



# Prospective Council Member Information Package

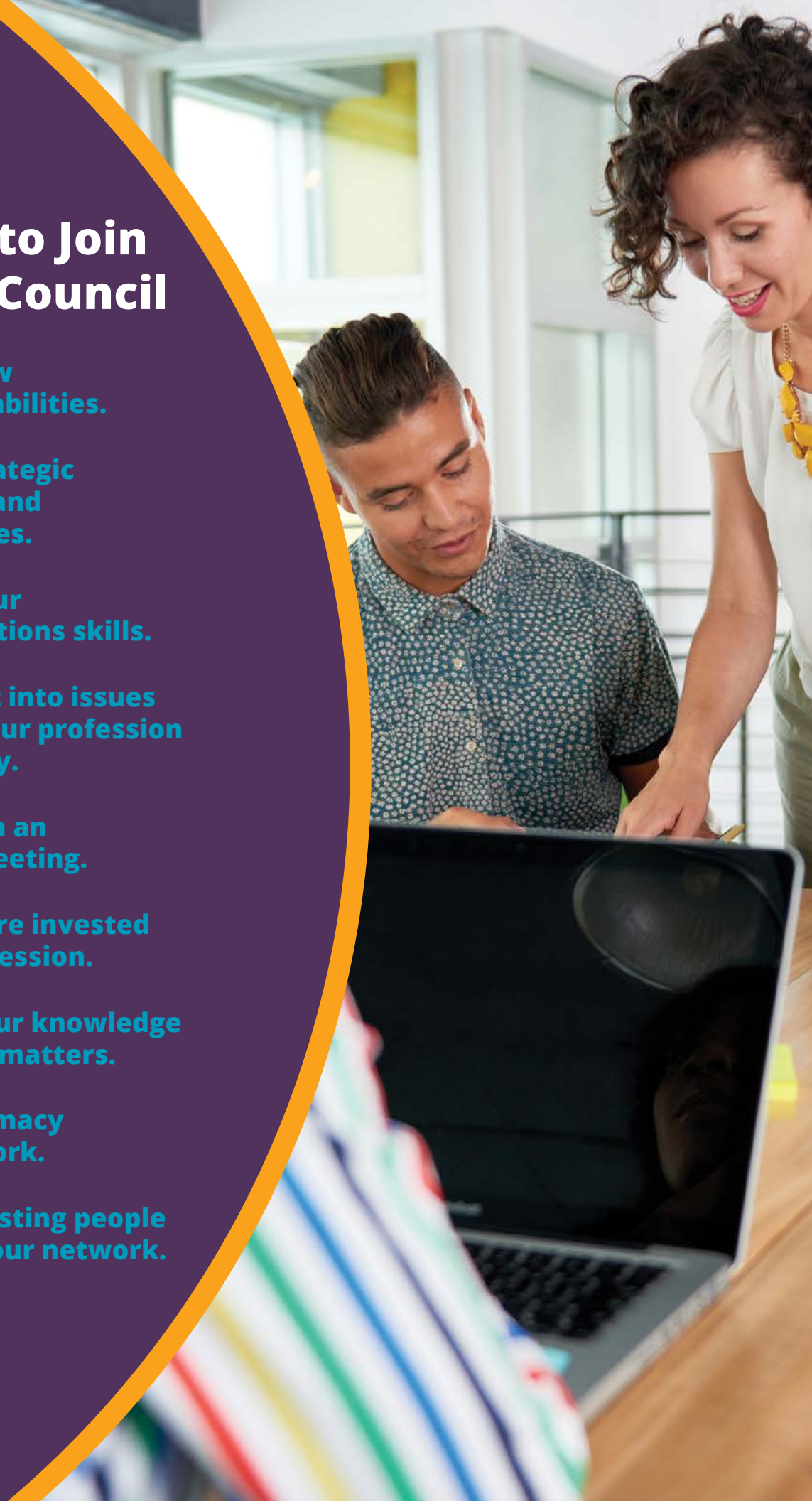
May  
2024

Alberta  
Association  
of Optometrists



# 10 Great Reasons to Join the AAO Council

- 1** Develop new leadership abilities.
- 2** Analyze strategic challenges and opportunities.
- 3** Improve your communications skills.
- 4** Gain insight into issues affecting your profession and industry.
- 5** Learn to run an effective meeting.
- 6** Become more invested in your profession.
- 7** Increase your knowledge of financial matters.
- 8** Learn diplomacy and teamwork.
- 9** Meet interesting people and grow your network.
- 10** Make a difference.





# AAO Guiding Principles & Documents

## Vision

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

## Mission

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

## Values

Accountable, Innovative,  
Inclusive, Professional,  
Visionary

## AAO Bylaws

The Council of the AAO must conform to the Bylaws of the Association. This document can be found on the AAO website.

## AAO Policies

The Council of the AAO must conform to the Policies of the Association. These documents can be found on the AAO website.

As president, I feel fortunate to represent the AAO's membership after serving on Council since 2018. My years on Council have enhanced my leadership skills, business acumen, and provided opportunities to network with some of the thought leaders in Canada. It has pushed me outside of my comfort zone to receive training in government and media relations, among other topics. I've had the chance to work with some exceptional individuals on Council, the AAO staff, and on several committees over the years that has made this work enjoyable and rewarding. I strongly encourage you to contemplate joining an AAO committee or aspiring to a Council position. Such involvement not only fuels positive change within our profession, but also cements Optometry's pivotal role as Alberta's primary eye care provider. Furthermore, it has the potential to open doors to a multitude of personal growth opportunities.

**Dr. Andrea Lasby, OD, FAAO, FSLs**  
*President*

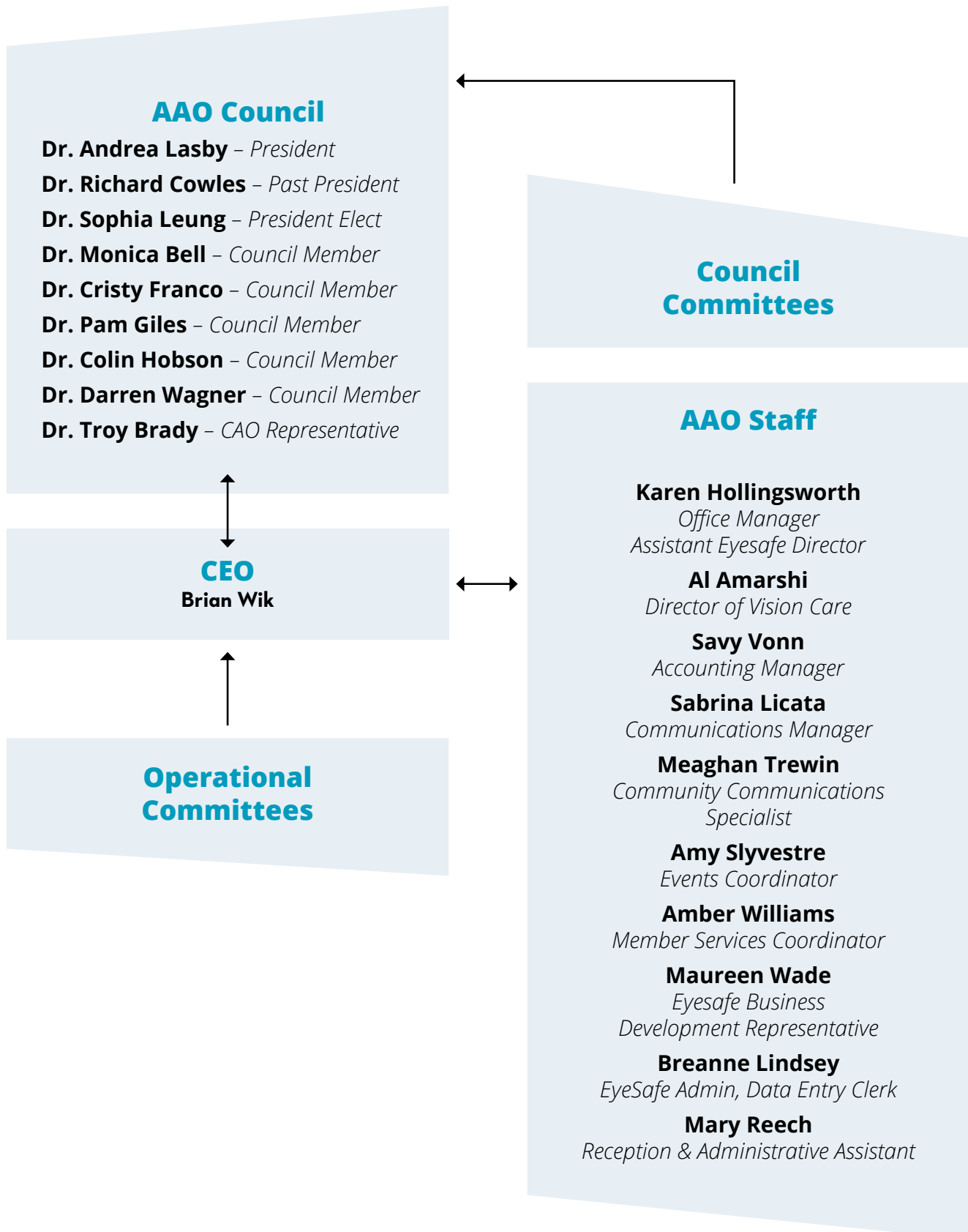




## Table of Contents

2		10 Great Reasons to Join the AAO Council
3		AAO Guiding Principles & Documents
4		Table of Contents
5		Organizational Chart
6		Council Members and Biographies
9		Role of Council Members
11		Council Member Job Descriptions and Duties
12		Time Commitment
12		Competencies and Experience
13		Council Remuneration
14		Council Expenses
15		Oath of Confidentiality
16		Conflict of Interest Form
18		Agenda Format Example
19		AAO Council Committees
20		Operational Committees
22		AAO Programs and Services

# Organizational Chart





# Council Members and Biographies



## **Dr. Andrea Lasby** – *President*

Dr. Lasby graduated from the University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Sciences, in 2013. She went on to complete a Cornea and Contact Lens Residency at Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry in 2014. After returning to her hometown of Calgary, she joined Mission Eye Care, continuing to fit all types of contact lenses for both normal and diseased eyes.

Dr. Lasby is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry as well as the Scleral Lens Society. She served as president of the Calgary Society of Optometrists from 2016-2018. Dr. Lasby is passionate about teaching and regularly lectures for Optometrists. She is involved in teaching the University of Calgary's medical students and family medicine residents. She is also the program coordinator for Mission Eye Care's Cornea and Contact Lens Optometry Residency Program, beginning in July 2023.

She has served on the Alberta Association of Optometrists Council since 2018 and has served as President since 2022.



## **Dr. Richard Cowles** – *Past President*

Dr. Richard Cowles practices optometry in Sherwood Park. After completing undergraduate studies at the University of Alberta, he graduated from Pacific University with his Doctorate of Optometry in 2003. He has served on the Alberta Association of Optometrists Council since 2012.

As an optometry student in 2000, Richard participated in a humanitarian vision care mission in Costa Rica. He has also been on four vision missions with Canadian Vision Care in Jamaica over the last decade. Locally, Richard regularly provides vision care at Homeless Connect, a bi-annual event providing services to individuals who may otherwise be unable to access them.



## **Dr. Sophia Leung** – *President Elect*

Dr. Sophia Leung is a residency-trained and fellowship-trained optometrist with a clinical emphasis in cornea, advanced glaucoma, and anterior segment disease. She is currently practicing at a surgical referral center in Calgary, Alberta where she performs surgical triage, secondary and tertiary medical management, and surgical co-management alongside ophthalmologists of various subspecialties.

Dr. Leung is a University of Waterloo School of Optometry alumni, graduating on the Dean's Honours List in 2014. Dr. Leung also completed an Ocular Disease and Refractive Surgery Residency and an Advanced Glaucoma and Cornea Clinical Fellowship with Oklahoma Medical Eye Group (affiliated with NSUOCO) in 2019-2021. Dr. Leung has been involved in leadership throughout her career – she has been a council member of the Alberta Association of Optometrists since 2015, as well as various national and international committees. Dr. Leung is a Diplomate of the American Board of Optometry and a Diplomate of the American Academy of Optometry in the Anterior Segment Section, the first Albertan and Canadian to do so.

Dr. Leung is passionate about collaboration and education. She is a local and international speaker and is also an award-winning published author, contributing to journals, posters, and textbooks. Outside of the clinic, Dr. Leung enjoys live music, supporting local restaurants, and spending time with friends and family. She also enjoys staying active with rowing, running, and surfing whenever a beach is nearby.



**Dr. Monica Bell** – *Council Member*

Dr. Monica Bell, born and raised in Calgary, attended the University of Alberta for her Bachelor of Science before graduating with honours from the University of Waterloo School of Optometry. In school, Monica was an active participant in student organizations with her role as president of the Lions Club, Social Affairs Director of the Canadian Association of Optometry Students and general member of the Low Vision Interest Group and the Sports Vision Club. Currently, she maintains the role of treasurer of the Calgary Society of Optometrists and is serving her second term as AAO council member.

During her education, she completed an ocular disease and therapeutics externship in Baltimore, Maryland as well as internships in primary care and vision therapy. She has also had the opportunity to be involved in vision screenings for athletes in the Special Olympics in Baltimore and Thunder Bay.



**Dr. Christy Franco** – *Council Member*

Dr. Cristy Franco received her BSc (Zoology) from the University of Calgary, and then earned her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Waterloo in 2016. As an optometry student Dr. Franco was privileged to travel to Romania, Moldova, and Oaxaca, Mexico providing vision care to those in need. She looks forward to participating in similar trips in the future.

Following graduation, Dr. Franco returned to her hometown of Calgary and has been practicing with Airdrie Family Eye Doctors. She provides full scope primary care with a special interest in vision therapy. With her passion for vision therapy, Dr. Franco completed additional education and started a vision therapy program out of the Airdrie practice. She loves to teach and enjoys lecturing on vision therapy and other topics alike. When not at work, Dr. Franco enjoys spending time with her husband and their dog, and with her extended family. She heads out to the mountains whenever possible, loves to bake, and if organization was a hobby it would be her favourite one.



**Dr. Pam Giles** – *Council Member*

Dr. Pamela Giles, born and raised in Grande Prairie, graduated with honors from the University of Waterloo in 2005. She has worked throughout Northern Alberta, and practices full scope optometry in rural settings. She, along with two partner ODs, started Aurora Eye Care in 2013 and now own private practice clinics in Grande Prairie, Edson, and Jasper. Her passions include patient health advocacy, a critical role in resource limited rural communities. Pamela and her husband, Ryan, have a great time hiking, skiing, cooking, and traveling with their three children, Emily, Brady, and Josh. She also has an interest in art, taking a variety of courses in oil and watercolor painting.



**Dr. Colin Hobson** – *Council Member*

Dr. Colin Hobson graduated from the University of Waterloo School of Optometry in 2012 with an honours BSc and Optometry Degree. Following graduation, he returned home to Fort Saskatchewan and later started Fort Saskatchewan Eyecare where he practices full scope Optometry with special interest in Dry Eye and Pediatrics. In his spare time Colin enjoys volunteering in the community, and spending time with his wife and kids.



**Dr. Darren Wagner** – *Council Member*

Dr. Darren Wagner was born in Spirit River, Alberta, and studied Biochemistry at Grande Prairie Regional College, and the University of Alberta before graduating with Honours from the University of Waterloo School of Optometry in 2006. Darren has previously volunteered on an eye mission in Guatemala, and has completed a disease externship in Baltimore, Maryland. He is married to Dr. Dallas Wagner, and they own a practice in Brooks, Alberta. He strives to increase public education of eye health in his community by speaking at schools, diabetes expos, and with local physician groups. Darren has a young family, and together they swim, bike, run, curl, windsurf, and sail, in beautiful Southeastern Alberta.



**Dr. Troy Brady** – *CAO Representative*

Dr. Brady grew up in Pinawa, Manitoba and graduated from the University of Waterloo in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science and a Doctor of Optometry (Dean's Honours List). Immediately following his graduation, he moved to Edmonton and began practicing at a full scope optometric practice, Optometrists' Clinic Inc. He takes a special interest in ocular disease, contact lenses and family practice. He is a past-president of the Alberta Association of Optometrists, serving on the AAO Council since 2010. He is currently Alberta's representative on the Canadian Association of Optometrists.

Dr. Brady enjoys coaching his two daughters in their sporting activities and remains active in his own right. He is an avid golfer and still plays hockey once a week. This includes playing in the Alzheimer's Faceoff Pro-Am hockey tournament during which he and his team have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help find a cure for dementia.



# Role of Council Members

The board of directors of an incorporated, non-profit organization is legally responsible for the governance of the organization. The role of the AAO Council is to:

1. Act as trustee of members' interests.
2. Establish written governing policies, which at the broadest levels addresses:
  - a) Priorities and Objectives: Develops and regularly revisits a strategic plan based on organizational priorities as identified from the AAO's Ends.
  - b) Executive Limitations: Establishes boundaries through outlining constraints on executive authority.
  - c) Governance Process: Specification of how the Council conceives, carries out, and monitors its governance and legal obligations.
  - d) Council-CEO Relationship: Hires the CEO and determines how authority is delegated and its proper use monitored.
  - e) Fiduciary Responsibility: Reviews and approves the annual budget and the provision of financial oversight.
3. Measures the CEO's performance against council policies, priorities and objectives.

## **Collectively, the council must:**

1. Act in a governance capacity, particularly accountability for the Association's financial status.
2. Appoint legal counsel for the AAO.
3. Appoint the auditor for the AAO.
4. Conduct the business of the AAO between Annual General Meetings.
5. Determine the time and place of the Annual General Meeting or any Special Meeting.
6. Enter into agreements on behalf of the AAO.
7. Establish fees, dues and levies.
8. Fill any Council vacancy for the remainder of any term caused by the resignation or death of any Council member.
9. Make and revise Bylaws (subject to approval by members) and governance policies.
10. Meet with the Council of the Alberta College of Optometrists to consider matters of joint interest.
11. Prescribe fees, allowances, stipends and expenses for members of the AAO serving on Council or Committees.
12. Prescribe fees, allowances, stipends, and expenses of persons other than members of the AAO for rendering services to the Association.
13. Prescribe the function and duties of Council standing and ad hoc committees, and appoint individuals to Council standing and ad hoc committees.
14. Respond to any matters as may be required by the Act or the AAO's Bylaws.

## Individually, each council member must:

1. Act in the best interests of the organization.
2. Understand the roles and responsibilities of being a council member.
3. Be familiar with the organization's bylaws, policies, Ends, strategic plan, vision, mission, and values, etc.
4. Ensure they avoid conflicts of interest including operating in the best interest of the organization not in self-interest or the interest of a stakeholder group.
5. Respect confidentiality policies that pertain to membership and council discussions.
6. Keep informed about the AAO's financial activity and legal obligations.
7. Bring their own skills, experience and knowledge to the organization.
8. Attend council meetings regularly and arrive prepared for meetings.
9. Support council decisions once they have been voted on.

My eight years on the AAO Council has flown by quickly and yet, the sentiment that my mentors shared with me in my first year still rings true. To have your hand on the pulse of your profession and to be part of the group that steers Alberta optometrists through high and low tides is a great privilege. Being on the AAO Council has taught me to think more strategically, to be excited at what is possible for our profession, and it has granted me career-developing relationships along the way. I am proud to sit on a Council that is collectively committed to making optometry better using the experience and perspective each of us individually has. Take the plunge! It's worth it.

**Dr. Sophia Leung,**  
*President Elect*

# Council Member Job Descriptions and Duties

While the Council acts as a whole, there are specific duties assigned to some officers while more general duties apply to all members of Council.

## President

Fulfill the duties of the role of President as laid out in Section 2, Article 7 of the AAO Bylaws and Policy 1 – C of the AAO Policies.

## Past President

Fulfill the duties of the role of Past President as laid out in Section 2, Article 9 of the AAO Bylaws.

## President Elect

Fulfill the duties of the role of President Elect as laid out in Section 2, Article 8 of the AAO Bylaws and policy 1-D of the AAO Policies.

## Principal Duties of all Council Members

Every member of the Council is expected to do the following:

1. Abide by the by-laws, code of conduct, conflict of interest and other policies that apply to the council.
2. Attend and participate in the Annual General Meeting.
3. Be an ambassador for the AAO – ensure one's involvement is known within their own network of friends and contacts.
4. Contribute to the work of council as a member of a council committee.
5. Help establish, review and monitor governance policies.
6. Help the council to monitor the performance of the AAO in relation to its bylaws and policies.
7. Identify prospective council members and possibly help with recruitment.
8. Keep informed about optometric and eye health issues relevant to the profession and the eye health industry.
9. Listen to others' views, advocate their own, identify common interests and alternatives, and be open to compromise.
10. Participate in public speaking opportunities with the members and other groups.
11. Participate in the approval the annual budget and monitor the financial performance of the AAO.
12. Participate in the evaluation of the CEO.
13. Participate in the evaluation of the council itself (annual council self-evaluation).
14. Participate in the hiring of, and if required, the releasing of, the CEO.
15. Participate in the review of the AAO's vision, mission, values and Ends, and in the development of a strategic plan.
16. Prepare for and participate in council meetings which take place in various locations in Alberta.
19. Support governance decisions once made.



# Time Commitment

Six hours a month (reading materials, responding to emails, participating in committees and attending special events). Those months when there is a council meeting, time commitment increases due to preparation and travel.

Council meetings are held in February (1 week Strategic Retreat), April, June, September, October (Annual Conference), November/December (Open House at AAO Office). Meetings alternate between Calgary and Edmonton.

## Competencies and Experience

Organizations are made up of people with a variety of backgrounds and the AAO is no different. Members who bring different experiences and competencies to the AAO and the profession are encouraged to run.

Below is a list of competencies that the AAO Council is looking to fill. However, we highly value all board and personal skills listed and welcome all prospective candidates. This Council's goal is to facilitate and support all qualified applicants.

How does your experience match up with the following competencies?

### Board Skills

Legal and regulatory

Advanced education and/or international CE

Technical and/or IT

Meeting management (Roberts Rules)

Governance and policy

Negotiations

Political lobbying

Marketing and social media

HR and performance assessment

Accounting and financial

Industry partner/stakeholder knowledge

Strategic planning

Previous board or committee role

Business and management

### Personal Skills

Strategic thinking

Leadership

Public speaking

Diversity/Inclusiveness

Forward thinking/Innovative

Ethical Decision Making

# Council Remuneration

## Per Diem Rates and Stipends

Per Diem rates for Council business will be \$550 for 4 hours or less, \$800 per day over 4 hours, including travel time. Per Diem rates for a teleconference call over one hour in length is \$200.

### Per diems will be paid out as follows:

- a) regardless of day of the week;
- b) for any meeting of council, committee, or other Association business for which a Council member is mandated to attend;
- c) for the AGM; and
- d) if clarification is required for an event that could be considered incidental or billable, it shall come before Council for a decision.

### Per diems will not normally be billable for:

- a) attendance at expected events, such as Political Dinners, MLA functions;
- b) attendance at out of province Think Tank/Planning Sessions;
- c) any committee or division work done outside of scheduled meetings except with prior approval by the Council; and/or
- d) attendance at Association continuing education programs.

### Council Members are provided a monthly stipend of \$500 to cover other costs and incidentals that are not associated with a meeting, such as:

- a) reviewing and responding to emails;
- b) preparation of council reports;
- c) member contact on behalf of Association;
- d) responding to member phone calls; and
- e) committee work, other than actual meetings.

Technology Fee: Council members will be paid an annual stipend of \$500 to assist in offsetting the cost of computer/line hook up/purchase and /or maintenance costs.



# Council Expenses

## Travel Expenses:

- *Automobile Travel* – reimbursed at \$0.505 per kilometer
- *Air Travel* – Fares should be booked as far in advance as possible. The Association will be responsible for the lowest economy fare available, and any upgrades or change costs (unless necessitated by the Association) will be the responsibility for the council member
- *Taxi/Cab/Shuttle* – reimbursed upon submission of receipt

## Accommodation and Meals:

Reimbursement for accommodation will be made for standard hotel accommodation. Where there are additional hotel accommodation charges for a spouse or guest, the Association is responsible for the expenses incurred by the member only.

A Council member who must leave before 7 a.m. to attend an Association meeting or on attending an Association Meeting and cannot make it back home before 10 p.m. will have the option to have their accommodations covered.

Reasonable meal costs will be reimbursed in full, including a reasonable gratuity (not to exceed 15%). Meal costs and gratuities for spouses or personal guests are not the responsibility of the Association. Reimbursement for meal costs will be made upon submission of receipt.

Cost incurred for the entertainment of guests as part of Association business will be reimbursed, and should be clearly delineated on the expense report.

## Other Expenses:

- *Telephone/Fax Charges/Internet*: The costs of long distance calls, faxing, and internet services for Association business will be borne by the Association, upon the submission of receipts, on an Expense Report form.

- *Conference Costs*: When attendance at a conference is directed or approved by Council, the attending member will be reimbursed for registration fees and related costs.
- *Association Conference Registration*: Fee will be waived for the Association President and Conference Chairperson. Tickets for meals and social functions, for friends or family members will be at their expense.
- *Office Supplies*: Where possible, the Association office and staff should be utilized for correspondence, postage, photocopying, etc. However, when it is more expedient to have these services provided elsewhere, they will be reimbursed at cost.
- *Luncheon and Dinner Meetings*: Recognizing that practitioners active in Association affairs must, for economic reasons, minimize the amount of practice time devoted to Association matters, it is frequently necessary for business to be conducted during lunch hours or in the evening. It is also recognized that lunches and dinners often provide a more congenial atmosphere during which to develop the desired relationships with others. Legitimate committee member costs for such occasions will be reimbursed on the same basis as meals. Similarly, it is occasionally necessary for committees made up entirely of optometrists to meet over lunch or dinner. However, dinner meetings, in particular, should be the exception rather than the rule.
- *Other Expenses*: There may be on occasion, other expenses legitimately and properly charged to the Association for special items such as gifts and acknowledgement of service, or for membership in other organizations. Such expenses should be pre-approved by Council or where that is not practical, the approval of the President or Secretary-Treasurer would be in order.



# Oath of Confidentiality

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being a member of the Alberta Association of Optometrists (the “AAO”) Council (the “Council”) or a Committee Member (Committee), acknowledge and agree as follows:

- 1) As a member of the AAO Council or an AAO Committee, I may receive, or have access to, information that is confidential to the AAO, its employees or the Council (“Confidential Information”).
- 2) For purposes of this Oath of Confidentiality, “Confidential Information” means all information and communications pertaining to the AAO that is provided or communicated to you, whether provided or communicated before or after the date of this Oath of Confidentiality, verbally, in writing, by inspection, or through any other means, at Council or Committee meetings or otherwise, regardless of whether specifically identified as being confidential, and regardless of whatever form such information may take after its communication, excluding (a) information, as shown by written records, was already known by me at the time of its receipt by me without a breach of my obligations hereunder, or (b) at the time of its disclosure to me, is in the public domain or which thereafter enters the public domain through no fault of mine.
- 3) As a Council or Committee member, I will not disclose or discuss any Confidential Information received in my capacity as Council or Committee member, unless authorized to do so by majority vote of the Council. This includes, without limitation, disclosing or discussing Confidential Information with the public or the media.
- 4) Video and audio recordings of Council or Committee meetings are not allowed unless authorized by majority vote of the Council.
- 5) As a member of the Council or a Committee, I will at all times act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the AAO and, in doing so, will act impartially and place the interests of the AAO first, not allowing any of my decisions to be tainted by self-interest or self-dealing.
- 6) Failure to observe this Oath of Confidentiality could result in dismissal from the Council or Committee(s) in accordance with the AAO bylaws.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council or Committee Member (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council or Committee Member Name (print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness Name (print)

# Conflict of Interest Form

The Alberta Association of Optometrists (the “AAO”) provides leadership and support for its members, and is prominent and influential in Alberta’s society. To maintain our reputation, we must act with professionalism, accountability, and honesty.

Council and committee members of the AAO may have other interests that could affect a decision made while serving in their capacity on AAO Council or an AAO committee. This duality of commitments can raise the potential for a conflict of interest or a conflict of loyalty. Interests may go beyond personal interests and include interests of a close friend, family member, business associate, corporation or partnership in which they hold a significant interest, or a person whom they owe an obligation. All individuals serving on the AAO Council and its committees are asked to question whether or not their affiliations, activities, interests, and influences are impacting their ability to act in the AAO’s best interest and/or represent the AAO fairly, impartially, and without bias. In addition, all individuals serving on the AAO Council are asked to question whether or not their affiliations, activities, interests, and influences are compatible with the respective duties to the Council.

## Definitions

A conflict of interest is when you or someone you know would, or could be perceived to, benefit or be harmed financially from a decision or action of the AAO.

A conflict of loyalties exists when your actions or decision could benefit or harm someone you know or something you care about/believe in. There does not have to be a financial consequence for a conflict of loyalty to exist.

It is important to understand that a conflict of interest or loyalties exists if the decision or action could be influenced; it is not necessary that the influence takes place. If a reasonably well-informed person could have the perception that you are making a decision or taking an action on behalf of the AAO that promotes your personal interests, or the interests of someone you know, it is the “appearance” of a conflict of interest.

### Joining AAO Council in 2012

introduced me to a new side of optometry, being part of a group that can affect meaningful changes for our profession in Alberta. Working with council members, AAO staff, and meeting fellow Alberta optometrists gave me the experience to be effective as AAO President and now as Past President. I am enjoying my time serving our membership and encourage you to consider getting involved on an AAO committee or running for council.

**Dr. Richard Cowles,**  
*Past President*

## Requirements

Council and committee members of the AAO are in a position of fiduciary trust with the AAO. As such, they are required to disclose interests, holdings, relationships, etc. that might result in a conflict of interest. This would include affiliations with other bodies that do business with the AAO (buying groups, corporations, other associations, etc.), particularly if these affiliations provide a personal benefit to the council member or committee member. This would include being an officer of or holding shares or stocks in such a company, consulting agreements, and other activities that would benefit the council or committee member or those associated with the council or committee member.

This disclosure must occur as soon as the conflict of interest or loyalty is known, even if that is after the discussion has occurred, decision has been made, or action has been taken.

The information contained on this document must be updated annually or sooner if the council or committee member becomes aware of any previously unmentioned or new conflicts.

## Procedures

When a conflict arises, the individual should declare the conflict to other Council/committee members immediately. After the disclosure, members of Council will discuss if any action is required. A member of Council or a committee with a real or perceived conflict of interest or loyalty on a particular issue need not necessarily be excluded from discussions or voting unless they choose to do so voluntarily or are asked to do so by the majority of Council members. This exclusion could range from simple silence and voting abstinence to exiting the room, depending in the importance of the issue and collective will of Council and the individual.

## Declaration

I have reviewed the information above and declare:

☐ No conflict of interest or loyalty

OR

The following conflicts of interest or loyalty:

Name or organization related to the conflict	Nature of the conflict

Signature

Full Name

Date of Signature

## Access

In order to facilitate open conversation and to increase awareness of conflicts, the conflicts listed on this document by members of AAO Council will be shared with other AAO Council members as well as with the CEO of the AAO. Conflicts listed on this document by members of AAO committees will be shared with the other members of the same AAO committee, AAO Council and the CEO of the AAO. This information will be kept on file at the AAO office and will not be made available to the general public.



# Agenda Format Example

## AAO Council Meeting AGENDA

<b>Date</b>	September 10, 2024
<b>Time</b>	10 am – 4 pm
<b>Location</b>	Edmonton

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Review of Agenda
- 3) Treaty Land Acknowledgment
- 4) Approval of Guests in Attendance
- 5) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- 6) Review and Adoption of Minutes
- 7) Strategic Plan Review
- 8) CEO Accountability/Monitoring
- 9) Policy Review (in accordance with annual schedule)
- 10) Council Committee Accountability/Monitoring
- 11) New Business
- 12) Information Items – Consent Agenda
- 13) In Camera Session
- 14) Next Meeting
- 15) Adjournment



# AAO Policy Committees

**These committees report to the AAO Council.**

## **Artificial Intelligence and Teleoptometry Subcommittee**

Dr. Andrea Lasby - Chair  
Dr. Brendon Bjarnason - AAO member  
Dr. Joel Baillargeon - AAO member  
Dr. Ashley Olford - AAO member

## **Board Development and Nominations Committee**

Dr. Richard Cowles - Chair  
Dr. Troy Brady  
Dr. Andrea Lasby  
Dr. Colin Hobson

## **Business Management Subcommittee**

Dr. Pamela Giles - Chair  
Dr. Daryl Berger - AAO member  
Dr. Heather Cowie - AAO member  
Dr. Peter Lannsoo - AAO member  
Dr. Ranbir Sond - AAO member

## **Cosmetic Optometry Subcommittee**

Dr. Colin Hobson - Chair  
Dr. Riaz Ahmed - AAO member  
Dr. Natasha Chrenek - AAO member  
Dr. Aleem Jiwa - AAO member  
Dr. Aaron Yau - AAO member

## **Emerging Trends Committee**

Dr. Sophia Leung - Chair  
Dr. Cristy Franco  
Dr. Colin Hobson  
Dr. Andrea Lasby

## **Finance, Audit, & Risk Management Committee**

Dr. Colin Hobson - Chair  
Dr. Kent Manville  
Dr. T.H. Poon  
Dr. Damon Umscheid  
Dr. Darren Wagner  
Dr. Connor West

## **Local Optometric Societies Subcommittee**

Dr. Pamela Giles - Chair  
Dr. Tatiana Cook - LSO Representative  
(Lethbridge Society of Optometrists)  
Dr. Monica Bell - CSO Representative  
(Calgary Society of Optometrists)  
Dr. Jade McLachlin - ESO Representative  
(Edmonton Society of Optometrists)  
Dr. Jodi Sehn - MSO Representative  
(Medicine Hat Optometric Society)  
Dr. Heather Van Haren - CAOS Representative  
(Central Alberta Optometric Society)

## **Vision Development and Rehabilitation Subcommittee**

Dr. Cristy Franco - Chair  
Dr. Rachel Bryant - AAO member  
Dr. Sabih Chaudhary - AAO member  
Dr. Charlotte Forgie - AAO member  
Dr. Jason Holtom - AAO member



# Operational Committees

## These committees report to the CEO.

### Billing Committee

Dr. Amy Forrest - Chair  
Dr. Yogesh Patel - AAO member  
Dr. Adam Reid - AAO member

### Editorial Board Committee

Ms. Jan Archbold - Chair  
Dr. Susan Joe - AAO member  
Dr. T.H. Poon - AAO member

### Continuing Education Committee

Dr. Monica Bell - Chair  
Dr. Clark Hyde - AAO member  
Dr. Dylan Johnston - AAO member  
Dr. Sheila Morrison - AAO member  
Dr. Rima Sabbak - AAO member

### New Grad Committee

Mr. Brian Wik - Chair  
Dr. Claudia Amaniampong  
Dr. Ashley Chaudry  
Dr. Jonah Gilham  
Dr. Steven Ha  
Dr. Tracy Kitz  
Dr. Pearl Motkoski  
Dr. Jennifer Verrett

As a member of council I have had the opportunity to work alongside other driven optometrists dedicated to protecting, promoting and furthering our profession. This position has provided me with great insight into the political inner workings of the health care system and the role of optometry within it. It has deepened my appreciation for all of the work the AAO does to keep our profession strong and future focused. It is a privilege to be able to work firsthand in shaping our profession and I strongly encourage those with an interest in the position to become involved in the AAO as a council member.

**Dr. Monica Bell,**  
*Council Member*



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# AAO Programs and Services

The AAO runs a number of programs and services that are available to the public and the members. Below is a list of those items and the website location where they can be found. ***You will need to be logged into the Members Only section prior to clicking on some of the links.***

AAO Home Page:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca">www.optometrists.ab.ca</a>
Members Section:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/membersonly">www.optometrists.ab.ca/membersonly</a>
Billing Information:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/billing">www.optometrists.ab.ca/billing</a>
Doctors:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/doctors">www.optometrists.ab.ca/doctors</a>
Eye See ... Eye Learn:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/esel">www.optometrists.ab.ca/esel</a>
Grad Matching Services:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/gradmatching">www.optometrists.ab.ca/gradmatching</a>
Local Societies:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/localsocieties">www.optometrists.ab.ca/localsocieties</a>
Member Benefits:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/memberdiscounts">www.optometrists.ab.ca/memberdiscounts</a>
Eyesafe:	<a href="http://www.eyesafe.ca">www.eyesafe.ca</a>
Classifieds:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/classifieds">www.optometrists.ab.ca/classifieds</a>
Patients' Information:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/patients">www.optometrists.ab.ca/patients</a>
Member Publications:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/publications">www.optometrists.ab.ca/publications</a>
Resources and Materials:	<a href="http://www.optometrists.ab.ca/resourcesandequipment">www.optometrists.ab.ca/resourcesandequipment</a>