In keeping with the COS’ strategic direction to develop career pathways for physician leaders seeking to be engaged with the organization, the Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS) has released a Call for Nominations to attract two (2) qualified candidates to join the COS Board of Directors and one (1) qualified candidate to fill the roll of AAO Councillor. Each Board member is in a unique position to make an invaluable contribution to the effectiveness of the COS Board, the performance of the organization and the advancement of ophthalmology in Canada.

The COS is looking for enthusiastic and committed COS members with strong collaboration and communication skills to govern the organization ensuring the organization stays aligned with its mission and values, in addition to complying with all federal laws. The Board provides financial, legal, management, and program oversight of all COS initiatives.

**Nomination Process:**

1. COS members may nominate themselves or a colleague
2. Nominations must be submitted by February 26, 2021

**Selection Process:**

The COS will release a call for nominations to attract qualified candidates to serve on the COS Board of Directors. The COS Nominating Committee will review all nominations according to the eligibility criteria. The committee will then propose a slate of candidates to the COS Board of Directors in the spring of 2021 and to members for ratification at the COS Annual General Meeting in June 2021. Those currently holding the position (if a renewable term) may be added to the slate of candidates for approval.

Our goal is to ensure that our physician leaders reflect the diversity of the profession in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, geographical distribution, subspecialty society representation, and a representation of community-based and academic physicians.

**Eligibility Criteria**

* Willingness and ability to advance the purpose of the COS as set out in the COS vision and mission statement
* Demonstrated leadership, collaboration, and communication skills
* Demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm
* Respects confidential information
* Candidate must be a COS Member in good standing
* Must be available to attend all COS Board meetings

**President-Elect**

**Term**

The term of office for the President-Elect is one (1) year (2021-2022).

The President-Elect then becomes the President for 2 years, and then remains on the Board for an additional year as Past-President.

**Responsibilities**

* Attend all COS Board meetings (The COS Board usually meets face-to-face three times a year – in the fall, in the spring, and at the COS Meeting in May/June)
* Attend the COS Annual General Meeting
* Assist the President in the performance of his/her duties
* Assume the duties of the President during the President’s absence
* Serve on the COS Nominating Committee
* Serve on the COS Investment Committee
* Participate in weekly update calls with the COS Executive Director in the two months leading up to assuming the office of COS President

**Advocacy Chair**

**Term**

The term of office for the Advocacy Chair is three (3) years, renewable (2021-2024). A Member may serve as Advocacy Chair for two (2) consecutive terms.

**Responsibilities**

* Directing COS advocacy and communications efforts
* Working closely with the COS Manager of Communications and Public Affairs
* Attend all COS Board meetings (The COS Board usually meets face-to-face three times a year – in the fall, in the spring, and at the COS Meeting in May/June) and provide an Advocacy Report to the COS Board
* Attend the COS Annual General Meeting
* Chair the COS Advocacy Council, which meets quarterly

**AAO Councillor**

**Term**

The term of AAO Councillor is one (1) year, renewable (2021-2022).

**Responsibilities**

* + - * Serve as a two-way source of information and feedback between the Academy and the COS
  + Keep COS informed of Academy programs, activities and services.
  + Respond promptly to requests for information from the Board of Trustees, secretariats, committees and staff of the Academy as needed.
  + Work with COS to prepare and submit to the Academy written Semi-Annual Reports about your society’s activities for the Spring Council Meeting and the Fall Council Meeting
  + Attend the Spring Council Meeting\* in conjunction with the Mid-Year Forum.
  + Attend the Fall Council Meeting\* in conjunction with the Academy’s annual meeting
  + Report highlights of Council meetings and the Mid-Year Forum to leaders to the COS.

**How to be considered for nomination**  
If you are interested in being considered for the position of COS President-Elect, Advocacy Chair or AAO Councillor, please complete the [online nomination form](https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50055000/Call-for-Nominations-COS-representative-for-the-International-Council-of-Ophthalmology-ICO) by Friday, February 26, 2021 at 11:59 PM ET. For any questions, please contact **Kate Cooke**, Governance Coordinator, at [coordinator@cos-sco.ca](mailto:coordinator@cos-sco.ca).