desperately needed world-class optometric services.



Dr. Tannis Rode

Honourary Member Award

The AAO Honourary Member Award is presented to an individual who, though not a member of the profession in Alberta, has made a significant and lasting contribution to the advancement of optometry in the province. This year, we are proud to recognize Dr. Stanley Woo for his outstanding leadership, dedication, and vision in shaping the future of optometric education and supporting the profession nationwide.

Dr. Woo earned his Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of California, Berkeley, followed by a master's in vision science and a residency in low vision rehabilitation at the University of Houston. He later completed an MBA with a concentration in medical and healthcare management at Rice University, leadership training that would shape his career in academic and organizational advancement.

Following his time as a faculty member at the University of Houston, Dr. Woo served as Dean of the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University from 2013 to 2017. He was also President of the Texas Optometric Association.

While his resumé is impressive, it's the work Dr. Woo has accomplished since returning to Canada in 2017 — as Director of the University of Waterloo School of Optometry and Vision Science — that distinguishes him as a truly deserving award recipient. Over the past seven years, he has worked tirelessly to transform

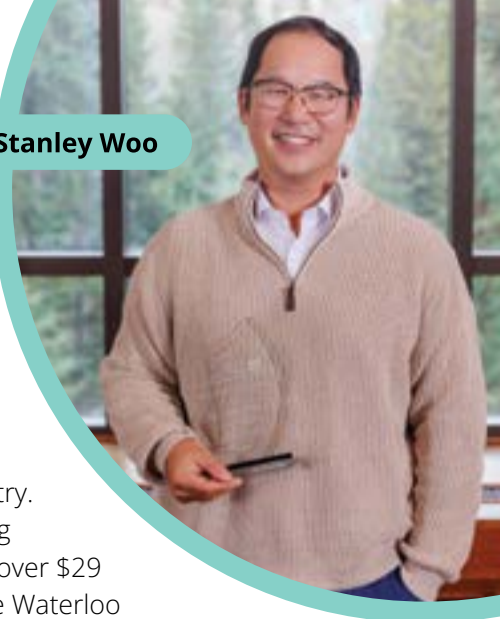
the University of Waterloo into an institution prepared to meet the evolving demands of optometry.

He has been a driving force behind raising over \$29 million to expand the Waterloo Eye Institute, enhancing clinical training, enabling cutting-edge OCT imaging research, and advancing artificial intelligence tools created by optometrists for optometrists.

While injections have been part of the University of Waterloo optometry curriculum since 2011, the Alberta College of Optometrists helped the School introduce hands-on application of laser procedures by donating a YAG laser in 2020. By ensuring University of Waterloo graduates are ready to practice anywhere in North America, Dr. Woo has played a crucial role in supporting scope modernization efforts in Alberta. Not only has he been a key advocate for our province's progress, but he has played an instrumental role in building collaborative relationships across jurisdictions nationwide.

For this, and for his continued commitment to supporting optometrists beyond graduation, we are pleased to bestow Dr. Woo with the AAO Honourary Membership Award.

Dr. Stanley Woo





Dr. Richard Cowles

Council Member **Award**

The Council Member Awards recognize individuals who have selflessly dedicated their time, expertise, and leadership as members of the AAO Council.

In 2024, Dr. Richard Cowles completed his term as Past President, marking 12 years of devoted service on the AAO Council. His tenure was defined by practical leadership, advocacy for diverse optometry practices, and a well-timed sense of humour that provided levity during even the most serious discussions. Dr. Cowles' comprehensive understanding of the profession stems from his extensive experience in various settings since graduating from Pacific University in 2003.

Dr. Cowles has dedicated his time to the AAO in various roles, including serving as Chair of the Low Vision Subcommittee. He began his presidency during the hybrid conference in 2020, one of the first optometry conferences in Canada to return to in-person meetings following the COVID-19 pandemic. He continued to guide the Council through the recovery phase until 2022. No matter the situation, Dr. Cowles consistently demonstrated enthusiasm and optimism for the future of the profession.

Colleagues highlight his commitment, noting that beneath his light-hearted demeanor lies a deep dedication to the field. Said one, "Richard has always been generous with his time, insights, and dedication, ensuring that optometry remained central in his thoughts and actions."

Thank you, Dr. Cowles, for your 12 years of service to the AAO.



Council Member Award

Dr. Colin Hobson

In 2024, another dedicated Council member, Dr. Colin Hobson, concluded his term to focus on his increased responsibilities with the Eye Recommend Board. During his four years on the Council, he exhibited tremendous commitment and provided valuable insights, contributing openly and thoughtfully at meetings. He held multiple roles, including Chair of the Cosmetic Optometry Subcommittee, Chair of the Finance, Audit, and Risk Management Committee, and member of the Emerging Trends Committee for two years.

After graduating from the University of Waterloo in 2012, Dr. Hobson began his practice in Fort Saskatchewan. His passion for the profession led him to join the AAO Council in 2019, where he was known for gently encouraging fellow members to consider perspectives they might not have previously explored. The Council greatly benefited from his viewpoints and dedication to advancing the AAO's goals.

Thank you, Dr. Hobson, for your four years of service to the AAO.





Dr. James Asuchak

President's Award

This year's President's Award is presented to two individuals whose dedication and service have made a lasting impact on optometry in Alberta: Dr. James Asuchak, recognized for 13 years of steadfast leadership within the AAO, and Dr. Kevin Hesterman, honoured posthumously for his enduring contributions to the advancement of the profession.

After receiving his optometry degree from the University of Waterloo in 1999, Dr. James Asuchak — known as Jim to his colleagues — established a clinic called The Optical Studio in Lethbridge, bringing him closer to his hometown of Fort Macleod. Shortly thereafter, he joined the AAO Council, serving from 2007 until 2020, when he concluded his term as Past President.

During his tenure, Dr. Asuchak drove impactful changes for the profession and our organization. In 2010, he advocated for the AAO to create the New Grad

Orientation program, inspired by his own experience transitioning from student to doctor. He understood the uncertainty many new graduates face regarding their expectations and available resources to enhance their practice. This program has successfully guided new grads since its inception, ensuring they and their practices thrive.

He was also a tireless national leader for the Think About Your Eyes campaign, a partnership among various provincial associations across Canada that leveraged industry funding to promote the importance of eye exams. Dr. Asuchak positioned Alberta at the forefront of this initiative during a time when optometry lacked a united national campaign. His relentless advocacy ensured Alberta's voice was prominent, yielding significant returns on our marketing efforts during those years. He was the glue that held the program together until its dissolution in 2020.

Dr. Asuchak's pivotal role in transitioning the AAO Council from an operational board to a full governance model set him apart as a deserving recipient of the President's Award. This shift allowed our Association to operate at a high level, enabling Council members to focus on strategic planning rather than day-to-day issues. Under this governance model, the board has become significantly more productive, with clearly defined responsibilities monitored regularly.

Empowering and transforming our board to operate at the level we benefit from today is a notable and unique achievement. For this, and for his 13 years of outstanding service to the AAO, we are pleased to honour Dr. Asuchak with the President's Award.

We are also honoured to posthumously recognize Dr. Kevin Hesterman, an optometrist who served patients for over 20 years at EyeCare Centre in Red Deer, where he was a partner. Originally from Regina, he graduated from the University of Waterloo in 2000 and chose to establish a home and career in Red Deer with his wife, Rhonda, and their children.

Dr. Hesterman was an exceptional president of the Red Deer Society of Optometrists before serving on the AAO Council from 2014 to 2020. During his tenure, he held various roles, including Chair of the Member Education and Conference Committee, member of the Political Action Committee, and Chair of the Finance, Audit, and Risk Management Committee, consistently sharing his expertise with new and junior Council members.

Additionally, he contributed to several negotiation committees, including those for social services, non-insured health benefits contracts, and government remuneration. In 2014, he played a critical role in the successful negotiations for OCT, photos, and B900 codes.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, colleagues admired Dr. Hesterman's willingness to volunteer and fully commit to every task he undertook. Even after being diagnosed with terminal glioblastoma and stepping back from active Council participation, he

remained a strong supporter of the AAO and the field, frequently reaching out to commend the Council for their work.

Dr. Hesterman made a profound impact on his family, friends, and the Red Deer Community. He is remembered for his infectious passion for life, which extended into his professional work.

As his wife, Rhonda, reflected while accepting this award on his behalf, Kevin would return home after the longest workday with a smile, eagerly sharing stories from his day. "Even after 20 years of practice, behind the slit lamp, he still found wonder in the intricate beauty of a patient's iris, often getting lost in a moment of awe before snapping back to the task at hand," she shared.

"If Kevin were here today, I believe his advice would be simple yet profound: view your career as a blessing — not just for yourselves, but for the patients you serve. Embrace the everyday joys, celebrate your triumphs, and remember that beauty can often be found in the daily grind."

A portrait of Dr. Kevin Hesterman, a man with short brown hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a red and white striped tie. The portrait is set against a dark background and is framed by a teal-colored curved border.

Dr. Kevin Hesterman

Speaker of the Year Award



Dr. Salma Kiani

We are excited to announce the inaugural Speaker of the Year Award, established to recognize exceptional public speaking efforts by an optometrist who has gone above and beyond in representing our profession across the province. This year, we proudly present the award to Dr. Salma Kiani, whose commitment, clarity, and impact have made her a prominent voice in our outreach initiatives.

Over the past two years, Dr. Kiani, based in Edmonton, has participated in numerous community, healthcare, and media events, significantly raising awareness about the importance of eye health among diverse audiences. Here's a closer look at her contributions and the reasons she is so deserving of this honour.

In 2023, Dr. Kiani spoke at various events, including at the Edmonton Matheson House Seniors Residence, the Edmonton North Primary Care Network, the City of Leduc's Safety and Health Week, the Edmonton Central Lions Seniors Association, and the University of Alberta's Optometry Academic Day for Family Medicine Residents. Her speaking engagements continued into 2024, featuring a presentation at the Alberta Health and Safety Conference at NAIT and an appearance on CTV Morning Live where she discussed infant eye exams.

Audiences have provided glowing feedback on Dr. Kiani's presentations. One attendee shared, "This was a very helpful and practical. I learned a lot and saw the retina during my physical exam for the first time!" Another said, "Great overview on eye health!"

Thank you, Dr. Kiani, for your dedication to advocating for our profession through inspiring and informative speaking events.

On Being an **Award Winner**

Each year, AAO members are invited to nominate individuals who have demonstrated excellence in the field of optometry or have made meaningful contributions in support of the profession.

The Optician of the Year and Optometric Assistant of the Year awards recognize those who go above and beyond in their roles. These awards celebrate individuals who exhibit exceptional leadership, provide outstanding patient care, and are highly regarded by the teams they work with in clinic settings.

At the 2024 Awards Luncheon, the AAO was proud to present these awards to Joanne Jenner, Optician of the Year, and Jennifer Gano, Optometric Assistant of the Year.

Congratulations to these two dedicated professionals for their remarkable contributions!



Optician of the Year Award

Every clinic has a heartbeat — the one person whose steady presence, tireless dedication, and quiet strength help everyone around them thrive. For 18 years, Joanne Jenner has been that individual at Viewpoint Eye Care in Canmore. Calm, cool, and endlessly committed, Joanne

has built not only a loyal patient base but also the unwavering respect of her colleagues.

She is always the first to step up, the last to leave, and never one to shy away from a challenge. For these reasons and more, we are proud to recognize Joanne as our 2024 Optician of the Year.

Many years ago, Joanne was inspired to become an optician after visiting a friend who worked in the field.

Intrigued by the profession, she inquired at Viewpoint Eye Care about how to break into the industry. Impressed with her determination, they interviewed her and ultimately offered her a part-time job while she attended school. “And then I never left!” she recalls.

Joanne genuinely loves her patients and looks forward to seeing her regular customers. “It’s nice to see patients grow up and progress over the years,” she says. The staff at her clinic have also become like family, and she has immense respect for how her colleagues care for patients. One of her favourite moments was with a two-year-old girl who initially resisted wearing glasses. Once the little girl realized she could see clearly with them on, she loved them so much that she refused to take them off, even for adjustments.

Joanne was both surprised and moved to learn she had won the AAO’s Optician of the Year Award. If she could offer advice to others in the field, it would be to be honest with patients about what looks good on them, “You want to ultimately let them make their own decision but be confident to give them your advice.”

Thank you, Joanne, for embodying the very best of what it means to serve with integrity, humility, and heart. Congratulations on your award!



Joanne Jenner

Optometric Assistant of the Year Award

When Jennifer Gano learned she had won the Optometric Assistant of the Year, she was heading to her annual sisters' weekend — and rerouted the trip to Banff to celebrate. It was a fitting way to mark the moment for someone who has dedicated over two decades to treating both colleagues and patients like family, fostering deep and lasting relationships that have become the heart of the Sherwood Park Eye Centre (SPEC). "My sisters shared in the celebration," she said. "It was a wonderful day!"

Her colleagues recognize Jennifer for her unwavering dedication, hard work, and loyalty, all of which have played a crucial role in the success of their eye clinic. Beyond her strong work ethic and commitment to treating everyone with respect, her ability to build genuine connections with patients sets her apart. "From the very beginning, she has exhibited a maturity beyond her years, making everyone feel welcome and valued," said one nominating colleague. "I feel privileged to have worked with her and learn from her."

Jennifer's warm approach to patient care is rooted in the advice she received many years ago from an optometrist she still works with: "Slow down and take the time to really listen to the patient. Get to know them. Find out what they like to do and what their interests are," she recalled. "Fast is not always better."

Taking this advice to heart has helped Jennifer cultivate lasting relationships with patients who request her by name, not only for her knowledgeable optometric support but also to share personal updates and seek her advice. "They tell me stories about their families, grandchildren, and travels. It's an honour to be requested by them, and I enjoy hearing what's new in their lives," she said. "It's rare to have that kind of connection in a medical or retail setting."

For bringing consistency, compassion, and connection to SPEC and our profession, we congratulate Gano on receiving the Optometric Assistant of the Year Award. Thank you for all that you do!



Jennifer Gano

A Legacy of Leadership in Communications

In this year's report, we are proud to recognize an individual who has played a pivotal role in shaping the AAO's communications and public presence:

Janice Archbold. After nearly eight years as our Communications Manager, she retired in June 2024, leaving behind a remarkable legacy. Since joining the Association in 2016, she brought decades of experience, strategic insight, and unwavering dedication to her role, helping elevate the voice of optometry across Alberta and beyond.

With a background in event planning, public relations, and advertising campaigns, Jan enhanced every communication initiative at AAO, whether internal or external. From presentations and publications to impactful PR campaigns across various media, she consistently raised the bar and ensured we met or exceeded industry standards.

Under her guidance, our expanding communications team successfully connected and engaged with a variety of stakeholder groups that had previously been neglected by the optometry profession. Our outreach targeted not only allied healthcare professionals but also medical school students, senior organizations, multicultural groups, primary care networks, and health and safety organizations. Jan spearheaded numerous successful initiatives over the years.

Thank you, Jan, for all you have done for AAO and our members. We wish you the very best in your retirement.



Janice Archbold

Continuing Education

In 2024, we sharpened our focus through continuing education opportunities designed to keep Alberta optometrists at the forefront of patient care. Drawing insights from the annual survey conducted for AAO members, the Continuing Education Committee organized engaging and informative events tailored to our members' evolving needs.

Our professional development opportunities were well-attended and received high ratings. In 2024, we hosted three webinars: one on Fabry disease, another discussing the future of artificial intelligence in optometry, and a presentation on imaging techniques and emerging therapies for geographic atrophy. We were also pleased to have GSK, a pharmaceutical and biotechnology company, present a webinar program on navigating adverse corneal events related to antibody-drug conjugates in oncology. As the number of cancer patients receiving targeted treatments increases, optometrists can expect more referrals from oncologists for managing ocular side effects. Therefore, educating optometrists on assessment and management strategies is crucial for providing optimal care to oncology patients.

In addition to virtual events aimed at helping our members deliver top-tier optometric care, our committee also organized virtual sessions focusing on achieving operational and financial excellence. For this purpose, we hosted a three-part professional banking webinar series, presented by TD Canada Trust, to enhance essential banking skills and financial strategy knowledge for optometrists at every career stage. Furthermore, our partner, Peninsula Canada, a leading global human resources (HR) firm, provided a series of webinars on various HR topics.





In 2024, our in-person gatherings brought Alberta's optometry community together to connect, collaborate, and stay current in a rapidly evolving field. We held our annual conference in Banff, themed "Reaching New Heights." The event featured a range of speakers and sessions designed to help Alberta's optometrists continue delivering world-class eye and vision care. For another consecutive year, the Optifair trade show during the conference was sold out, allowing AAO members to connect with numerous service providers. Overall, attendees rated the conference a 4.5 out of 5.

In early 2025, we also held our Spring Symposium in Calgary, which included lectures, workshops and demonstrations focused on providing solutions for visually impaired patients. Additionally, we hosted our inaugural Banff Vision Summit, bringing together members and colleagues from across North America for networking, learning, and enjoyment while exploring the stunning Rocky Mountains. These in-person events offered valuable opportunities to strengthen professional networks, exchange ideas, and engage in focused learning.



Member Programs

For Dr. Travis Turgeon, the Eye See . . . Eye Learn™ (ESEL™) program was more than an introduction to pediatric care – it served as a platform for building lasting relationships with families and becoming a trusted part of his community from the very start of his career.

Dr. Turgeon first joined the program as an intern at Capital Vision Care in Morinville. After presenting to many classes in the area, he noticed that many children came in for eye exams afterward. Helping these children resolve their vision problems was gratifying, as was the opportunity to educate their parents on the importance of regular eye care. Making connections within the community proved invaluable. “I really find the ESEL™ program a perfect fit for a new graduate looking to build their practice,” he says.

In addition to examining children, their siblings, and parents in his clinic, the program has allowed Dr. Turgeon to establish relationships with kindergarten teachers, who now visit him with their families for regular eye exams. Their growing awareness of the importance of eye exams has benefited the children in their classrooms. “The teachers have been instrumental in identifying visual struggles among their students and advising parents to schedule eye exams,” he says.

One of Dr. Turgeon’s notable success stories involved helping a young girl with autism who required a significant correction for astigmatism. After providing her with glasses for the first time – thanks to the ESEL™ program – her parents noticed a marked improvement in her behaviour and schoolwork. The entire family booked their eye exams soon after, and Dr. Turgeon continues to see them regularly. “Their daughter will be starting high school next fall. Time sure flies!”

Dr. Turgeon strongly advocates for recent graduates to join the ESEL™ program. “It’s a fantastic way to build your practice, become part of the community, and reach many families who may not realize that there is Alberta Health coverage towards children’s eye exams,” he says. The best part? “You can help many children see clearly for the first time.”



Dr. Travis Turgeon



The Alberta Association of Optometrists
gratefully acknowledges funding support
from the Government of Alberta.



Eyewear Partners:



ONESIGHT
Healthcare Foundation



Modern Optical
C A N A D A



Member Programs

In a place like Fort McMurray, where industrial work is common, optometrists like Dr. Chelsea Syverson see the value of Eyesafe™ firsthand. This initiative not only allows her to support patients who work in trades or industrial settings but also to educate patients who come to her through the program on their eye health and encourage them to consider personal eyewear for use outside of their jobs. "Joining Eyesafe™ just made sense," she says. "I want to care for my patients' vision both at home and in their workplaces."

Understanding that one frame does not fit all faces, Dr. Syverson values the program's flexibility, allowing employers and employees to select the eyewear that works best for them. By providing a wide range of eyewear options – whether for work or personal use – patients can

enjoy the convenience of shopping in one location. Says Dr. Syverson, "My patients are happy to have just one place to shop for all their eyewear needs."

Being part of the Eyesafe™ program has also brought unexpected yet positive business to Dr. Syverson's practice. As more patients recognize the specialized care that optometrists provide, they are increasingly turning to her office for services such as foreign-body removals and treatment for eye injuries, rather than visiting emergency rooms where doctors may lack the necessary training to handle eye issues.

Supporting clients in these moments aligns with Dr. Syverson's commitment to expanding her capabilities as an optometrist in a remote northern city, enabling her to provide more comprehensive care and reduce her patients' need to travel long distances for advanced treatment.

Given the benefits of Eyesafe™ for her practice and her patients, Dr. Syverson is a strong advocate for the program. She encourages optometrists and local organizations to connect with the Eyesafe™ team and join the program. With enhanced workplace eye safety and vision health at the forefront of Eyesafe's offerings, everyone benefits. "I appreciate our AAO council, executive staff, and other OD volunteers for their time in creating the programs we have now and those that will come."



Government Relations

The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus famously said, “The only constant is change.” That sentiment has never been more true than when advocating to government in 2024. We maintained a consistent presence with elected officials and departmental staff, even as significant changes took place around us.

However, what remained unchanged in 2024 was the effort made by the GRC members, the AAO Council and staff throughout the year.

One of our ongoing priorities was supporting the Alberta College of Optometrists (ACO) scope modernization request with Alberta Health, while also ensuring we engaged with officials to talk about our fees that have not changed in years.

The year began with GRC members reaching out to their MLAs to provide corrective information that refuted what an Alberta ophthalmological organization

had falsely spread about our scope expansion to government members and the bureaucracy.

Additionally, GRC members were able to reinforce with MLAs the strenuous oversight, safety and CE training optometrists obtain surrounding scope expansion.

Throughout the year, we also provided information to optometrists, by constituency, when there was an event in the riding they lived in where they could interact with their MLA to discuss the value of optometry and the good work done by the profession. AAO Council members also engaged with the Premier, Minister of Health, and other cabinet ministers advocating for the government to allow the scope expansion to take place.

While efforts were taking place at the political level, Council members and the AAO’s CEO were engaged with Alberta Health departmental staff



discussing issues related to fees and items around scope expansion.

Quarterly news updates were provided to all government MLAs throughout the year keeping them abreast of optometry's activities in the community and across the province.

Additionally, we also sent out to MLAs the AAO's annual report and Holiday Greeting Cards (through GRC members) in December.

Our year-end Holiday Open House was extremely well attended with several MLAs from all parties coming out and engaging with AAO and ACO council members. It was a valuable opportunity to connect informally with MLAs and celebrate the accomplishments this past year.

By way of fee payments from the Government of Alberta to optometrists for insured services under the B650 and B900 codes, in the provincial government's 2024/2025 fiscal year, optometrists were paid \$131 million and saw approximately 1.165 million discrete



patients. The payments were up by 7.99% and number of discrete patients seen was up by 6.6%.

While all of this activity was taking place, Alberta Health took steps to restructure Alberta Health Services into Acute Care Alberta, Primary Care Alberta, Assisted Living Alberta, and Recovery Alberta. In addition to the above, there were also a number of changes with staffing within the Department of Health. All of this to say, while advocating to government we had to be aware of the changes, adapt our messaging, and find those who needed to be educated about the value of optometry's services to Albertans.

The AAO is extremely proud of the efforts made by the GRC members across the province. Our ability to keep optometric issues in front of decision makers comes from our providing to MLAs and department staff factual, up-to-date information about vision health and optometry. We greatly appreciate the GRC members and individual ODs who took the time to contact or write to their MLA to help amplify our message.

Communications

Building Awareness



Each year, the AAO runs an integrated public awareness campaign to educate Albertans about eye health. This year’s campaign focused on increasing awareness of optometric services covered by Alberta Health, including exams for children under 19, seniors, and urgent or medical care appointments.

In 2024, we launched “Eyes Need Care Too,” a campaign that highlights how easy it is to make eye care part of a regular healthy routine. It compares real-life challenges people face with how simple it is to book and attend an annual eye exam.

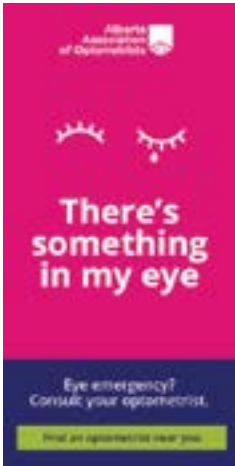
Our research showed that while most people value their eyesight above other senses, only a small number actually schedule their yearly eye exam. The campaign aims to close that gap by showing how much effort people put into caring for other senses and encouraging them to treat their eyes the same way.

The campaign uses digital, audio, print, and outdoor advertising to reach a wide audience across the province. “Eyes Need Care Too” works to remove

perceived barriers and make eye healthcare more accessible to all Albertans.

We continue to grow our social media presence and outreach. In 2024, we achieved over 60 million impressions on our social media content, resulting in more than 1 million meaningful engagements across our platforms. This year we began exploring influencer relations efforts to create a greater online impact and forge meaningful partnerships. We also launched our TikTok account to prioritize reaching a wider audience through video content, including a new series called “Eye Health FAQ” featuring Alberta’s optometrists. This content is cross-promoted across all our social channels to boost engagement.

This year, alongside our wide-reaching public awareness initiatives, the AAO partnered with Windspeaker News and its radio stations to connect with Indigenous communities across the province, supporting eye health and vision awareness. Recognizing the higher rates of diabetes within these





communities, we developed a targeted campaign to address their specific eye care needs. Additionally, advertisements promoting general eye health and the importance of regular exams were featured in Alberta Native News.

In our inaugural year of offering webinars for allied health professionals, we laid the foundation for an expanding education program designed to strengthen

collaborative care. Over 100 participants attended sessions focused on key topics such as children's vision, diabetic eye health, seniors' vision, and general eye care. We look forward to expanding this initiative in the coming year.

We also participated in various educational events for stakeholders, including medical residents, health professionals in primary care networks (PCNs), and



seniors' serving professionals. At the University of Alberta, the AAO hosted a workshop for family medicine residents to engage with and learn from our optometrists. A special thanks to Dr. Toor, Dr. Kiani, Dr. Hong, and Dr. Chai for representing the AAO at this event. Although this informational workshop was optional for residents, there is a mandatory optometry session for students in 2025. This comprehensive primer on primary optometric care will include background knowledge and practical experiential workshops, ensuring that all family medicine residents receive this critical training.

In 2024, we visited 10 seniors' centres and multicultural groups, and participated in 11 trade

shows, including events with the Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP), Alberta Occupational Health Nurses Association, Alberta Primary Care Nurses Association, Lamont County, the City of Calgary, and the ENMAX Rodeo and Safety Expo, among others. Thank you to the many volunteers who made this extensive communications outreach possible.

Together, these efforts reflect our commitment to making eye health a visible, valued, and integrated part of everyday healthcare in Alberta. As we build on this momentum in 2025, we remain focused on expanding our reach, deepening partnerships, and ensuring every Albertan understands the essential role of optometrists in their health journey.



Find an Optometrist

The **Find an Optometrist** feature on the AAO website continues to be a valuable tool for Albertans who don't have a regular optometrist. It allows individuals in need of eye care to easily locate member optometrists by entering their postal code. The tool also includes filters to search for optometrists who participate in the Eye See . . . Eye Learn™ and Eyesafe™ programs. In addition, agencies and medical practitioners can use the feature to help support patient care.



Dr. Nadia Clark

A

Dr. Zain Abbas
Dr. Zaynab Abdulhussain
Dr. Ahmed Aboudib
Dr. Ali Aboudib
Dr. Abdu Alazeez
Abougoush
Dr. John Abraham
Dr. Ibrahim Abraham
Dr. Alanna Adams
Dr. Roderick Adams
Dr. Alisha Adatia
Dr. Allison Adema
Dr. Fahad Afzal
Dr. Melissa Ah-Seng
Dr. Riaz Ahmed
Dr. Amal Ahmed
Dr. Etinosa Aimuan
Eboigbe
Dr. Jonathan Akle
Dr. Monzer Al-Bekai
Dr. Mohammad Al-Bekai
Dr. Ziad Al-Qishawi
Dr. Nadia Albano
Dr. Jason Alexander
Dr. Steve Alfaiate
Dr. Camellia Alford
Dr. Mariam Alkawally
Dr. Trent Allred
Dr. Tanner Alyman

Dr. Claudia Amaniampong
Dr. Gaetano Ambrosio
Dr. Pooja Anand
Dr. Radha Anand
Dr. David Anderson
Dr. Dale Anderson
Dr. Garth Anderson
Dr. Olga Anokhina
Dr. Darren Antoniuk
Dr. Kennedy Antoniuk
Dr. Ryan Archibald
Dr. Palki Arora
Dr. Andrew Asgarpour
Dr. Jennifer Ash
Dr. Shelena Ask
Dr. James Asuchak
Dr. Adrian Atwell
Dr. Navjot Aujla
Dr. Mohammad Awad
Dr. Aleena Ayaz
Dr. Chino Azenda
B
Dr. Victoria Baba
Dr. Joel Baillargeon
Dr. Colin Bain
Dr. Jaswinder Bains
Dr. Amy Bakelaar
Dr. Brandea Balcomb
Dr. Grant Balen
Dr. Aleem Bandali

Dr. Lovedeep Banipal
Dr. Nissandeep Banwait
Dr. Ian Barclay
Dr. Sallie Barclay
Dr. John Barkley
Dr. Benjamin Barrus
Dr. Dylan Bartel
Dr. Rusha Barua
Dr. Gaggandeep Basra
Dr. Otu Bassey
Dr. Roland Bauder
Dr. Morley Bayer
Dr. Christina Bayer
Dr. Jeremy Begalke
Dr. Monica Bell
Dr. Pierre Benoit
Dr. Daryl Berger
Dr. Ashley Berry
Dr. Devin Bharadia
Dr. Harpreet Bharj
Dr. Ayaz Bharmal
Dr. Deepka Bhaskar
Dr. Natasha Bhatia
Dr. Susan Bischof
Dr. Donald Bishop
Dr. Eric Bishop
Dr. Brendon Bjarnason
Dr. David Blaine
Dr. Ronald Blow
Dr. Marae Blume

Dr. Nana Boadi
Dr. Meagan Boehr
Dr. Julie Boivin
Dr. Brock Bokenfohr
Dr. Whitney Bokenfohr
Dr. Kirsten Borle
Dr. Giuseppe Borrelli
Dr. Samuel Boucher
Dr. Troy Brady
Dr. Komalpreet Brar
Dr. Nikko Brar
Dr. Monika Braun
Dr. Tammy Brauner
Dr. David Brauner
Dr. Leonard Brezac
Dr. Jill Bridges
Dr. Rachel Bryant
Dr. Kimberley Bugera
Dr. Anh Bui
Dr. Robert Burke
Dr. Steven Burnham
Dr. Darren Burt
Dr. Bruce Butts
Dr. Theodor Buzea
Dr. Jessica Bylsma
C
Dr. Val Camp
Dr. Ian Campbell
Dr. Alia Cappellani
Dr. Fred Cen

Dr. Natalie Chai
Dr. Travis Chalmers
Dr. Antoinette Chamoun
Dr. Bob Champion
Dr. Clement Chan
Dr. Andrew Chan
Dr. Laura Chan
Dr. Trina Chan
Dr. Adrienne Chan
Dr. Jennifer Chan-
Tapoveti
Dr. Geraldine Chang
Dr. Shanda Chau
Dr. Sabih Chaudhary
Dr. Shmyla Chaudhery
Dr. Aysha Chaudhry
Dr. Eliza Chaudri
Dr. Theresa Checkley
Dr. Mandeep Cheema
Dr. Mira Chen
Dr. Margaret Chen
Dr. Christina Chen
Dr. Sarah Cheng
Dr. Catharine Cheon
Dr. Sarah Cherian
Dr. Steven Cheung
Dr. Charmy Cheung
Dr. Donald Chin
Dr. Laura Chisholm
Dr. Freeman Choi

Dr. Maria Choi
Dr. Davin Chong
Dr. Rebecca Chopek
Dr. Shauna Chorel
Dr. Mansoor Choudhry
Dr. Calvin Chow
Dr. Natasha Chrenek
Dr. Michael Chu
Dr. Wincy Chung
Dr. Nadia Clark
Dr. Mark Cloarec
Dr. Trent Colberg
Dr. Kim Collins
Dr. Sara Constantine
Dr. Carmen Continisio
Dr. Nick Continisio
Dr. Tatiana Cook
Dr. Jennifer Cooke
Dr. Lance Couture
Dr. Heather Cowie
Dr. Richard Cowles
Dr. Matthew Craig
Dr. Phillip Crouse
Dr. Kimberley Crowe
Dr. Dan Cuevas
Dr. Allyse Curry
D
Dr. Paul Dame
Dr. Cameron Dammeyer
Dr. Katrina Dang

Dr. Yen Dang
Dr. George Day
Dr. Jared Decker
Dr. Stefania DeFilippo
Dr. Madhu Dekka
Dr. Sonia Delhon
Dr. Hazel Delong
Dr. Andrew Denson
Dr. Manjot (Joti) Deol
Dr. Eric Der
Dr. Nicole Deschamps
Dr. Cailen DeSerres
Dr. Sheyzeen Dhala
Dr. Sam Dhaliwal
Dr. Shaminder Dhaliwal
Dr. Kirandeep Dhaliwal
Dr. Raveena Dhanjal
Dr. Alisha Dhanji
Dr. Fatima Dharshi
Dr. Shelley Dhawan
Dr. Jagdeep Dhillon
Dr. Kamaljit Dhiman
Dr. Rylie Dickson
Dr. David Dien
Dr. Julie Dien-Fong
Dr. Karen Dieu
Dr. Leha Do
Dr. Laurie Dodds
Dr. Russell Doig
Dr. Blake Dornstauber

Dr. Benjamin Doz
Dr. Lara Draper
Dr. Lauren Drewry
Dr. Annie Drouin
Dr. Kirstie Du
Dr. Stephanie Du
Dr. Kris Duguay
Dr. Michelle Duke
Dr. Laura Dwernichuk
E
Dr. Robert Eastwood
Dr. Nathaniel Ederaro
Dr. Gene Edworthy
Dr. Mallary Eisner
Dr. Omar El-Houchaimi
Dr. Mohamed El-
Mustapha
Dr. Tariq Ellassal
Dr. Allison Ellis
Dr. Hani Elmais
Dr. Nibal Elsaghir
Dr. Angela Endres
Dr. Oesa Eng
Dr. Kevin Engel
Dr. Kerri Erickson
Dr. James Evans
Dr. Candice Evernden
F
Dr. Lola Fapojuwo
Dr. Khaled Farhat

Dr. Ahmed Farhat
Dr. Allec Fayad
Dr. Shane Ferguson
Dr. Len Ferguson
Dr. Lana Filipic
Dr. Shonah Finlay
Dr. Ashley Firby
Dr. Breanna Fletcher
Dr. Emalea Follis
Dr. Charlotte Forgie
Dr. Amy Forrest
Dr. Cristy Franco
Dr. Sarah Freiburger
Dr. Kaitlin Frison
Dr. Mark Frohlich
Dr. Anthony Fu
Dr. Geneva Fung
Dr. George Fung

G

Dr. Pascal Gagne
Dr. Jessica Galeano
Dr. Shikha Garg
Dr. William Garlock
Dr. Kiera Garner
Dr. Kevin Gartner
Dr. Derek Gaume
Dr. Kristen Gee
Dr. Florence George
Dr. Chelsea Gerlitz
Dr. Jared Gervais

Dr. Zenah Gheblawi
Dr. Samantha Giang
Dr. Maggie Gibb
Dr. Larry Gies
Dr. Paul Gilbertson
Dr. Pamela Giles
Dr. Jonah Gilham
Dr. Jasmin Gill
Dr. Aminder Gill
Dr. Ateet Gill
Dr. Raminder Gill
Dr. Sukhi Gill
Dr. Ravnoor Gill
Dr. Jaspreet Gill Dhanju
Dr. Marissa Gilmar
Dr. Christopher Glass
Dr. Andrea Glover
Dr. Colleen Gnyp
Dr. Jodi Goff
Dr. Joseph Gonzales
Dr. Marie-Louise
Gonzalez-Olivo
Dr. Danielle Gordon
Dr. Chandlar Grainger
Dr. Nicholas Grant
Dr. Chris Graves
Dr. Harpal Grewal
Dr. Shinee)Grewal
Dr. Ravneet Grewal
Dr. Melissa Groeneweg

Dr. Shane Groeneweg
Dr. Danielle Guenet
Dr. Alina Gupta
Dr. Karley Guse
Dr. Brandin Gwinner
H
Dr. Steven Ha
Dr. Sharmin Habib
Dr. Sonja Hagemann
Dr. Jackie Hagens
Dr. Gregory Hahn
Dr. Jamie-Lee Halabi
Dr. Samantha Halvorsen
Dr. Bassam Hamdan
Dr. Randi Hamilton
Dr. Navneet Hans
Dr. Aminder Hans
Dr. Alison Harapiak
Dr. Laurel Harmar
Dr. Joel Harris
Dr. Justin Hart
Dr. Brady Haslam
Dr. Alyshah Hassam
Dr. Tarek Hatoum
Dr. Jason Hauck
Dr. Geena Hawker
Dr. Timothy Hay
Dr. Karen Hayward
Dr. Joel Heath
Dr. Jordan Hebert

Dr. Sonia Heer
Dr. Dennis Heimdahl
Dr. Krista Henry
Dr. Columbia Herzlinger
Dr. Aaron Hesla
Dr. Christina Hines
Dr. Alysha Hirjee
Dr. Salina Hirjee
Dr. Frankie Ho
Dr. Colin Hobson
Dr. Mohamad Hocheimi
Dr. Karen Hodgins
Dr. Neil Hodinsky
Dr. Ryan Hogan
Dr. Julie Holms
Dr. Jason Holtom
Dr. Jeffrey Holtz
Dr. Jada Hong
Dr. Angeline Hong
Dr. Andrew Hoover
Dr. Joanne Hope
Dr. Brent Hopfauf
Dr. Michael Hopper
Dr. Trevor Horn
Dr. Austin Hornberger
Dr. Hamdee Houcheimi
Dr. R. Douglas Howes
Dr. Ailin Huang
Dr. Rochelle Hudson
Dr. Jennifer Hugh

Dr. Jamie Humeniuk
Dr. Quinlin Hunter
Dr. Kyla Hunter
Dr. Amanda Hurtubise
Dr. Huong Huynh
Dr. Y-Nhi Huynh-Wong
Dr. Clark Hyde

I

Dr. Omar Ikram
Dr. Summaya Imran
Dr. Meraj Iqbalzada
Dr. Anthony Iuliano

J

Dr. Laura Jacques
Dr. Lori Jaffray
Dr. Henry Jang
Dr. Tanya Janssen
Dr. Narpinder Jassar
Dr. Kavitha Jayachandran
Dr. Sumeet Jeerh
Dr. Keith Jefferies
Dr. Monica Jensen-To
Dr. Emily Jeong
Dr. Saleel Jivraj
Dr. Zain Jivraj
Dr. Aleem Jiwa
Dr. Sophie Jobin
Dr. Susan Joe
Dr. Neeru Nirdeep Johal

Dr. Mankeerut Johl
Dr. Christopher Johnson
Dr. Bruce Johnson
Dr. Jalyn Johnson
Dr. Grant Johnson
Dr. Dylan Johnston
Dr. Leanne Joly
Dr. Yasmin Jomaa
Dr. Mohammed Jomha
Dr. Lindsey Jones
Dr. Dayna Jones
Dr. Allan Jones
Dr. Tanya Jones-Greenwood

K

Dr. Manav Kailey
Dr. Nanki Kaleka
Dr. Marc Kallal
Dr. Vaneet Kaloti
Dr. Salina Kanji
Dr. Deepon Kar
Dr. Bryan Karaim
Dr. Al-Fazil Karim
Dr. Kyle Kassian
Dr. Abdo Kattan
Dr. Annu Kaul
Dr. Bimal Kaur
Dr. Shane Keddie
Dr. Sarah Keep
Dr. Victoria Kennedy

Dr. Zenur Khan
Dr. Nasiruddin Khan
Dr. Simran Khroad
Dr. Salma Kiani
Dr. Binesh Kiani
Dr. Brayton Kidd
Dr. Leanne Kile
Dr. Michael Kim
Dr. Emma Kim
Dr. Christie Kim
Dr. Sarah Kim
Dr. Tedra Kindopp
Dr. Tracy Kitz
Dr. Ryan Kloepfer
Dr. Robert Kloepfer
Dr. Rohan Kohli
Dr. Katrina Kolozetti
Dr. Joanna Komar
Dr. Rose Kombo
Dr. Steven Krein
Dr. Andrew Krein
Dr. Michael Kreuzer
Dr. Chelsey Kritzer
Dr. Peter Krochmal
Dr. Hudson Kroeker
Dr. Caitlyn Kulak
Dr. Balraj (Raj) Kullar
Dr. Sophy Kurian
Dr. Sadrudin Kurji
Dr. Ruhee Kurji

Dr. Hemal Kutlerywala
Dr. Minesh Kutlerywala
Dr. Bonnie Kwok
Dr. Hyukjin (Martin) Kwon

L

Dr. Maggie La
Dr. A. Peter Laansoo
Dr. Marcella LaBelle
Dr. Marie-Josée Laflamme
Dr. Shanine Lafreniere
Dr. Samantha Lai
Dr. Jordan Laing
Dr. Jessica Lam
Dr. Siu Fung Lam
Dr. Jennifer Langfield
Dr. Anne-Michele Larocque
Dr. Ashley Larsen
Dr. Steven Larsen
Dr. Cory Larson
Dr. Andrea Lasby
Dr. Paul Lathrop
Dr. Waiko Lau
Dr. Christie Law
Dr. Jessica Lawrence
Dr. Jan Lebnhagen
Dr. Riley LeBlanc
Dr. Joyce Lee
Dr. Kobie Lee
Dr. Julie Lee-Ying

Dr. Erica Lei
 Dr. Gerald Leinweber
 Dr. Melissa Leniuk
 Dr. Dianna Leong
 Dr. Emily Leung
 Dr. Warren Leung
 Dr. Sophia Leung
 Dr. Adrienne LeVasseur
 Dr. Theola Li
 Dr. Jasmine Li
 Dr. Rowena Liamzon
 Dr. Binhaifa Lila
 Dr. Tiffany Lim
 Dr. Shelley Lindberg-Krein
 Dr. Michael Litchfield
 Dr. Eric Lobo
 Dr. R. Jared Long
 Dr. Dwayne Lonsdale
 Dr. Scott Lopetinsky
 Dr. Larry Louie
 Dr. Mallory Lovett
 Dr. Jennifer Lowe
 Dr. Daniel Lowe
 Dr. Pavle Lozo
 Dr. Debbie Luk
 Dr. Brenna Lyle
M
 Dr. Gabrielle Ma
 Dr. Benxiao Ma

Dr. Sarah MacDonald
 Dr. Allan MacKenzie
 Dr. Nicole Madden
 Dr. Holly Mah
 Dr. Brian Mah
 Dr. Mandy Mah
 Dr. Lauren Mah
 Dr. Amrita Mahal
 Dr. Komal Mahal
 Dr. Jasleen Mahil
 Dr. Tamara Maillot Delong
 Dr. Brianna Mairs
 Dr. Mohammad Mais
 Dr. Noufal Mais
 Dr. Ruby Mangat
 Dr. Shazeen Manji
 Dr. Tony Mann
 Dr. Jeffrey Mann
 Dr. Kent Manville
 Dr. Maryam Manzar
 Dr. Tania Marcolin
 Dr. Brynn Markowsky
 Dr. Ann-Marie Marsh
 Dr. Meghan Martyna
 Dr. Tracey Mathew
 Dr. Tania Mathews
 Dr. Carolle McCarron
 Dr. Cory McClung
 Dr. Richard McCormack

Dr. Peter McGuigan
 Dr. Nevin McIvor
 Dr. Ross McKenzie
 Dr. Jade McLachlin Offret
 Dr. Craig McQueen
 Dr. Craig Meckelborg
 Dr. Donald Meckelborg
 Dr. Shaun Medway
 Dr. Sunil (Sunny) Mehta
 Dr. Stephen Meloche
 Dr. Laila Merali
 Dr. Denis Meyer
 Dr. Jason Meyers
 Dr. Gerald Mezei
 Dr. Rebecca Milkovich
 Dr. Kendra Miller
 Dr. Stephanie Milling
 Dr. Rick Milton
 Dr. Harpreet Minhas
 Dr. Nikita Minhas
 Dr. Carmela Miranda
 Dr. Rajan Mistry
 Dr. Karanjit Mohaar
 Dr. Nalisha Mohamed
 Dr. Abubakar Mohamed
 Adem
 Dr. Sean Moir
 Dr. Baljinder Momrath
 Dr. Diana Monea

Dr. Lee Moneo
 Dr. Audrey Moon
 Dr. Ali Moradian
 Dr. Angela Morley
 Dr. Shaelen Morrison
 Dr. Sheila Morrison
 Dr. Pearl Motkoski
 Dr. Matthew Muller
 Dr. Brenda Mummery
 Dr. Bobby Mundra
 Dr. Kathleen Murray
 Dr. Christy Mushtaler
N
 Dr. Shamil Nagji
 Dr. James Nah
 Dr. Brian Nakai
 Dr. Michele Naruszewicz
 Dr. Hafsa Nasser
 Dr. Carolina Navarrete
 Dr. Aarti Nayar
 Dr. R. Troy Nelson
 Dr. Brennan Nelson
 Dr. Brent Neufeld
 Dr. Thao Nguyen
 Dr. Anh Nguyen
 Dr. Monique Nguyen
 Dr. Daniel Nguyen
 Dr. Tran Nguyen
 Dr. Jennifer Nguyen

Dr. Jonathan Niblett
Dr. Eve-Sarai
Niedergesaess
Dr. V. Chad Nielsen
Dr. Nimrit Nijjar
Dr. Nobe Nijjar
Dr. Justin Norris
Dr. Sherri Norris
Dr. Reza Notiar
Dr. Regan Nowlan

O

Dr. Patrick O'Brien
Dr. Bonita O'Brien
Dr. Victor Ofili
Dr. Chibuike Ohadugha
Dr. Ashley Olford
Dr. Bradley Olineck
Dr. Katie Olineck
Dr. Randy Oliver
Dr. A. Lorraine Oliver
Dr. Glen Ong
Dr. Sanya Ong
Dr. Milena Opacic
Dr. Madonna Oranugo
Dr. Murray Oshanyk
Dr. Sandra Oshanyk
Dr. Gregori Oshero
Dr. Bernadette Osiowy
Dr. Daniel Osman
Dr. Nana Owusu

P

Dr. Aliya Pabani
Dr. Jon Pack
Dr. Navjot Pandher
Dr. Vinny Pandher
Dr. Kaiyi Pang
Dr. Taylor Parenteau
Dr. Holly Parker
Dr. Sandeep Parmar
Dr. Prapti Patel
Dr. Aaron Patel
Dr. Yogesh Patel
Dr. Amol Patil
Dr. Alyssa Patterson
Dr. Jason Pearce
Dr. Michael Pedersen
Dr. Holly Pederson
Dr. Shannon Pennifold
Dr. Margaret Penny
Dr. Darren Peterson
Dr. Rodney Peterson
Dr. Kristi Pevzner
Dr. Jimmy Pham
Dr. Nhi Phan
Dr. Joanna Phillips
Dr. Darren Phillips
Dr. Renee Phipps
Dr. Trevor Pilipchuk
Dr. Karen Pinchak
Dr. Landon Pitcher

Dr. Mark Pitcher
Dr. Cora Plummer
Dr. Randy Poon
Dr. Tom-Harley Poon
Dr. Angela Power
Dr. Tannu Prabhakar
Dr. Asim Prasad
Dr. Kent Prete
Dr. James (Jimmy) Prince
Dr. Wesley Prince
Dr. John Pucylo
Dr. M.K. Purba
Dr. Ben Purba
Dr. Avneet Purewal
Dr. Priya Purewal
Dr. Sania Pyarali

Q

Dr. Cathy Qin
Dr. Nguyen Quan
Dr. Suzanne Quilley
Dr. Rylan Quinton
Dr. Andrea Quon

R

Dr. Malik Rahall
Dr. Adam Rahemtulla
Dr. Tariq Rajan
Dr. Khaldoun Ramahi
Dr. Nevi Ramsey
Dr. Natasha Randhawa

Dr. Puneet Randhawa
Dr. Navjeet Randhawa
Dr. Ravinder Randhawa
Dr. Tapasya Ranjan Singer
Dr. Tahsin Rashid
Dr. Olivia Regier
Dr. Simon Reid
Dr. Adam Reid
Dr. Stephen Reinsel
Dr. Russ Reisner
Dr. Colleen Renchko
Dr. Dana Reynolds
Dr. Rahim Rhemtulla
Dr. Alisha Rhemu
Dr. Lillian Rieck
Dr. Joseph Robalo
Dr. Tannis Rode
Dr. Katelyn Rose
Dr. Mark Ross
Dr. Karin Rourke
Dr. Stephanie Rowland
Dr. Christine Russo
Dr. Stanley Russo
Dr. Jessie Ryan
Dr. Diana Ryan

S

Dr. Rima Sabbah
Dr. Andrea Saetre
Dr. Rina Sahi

Dr. Brent Saik
Dr. Baljot Saini
Dr. Jihan Salame
Dr. Jennifer Sanchez
Dr. Alecia Sandboe
Dr. Manvinder Sandhu
Dr. Soneet Sandhu
Dr. Palak Sandhu
Dr. Aldrin Santamaria
Dr. Scott Sauer
Dr. Roslyn Scalise
Dr. Alison Schlachter
Dr. David Schmidt
Dr. Sarah Schoenthaler
Dr. Stuart Schroeder
Dr. Russell Schultz
Dr. David Schwirtz
Dr. Jodi Sehn
Dr. Effie Sen
Dr. Tannis Shakya
Dr. Katerina Shapka
Dr. Neda Sharifzadeh
Dr. Suraj Sharma
Dr. Angrisha Sharma
Dr. Anjana Sharma
Dr. Rahul Sharma
Dr. Wyatt Shaw
Dr. Lucy Shaw
Dr. Claire Shaw

Dr. Kassandra Shaw
Dr. Amanda Shaw-Gosgnach
Dr. Jean Shen
Dr. George Shen
Dr. Brittany Shewchuk
Dr. Celina Shih
Dr. Noreen Shivji
Dr. Karamvir Sidhu
Dr. Gurnir Sidhu
Dr. Simran Sidhu
Dr. Charanjit Sihota
Dr. Lauren Sim
Dr. Paul Singh
Dr. Mat Singh
Dr. Lori Singh
Dr. Kenneth Siry
Dr. Tanya Sitter
Dr. Timothy Skwarok
Dr. Sean Skwarok
Dr. Kari Ann Smart
Dr. Amy Smith
Dr. Gary Smith
Dr. Justin Snell
Dr. Kerrie Snider
Dr. Jason Snider
Dr. Matthew Sobolewski
Dr. Aleem Somji
Dr. Ranbir Sond

Dr. Sunaina Sond
Dr. Abdelkader Soufi
Dr. Samantha Sperber
Dr. Lauren Stanley
Dr. Neil Starko
Dr. Sara Starko
Dr. Kirstin Stayer
Dr. Jared Steblin
Dr. Zoe Stein
Dr. Scott Stevenson
Dr. Scott Stewart
Dr. Shari Stockley
Dr. Nicole Stocks
Dr. Amanda Stout
Dr. John Stuart
Dr. Farrah Sunderji
Dr. Raashi Surana
Dr. Sandeep Suri
Dr. Rati Sutaria
Dr. Evan Sveinson
Dr. Clayton Switzer
Dr. Michael Sy
Dr. Pamela Syrota
Dr. Chelsea Syverson
T
Dr. Rakesh Tailor
Dr. Basim Taliani
Dr. Carol Tam
Dr. Attila Tamas

Dr. Bhavandeep Tamber
Dr. Gaganjeet Tamber
Dr. Shelly Taneja
Dr. Abby Tang
Dr. Mohammed Tarabey
Dr. Mona Tariq
Dr. Husam Tarrabain
Dr. Frances Tatebe
Dr. Priyesh Tawar
Dr. Theresa Taylor
Dr. Hannah Taylor
Dr. Nohad Teliani
Dr. Julie Theng
Dr. Leta Thiessen
Dr. Ramandeep Thind-Gill
Dr. David Thomas
Dr. Kathleen Thomas
Dr. Bryan Thome
Dr. Melissa Thome
Dr. James Thompson
Dr. Leah Thorpe
Dr. Leyna Thraya
Dr. Anita Tieu
Dr. David Tomita
Dr. Kiran Toor
Dr. Raman Toor
Dr. Rupaly Toor
Dr. Gabriella Torano
Dr. Jehad Torbeih

Dr. Jeanette Trac
Dr. Thanh Tran
Dr. Jenny Tran
Dr. Kelly Tran
Dr. Vinh Tran
Dr. Jenelle Trenchuk-Saik
Dr. Loan Trieu
Dr. Gina Trieu
Dr. Kevin Trieu
Dr. Matthew Trieu
Dr. Brian Trieu
Dr. Cindy Tromposch
Dr. Brian Trump
Dr. Grace Truong
Dr. Cher Tsang
Dr. Floria Tse
Dr. Kevin Tsen
Dr. Hue Tu
Dr. Travis Turgeon
Dr. Brady Turner
Dr. Karlie Tweed

U

Dr. Mona Ubhi
Dr. Ifeoma Udeozo
Dr. Tehseena Ullah
Dr. Natalie Jade Ulmer
Dr. Damon Umscheid
Dr. Nicole Umscheid

Dr. Anysia Unick
Dr. Zachary Unrau

V

Dr. Zamaan Valani
Dr. Lauren Valk
Dr. Heather Van Haren
Dr. Desiree Vanderstar
Dr. Alicia Varghese
Dr. Magdalis Velazquez
Gonzalez
Dr. Jennifer Verrett
Dr. Olivia Viergutz
Dr. Sukhbir Virhia
Dr. Sarah Virji
Dr. Bunny Virk
Dr. Femida Visnani
Dr. Christopher Vu
Dr. Anthony Vuong

W

Dr. Shaun Waayenberg
Dr. Jeffery Waddell
Dr. Dallas Wagner
Dr. Darren Wagner
Dr. William Waldie
Dr. Navroza Walji
Dr. Danae Walsh
Dr. Jason Wan
Dr. Daniel Wang

Dr. Gary Watson
Dr. Julianne Watson
Dr. Ernest Watson
Dr. Michele Webster
Dr. Tamara Weeks
Dr. Alison Weisbeck
Dr. Natalia Wessels
Dr. Connor West
Dr. Gary Wetmore
Dr. Jay Whitehead
Dr. Courtney Wilcox
Dr. Thomas Wilk
Dr. Brent Wilkinson
Dr. Dean Willoughby
Dr. Sean Wilson
Dr. Alanna Wilson
Dr. Kallie Wilson
Dr. Sharon Winnicki
Dr. Janna Wirringer
Dr. Eric Wiseman
Dr. Jillian Wishart
Dr. Susan Wong
Dr. Francis Wong
Dr. Astra Wong
Dr. Jillian Wong
Dr. Teresa Wong
Dr. Gloria Wong
Dr. Natasha Wood

Dr. Mark Wood
Dr. Christopher Workman
Dr. Kristen Woynorowski
Dr. Allison Wright
Dr. Patrick Wu

X

Dr. Alice Xiao

Y

Dr. Emilie Yammine
Dr. Jessica Yang
Dr. Michael Yau
Dr. Aaron Yau
Dr. Melissa Yee
Dr. Tiana Yip
Dr. Michael Yu
Dr. Thomas Yung

Z

Dr. Lauren Zaifffdeen
Dr. Emily Zanettin
Dr. Brandon Zeeben
Dr. Raschel Zeschuk
Dr. Evelyn Zhang
Dr. Wardell ZoBell

Financial Statements

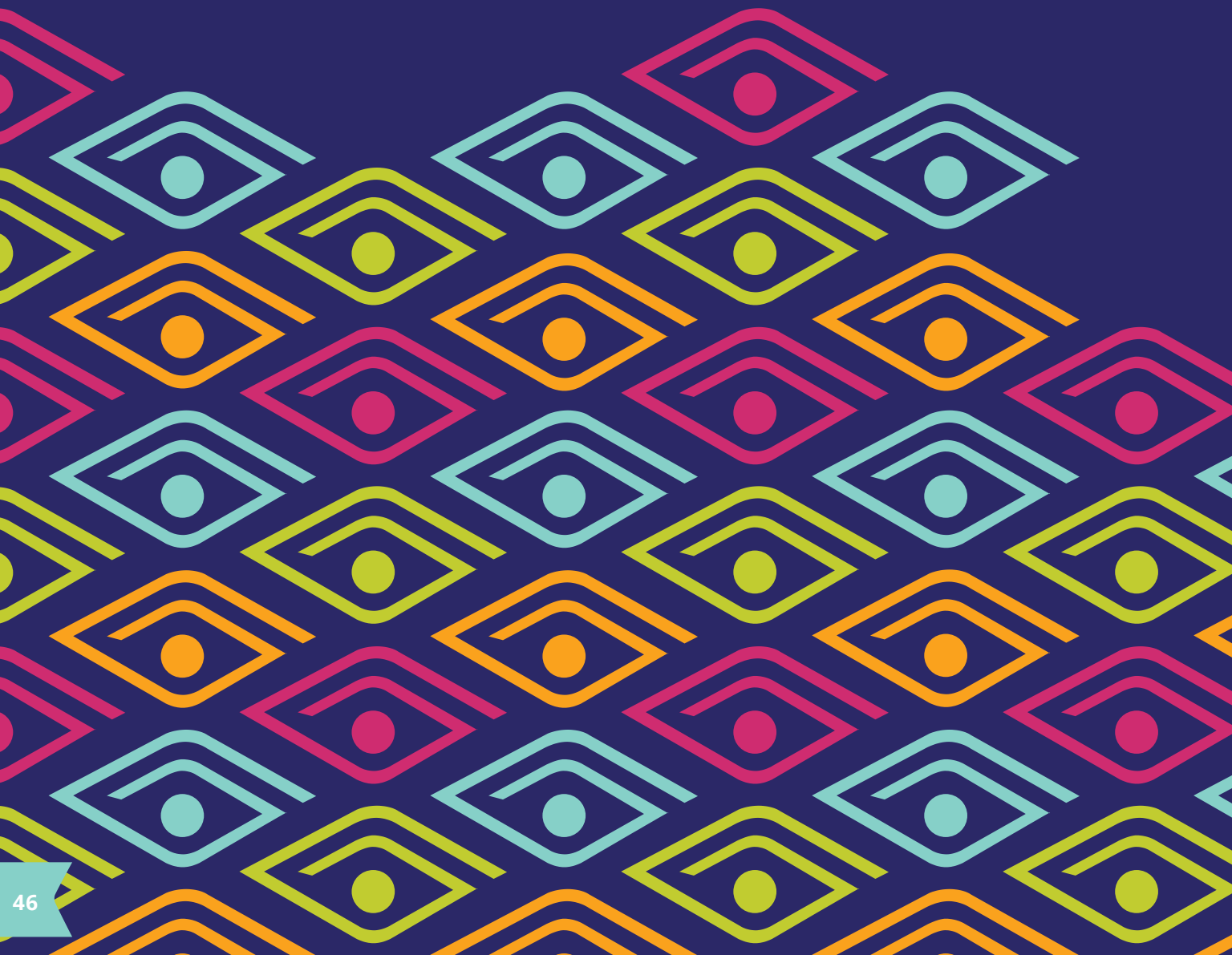


Table of Contents

Index to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2024

40	Independent Auditor's Report
-----------	-------------------------------------

Financial Statements

42	Statement of Financial Position
43	Statement of Operations
44	Statement of Changes in Net Assets
44	Statement of Cash Flows
45	Notes to Financial Statements
52	Vision Care Plan Operations <i>(Schedule 1)</i>
53	Conference/Continuing Education Revenues and Expenses <i>(Schedule 2)</i>
53	Eye See Eye Learn (ESEL™) Vision Initiative Program <i>(Schedule 3)</i>
54	Executive and Administrative Expenses <i>(Schedule 4)</i>
54	Council and Committee Expenses <i>(Schedule 5)</i>
55	Property Operations <i>(Schedule 6)</i>

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of Alberta Association of Optometrists

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Alberta Association of Optometrists (the Association), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and schedules.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those

standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Matter

The budgeted amounts included in the statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2024 are unaudited.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements

in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures

responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to

continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

RSM Canada LLP

Edmonton, Alberta
Chartered Professional Accountants
September 10, 2025

Statement of

FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 2,473,272	\$ 3,155,292
Restricted cash (Note 3)	2,805	4,908
Restricted investments (Note 3)	1,665,584	999,439
Short-term investments (Note 4)	1,135,239	1,086,248
Accounts receivable	620,550	671,268
Inventory	101,818	103,754
Prepaid expenses	196,236	116,329
	6,195,504	6,137,238
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 5)	1,100,461	1,144,155
INTANGIBLE ASSETS (Note 6)	7,250	10,204
	\$ 7,303,215	\$ 7,291,597
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 448,124	\$ 374,418
Deferred contributions (Note 7)	88,648	275,772
	536,772	650,190
NET ASSETS		
Internally restricted (Note 8)	1,668,389	1,004,347
Invested in tangible capital assets and intangible assets	1,107,656	1,154,359
Unrestricted	3,990,398	4,482,701
	6,766,443	6,641,407
	\$ 7,303,215	\$ 7,291,597
LEASE COMMITMENT (Note 9)		

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Councillor

Councillor

Statement of OPERATIONS

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024		2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Total Actual
REVENUES			
Dues and levies	\$ 1,146,175	\$ (12,103)	\$ 1,134,072
Deduct:			
Voluntary donations OGS/CVC	(11,000)	621	(10,379)
Canadian Association of Optometrists	(322,559)	3,346	(319,213)
Local societies	(52,600)	11,060	(41,540)
Members annual dues	760,016	2,924	762,940
Think About Your Eyes	-	16,231	16,231
Communication levy	779,750	(64,850)	714,900
	1,539,766	(45,695)	1,494,071
Fees and other:			
Vision Care plans (Schedule 1)	2,771,229	9,708	2,780,937
Conference/Continuing Education (Schedule 2)	622,450	(82,477)	539,973
Eye See Eye Learn program (Schedule 3)	75,000	(10,944)	64,056
Investment income (Note 10)	157,000	215,017	372,017
Advertising and other	12,250	(1,446)	10,804
Optometric assistants division	5,500	200	5,700
	5,183,195	84,363	5,267,558
EXPENSES			
Vision Care plans (Schedule 1)	2,595,012	473,787	2,121,225
Conference/Continuing Education (Schedule 2)	982,520	199,424	783,096
Eye See Eye Learn program (Schedule 3)	150,000	73,299	76,701
Executive and administrative (Schedule 4)	1,366,235	189,508	1,176,727
Council and committee (Schedule 5)	1,233,450	340,942	892,508
Property operations, net (Schedule 6)	113,360	52,332	61,028
Investment fees	15,300	259	15,041
Think About Your Eyes	-	(16,251)	16,251
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	-	(55)
	6,455,877	1,313,355	5,142,522
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ (1,272,682)	\$ 1,397,718	\$ 125,036

Statement of **CHANGES IN NET ASSETS** Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Internally Restricted	Invested in Tangible Capital Assets	Unrestricted	2024	2023
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 1,004,347	\$ 1,154,359	\$ 4,482,701	\$ 6,641,407	\$ 6,344,588
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses	664,042	(100,521)	(438,485)	125,036	296,819
Invested in tangible capital assets	-	53,873	(53,873)	-	-
Disposal of tangible capital assets	-	(55)	55	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 1,668,389	\$ 1,107,656	\$ 3,990,398	\$ 6,766,443	\$ 6,641,407

Statement of **CASH FLOWS** Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN):		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 125,036	\$ 296,819
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	100,521	91,192
Change in fair value of restricted investments	(81,897)	(22,353)
Gain on disposal of restricted investments	(34,216)	(40,584)
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	(55)	-
Accrued interest on short-term investments	(48,991)	(34,164)
	60,398	290,910
Changes in non-cash working capital (<i>Note 11</i>)	(140,671)	(69,187)
	(80,273)	221,723
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of restricted investments	(1,698,851)	(319,982)
Proceeds from disposals of restricted investments	1,148,819	311,552
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(53,873)	(14,452)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	55	-
	(603,850)	(22,882)
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH	(684,123)	198,841
Cash - beginning of year	3,160,200	2,961,359
CASH - END OF YEAR	2,476,077	3,160,200
CASH CONSISTS OF:		
Cash	\$ 2,473,272	\$ 3,155,292
Restricted cash	2,805	4,908
	\$ 2,476,077	\$ 3,160,200

1. PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Alberta Association of Optometrists (the "Association") is responsible for the professional enhancement of optometrists in Alberta and promotion of the use of safety glasses in industry. The Association represents optometrists across the province and provides public and corporate programs to promote the importance of eye exams and the use of safety glasses. Significant benefits are provided to members of the Association as they have exclusive access to these programs. The Association is incorporated under the Societies Act (Alberta) and, as a not-for-profit organization under the Income Tax Act (Canada), it is not subject to corporate income taxes.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Significant accounting policies observed in the preparation of the financial statements are summarized below.

Cash and restricted cash

Cash is defined as cash on hand and cash on deposit, net of cheques issued and outstanding at the reporting date. Restricted cash consists of cash held primarily for trading purposes.

Restricted investments

Restricted investments consist of a balanced portfolio of fixed income securities and domestic and foreign equities which are recorded at market value and are held primarily for trading purposes. The investment portfolio is managed by a third party investment manager and is subject to an investment policy set by Council which, as its objective, is the growth and preservation of capital.

Inventory

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realizable value, with cost being determined using the first-in, first-out method. Net realizable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less any applicable variable selling costs. Net realizable value is assessed at each statement of financial position date and a write down is recorded as necessary. The amount of the write down may be reversed up to original amount of the write down where there is a change in the economic circumstances.

Inventories expensed during the year totaled \$577,770 (2023 - \$567,231).

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Tangible capital assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis at the following annual rates:

Building and building renovations	25 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Equipment	5 years

When conditions indicate a tangible capital asset is impaired, the carrying value of the tangible capital asset is written down to the asset's fair value or replacement cost. The write down of the tangible capital assets is recorded as an expense on the statement of operations. A write down shall not be reversed.

Intangible assets

The software license rights and trademarks are being amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of three years.

Software Services and Cloud Computing

During the year, the Association adopted Accounting Guideline AcG-20, "Customer's Accounting for Cloud Computing Arrangements" which is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2024. The Association applies the simplification approach where software service fees and other expenses related to cloud computing arrangements are expensed as incurred. No retrospective adjustments are required, as the Association had previously applied a one-year amortization policy to capitalized software service fees.

Revenue recognition

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Contributions are included in revenue in the year in which they are received or receivable, with the exception that revenues to fund a specific future period's expenses are deferred and recognized as revenue in the later period in which the expenses are incurred. Deferred contributions are comprised of grants for special projects to be completed in the subsequent year. No revenue is recognized until collection can be reasonably assured.

Dues and levies are recognized as revenue in the year to which they relate and services are provided.

Lens revenue and the lab purchase discount revenues are recognized when the correlating expenditure has been incurred and revenues can be reasonably estimated and collection reasonably assured.

Administrative fees are recognized when the related administrative services are provided, including the Optometric assistant's division and advertising.

Frames revenue is recorded when the product has been shipped and collection has been reasonably assured.

Conference fees are recognized when the event is held.

Investment income consisting of interest, dividends and realized gains and losses on disposal are recognized when earned.

Unrealized gains and losses on marketable securities representing changes in fair market values are recognized at year-end and included in investment income.

Rental revenue is recognized as revenue in the period it is earned.

Notes to **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Year Ended December 31, 2024

Contributed services

Volunteers contributed numerous hours in carrying out the activities of the Association. The services are not normally purchased by the Association and, because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Financial instruments

Measurement

Financial instruments are financial assets or financial liabilities of the Association where, in general, the Association has the right to receive cash or another financial asset from another party or the Association has the obligation to pay another party cash or other financial assets.

The Association initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value.

The Association subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for marketable securities included in restricted investments, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in the statement of operations unless otherwise noted.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, restricted cash, restricted investments, short-term investments and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Transactions costs

Transaction costs and financing fees are expensed as incurred for financial instruments measured at fair value and capitalized for financial instruments that are subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost.

The Association recognizes its transaction costs in excess of revenue over expenses in the period incurred for its equity investments and all other financial assets and liabilities subsequently measured at fair value. Financial instruments, that are subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost, are adjusted by the transaction costs and financing fees that are directly attributable to their origination or issuance.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost are tested for impairment, at the end of each year, to determine whether there are indicators that the asset may be impaired. The amount of the write-down, if any, is recognized in operations. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account. The reversal may be recorded provided it is no greater than the amount that had been previously reported as a reduction in the asset and it does not exceed original cost. The amount of the reversal is recognized in operations.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in operations in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Notes to **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Year Ended December 31, 2024

3. RESTRICTED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Restricted cash and investments are comprised of a savings account and an investment account which have been designated for specific programs as described in Note 8.

The investment account is managed by a professional investment manager with a major Canadian financial institution in accordance with a conservative investment strategy approved by the Council and consists of a balanced portfolio of fixed income securities and domestic and foreign equities that are held primarily for trading and are recorded at market value.

	2024	2023
Cash:		
Investment savings account	\$ 2,805	\$ 4,908
Equities		
Canadian	1,220,806	784,685
United States	444,778	214,754
	1,665,584	999,439
	\$ 1,668,389	\$ 1,004,347

4. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

The short-term investments consist of one (2023 - one) cashable guaranteed investment certificate bearing interest at 4.75% (2023 - 4.50%) per annum and maturing August 2025 (2023 - August 2024).

5. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2024 Net book value	2023 Net book value
Land	\$ 445,108	\$ -	\$ 445,108	\$ 445,108
Building renovations	1,262,467	821,437	441,030	459,425
Building	667,662	467,165	200,497	227,826
Computer software	-	-	-	3,251
Computer equipment	81,927	68,507	13,420	8,454
Equipment	194,116	193,710	406	91
	\$ 2,651,280	\$ 1,550,819	\$ 1,100,461	\$ 1,144,155

The land, building and building renovations reflect the Association's 75% interest in the Argyll Road property. The remaining 25% is owned by the Alberta College of Optometrists.

Notes to FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended December 31, 2024

6. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2024 Net book value	2023 Net book value
Eyesafe™ Online Program	\$ 196,487	\$ 189,237	\$ 7,250	\$ 10,204

7. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred contributions represent contributions received for specific purposes which have not been expended at year-end.

	Balance, Beginning of Year	Contributions Received	Amounts Recognized as Revenue	Balance, End of Year
Communication Levy	\$ 197,687	\$ 66,204	\$ 197,687	\$ 66,204
Eye See Eye Learn program - Alberta Health	56,087	2,227	58,206	108
Membership dues	21,998	-	21,998	-
General deferred revenue	-	22,336	-	22,336
	275,772	90,767	277,891	88,648

8. INTERNALLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

	2024	2023
Operating reserve fund	\$ 1,668,389	\$ 1,004,347

The Operating Reserve Fund was established for use in the event of a financial emergency or an interruption of cash flows. At December 31, 2024, the balance in the Fund was comprised of \$1,665,584 (2023 - \$999,439) in marketable securities and \$2,805 (2023 - \$4,908) cash in an investment savings account.

9. LEASE COMMITMENT

The Association is committed under an operating lease for the rental of a multi-functional office equipment device, expiring November 2025. Future minimum lease payments to the expiry of the lease are as follows:

2025	\$ 2,657
------	----------

10. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
Interest	\$ 214,440	\$ 188,075
Dividends	41,464	25,949
Realized gains	34,216	40,584
Unrealized gains	81,897	22,353
	\$ 372,017	\$ 276,961

11. CHANGES IN NON-CASH WORKING CAPITAL

	2024	2023
Accounts receivable	\$ 50,718	\$ 4,352
Inventory	1,936	11,259
Prepaid expenses	(79,907)	(10,317)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	73,706	(68,705)
Deferred contributions	(187,124)	(5,776)
	\$ (140,671)	\$ (69,187)

12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following provides information about the Association's risk exposure and concentration at December 31, 2024.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The financial instruments that potentially subject the Association to credit risk consist primarily of cash, restricted cash, restricted investments, short-term investments and accounts receivable. The Association mitigates its exposure to credit loss by placing its cash, restricted cash, restricted investments and short-term investments with major financial institutions. The Association manages credit risk on accounts receivable by monitoring overdue accounts. As such, credit risk is considered low.

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Association is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its customers and other related sources and accounts payable.

(c) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency rate risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Association is mainly exposed to interest rate risk.

(d) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the Association manages exposure through its normal operating and financing activities. The Association is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its interest bearing assets. The Association mitigates its risk through its investment policy as described in Note 3.

There have been no changes to any significant risk exposures from the previous year-end.

13. BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget information is included for information purposes only and does not form part of the audited financial statements. The budget figures are unaudited.

14. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation. The Eyesafe™ Online Program which was previously classified as part of tangible capital assets has been reclassified as an intangible asset.

SCHEDULE 1 Vision Care Plan Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Actual	Actual
REVENUES				
Lens revenue	\$ 1,653,132	\$ (225,055)	\$ 1,428,077	\$ 1,384,666
Frames revenue	866,097	190,191	1,056,288	1,067,050
Administrative fees	252,000	44,572	296,572	292,067
	2,771,229	9,708	2,780,937	2,743,783
EXPENSES				
Lens expenses	1,094,310	360,926	733,384	718,164
Frames expenses	635,454	77,684	557,770	567,231
Salaries and benefits	418,000	(20,701)	438,701	360,122
Advertising	311,998	66,374	245,624	206,342
Bank charges	33,000	(4,005)	37,005	36,180
Legal fees	17,000	(9,139)	26,139	9,550
Technology development and maintenance	25,500	4,890	20,610	74,176
Telephone and utilities	19,200	2,291	16,909	17,485
Insurance	11,000	(4,366)	15,366	12,459
Amortization of tangible capital assets	12,000	(991)	12,991	6,887
Audit	8,750	(300)	9,050	9,002
Postage and stationary	7,300	1,268	6,032	4,646
Bad debts	1,500	(144)	1,644	427
	2,595,012	473,787	2,121,225	2,022,671
NET DEPARTMENTAL SURPLUS	\$ 176,217	\$ 483,495	\$ 659,712	\$ 721,112

Vision Care Plan Operations include Professional Dispensing Fees collected from client companies and paid to Doctor's of Optometry of \$797,429 (2023 - \$798,779).

SCHEDULE 2 Conference/Continuing Education Revenues and Expenses

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Actual	Actual
REVENUES				
Conference fees	\$ 622,450	\$ (82,477)	\$ 539,973	\$ 502,073
EXPENSES				
Seminars	458,000	(85,378)	543,378	409,730
Others	387,020	289,336	97,684	26,421
Speaker fees	77,500	(6,295)	83,795	48,292
Optifair - exhibit costs	60,000	1,761	58,239	54,751
	982,520	199,424	783,096	539,194
NET DEPARTMENTAL DEFICIT	\$ (360,070)	\$ (116,947)	\$ (243,123)	\$ (37,121)

SCHEDULE 3 Eye See . . . Eye Learn™ (ESEL™) Vision Initiative Program

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Actual	Actual
REVENUES				
ESEL™ grant	\$ 75,000	\$ (16,794)	\$ 58,206	\$ 54,169
ESEL™ frame upgrade	-	5,850	5,850	75,375
NIHB	-	-	-	8,772
	75,000	(10,944)	64,056	138,316
EXPENSES				
Grant expenses relating to ESEL™	150,000	78,199	71,801	58,656
ESEL™ frame upgrade	-	4,900	4,900	78,782
NIHB	-	-	-	8,772
	150,000	83,099	76,701	146,210
NET DEPARTMENTAL DEFICIT	\$ (75,000)	\$ 62,355	\$ (12,645)	\$ (7,894)

SCHEDULE 4 Executive and Administrative Expenses

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Actual	Actual
Salaries and benefits	\$ 949,085	\$ 182,339	\$ 766,746	\$ 736,541
Technology development and maintenance	251,000	39,173	211,827	135,209
Computer support	20,700	(19,771)	40,471	32,728
Bank charges	33,000	(4,497)	37,497	36,417
Legal	21,000	(15,375)	36,375	19,645
Postage, stationary and printing	26,300	(4,252)	30,552	24,202
Telephone and utilities	18,200	1,164	17,036	17,686
Amortization of tangible capital assets	12,000	(956)	12,956	6,625
Audit and accounting	8,750	(300)	9,050	9,002
Consulting fees	14,000	6,500	7,500	1,540
Insurance	3,200	(748)	3,948	3,594
Memberships and subscriptions	4,000	2,320	1,680	1,833
Staff events	5,000	3,911	1,089	1,559
TOTAL	\$ 1,366,235	\$ 189,508	\$ 1,176,727	\$ 1,026,581

SCHEDULE 5 Council and Committee Expenses

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Actual	Actual
Communications and public relations	\$ 595,250	\$ 56,240	\$ 539,010	\$ 451,610
Council	285,700	36,284	249,416	267,465
Political action committee and government relations	188,000	99,415	88,585	34,866
National activities	11,200	(1,120)	12,320	3,519
Insured services	45,000	42,800	2,200	-
Professional relations	32,000	31,023	977	904
Alberta Association of Optometrists Committees	76,300	76,300	-	-
TOTAL	\$ 1,233,450	\$ 340,942	\$ 892,508	\$ 758,364

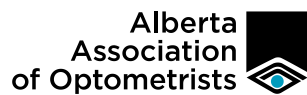
SCHEDULE 6

Property Operations

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	2024			2023
	Budget (unaudited) (Note 13)	Budget Variance	Actual	Actual
REVENUES				
Rental	\$ 75,840	\$ 6,649	\$ 82,489	\$ 11,183
EXPENSES				
Amortization of tangible capital assets	78,000	3,427	74,573	77,680
Property taxes	46,500	22,558	23,942	49,357
Repairs and maintenance	38,000	19,023	18,977	32,619
Utilities	12,000	1,481	10,519	11,614
Subcontractors	10,000	341	9,659	7,430
Insurance	2,400	(811)	3,211	20,767
Security	2,300	(336)	2,636	2,506
	189,200	45,683	143,517	201,973
NET DEPARTMENTAL DEFICIT	\$ (113,360)	\$ 52,332	\$ (61,028)	\$ (190,790)

NOTES



#100, 8407 Argyll Road
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T6C 4B2
T: 780.451.6824
TF: 1.800.272.8843

optometrists.ab.ca