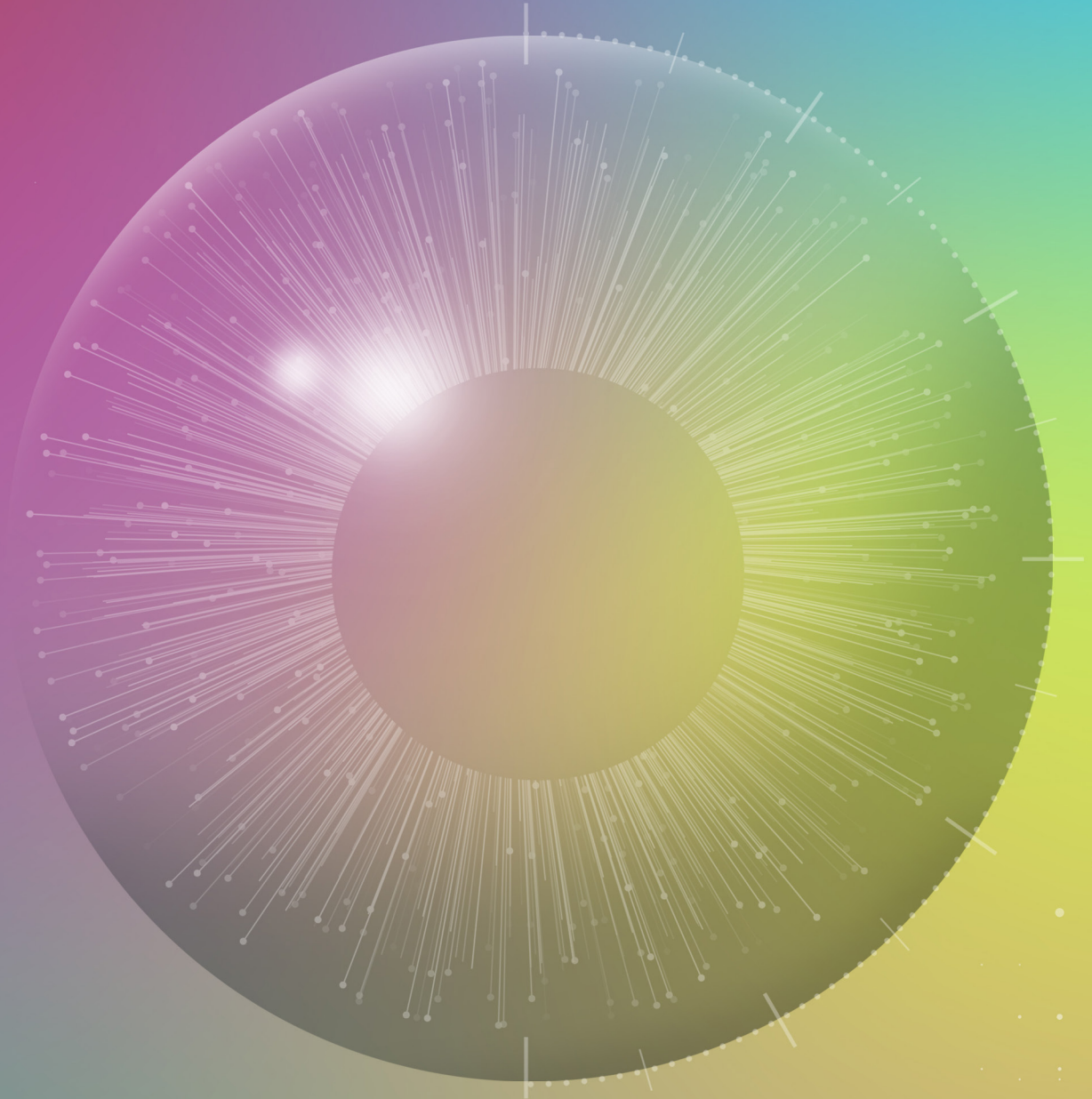


CANADIAN OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Annual Report 2023



Canadian Ophthalmological Society
Société canadienne d'ophtalmologie
EYE PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF CANADA | MÉDECINS ET CHIRURGIENS OPHTALMOLOGISTES DU CANADA

1937-2023 86 YEARS
of leading vision care in Canada

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President and CEO Message



Phil Hooper, MD, FRCSC
President



Elisabeth Fowler, MBA
Chief Executive Officer &
Executive Director

If 2023 demonstrated anything to the profession, it was the growing need for, and importance of, ophthalmologists remaining informed and in the forefront of the swift transformations in eye care delivery.

Ophthalmology is blessed with frequent and rapid innovation, but this also challenges our community to stay up to date with new treatments, techniques, and delivery systems. The COS strives to ensure that we provide guidance and continuing education to help our members. Certainly the COS Annual Meeting and Exhibition continues to be a hub of information sharing, and the expanding Practice Resource Centre is evolving into a “one-stop-shop” for information about advances in clinical practice.

2023 was a challenging year: we saw the re-emergence of optometric scope expansion, and the shift away from hospital-based care. These initiatives provided challenges to both newly trained professionals as well as those already in practice.

These changes underscore the necessity for ophthalmologists to comprehend the evolution of eye care delivery and potential consequences which include strained professional relationships and legal issues.

The COS is grateful to our members who have volunteered in higher numbers than ever before for a multitude of working groups to help tackle some of these issues. You have engaged in numerous discussions and brainstorming sessions, maintaining professional courtesy, even when disagreeing with your colleagues. You have helped create policy documents, provided guidance on numerous issues, and have helped us advocate for the profession. And while the coming year is certainly filled with challenges, we remain optimistic that the future is bright for our profession, thanks to your leadership, professionalism, adaptability and creativity.

For details on the initiatives included above, and much more, please read on!

Phil Hooper, MD, FRCSC
President

Elisabeth Fowler, MBA
Chief Executive Officer & Executive
Director

Pillars of Organizational Excellence



Core Values

The following core values continue to guide the work of the COS team across all our initiatives:



Vision and
Leadership

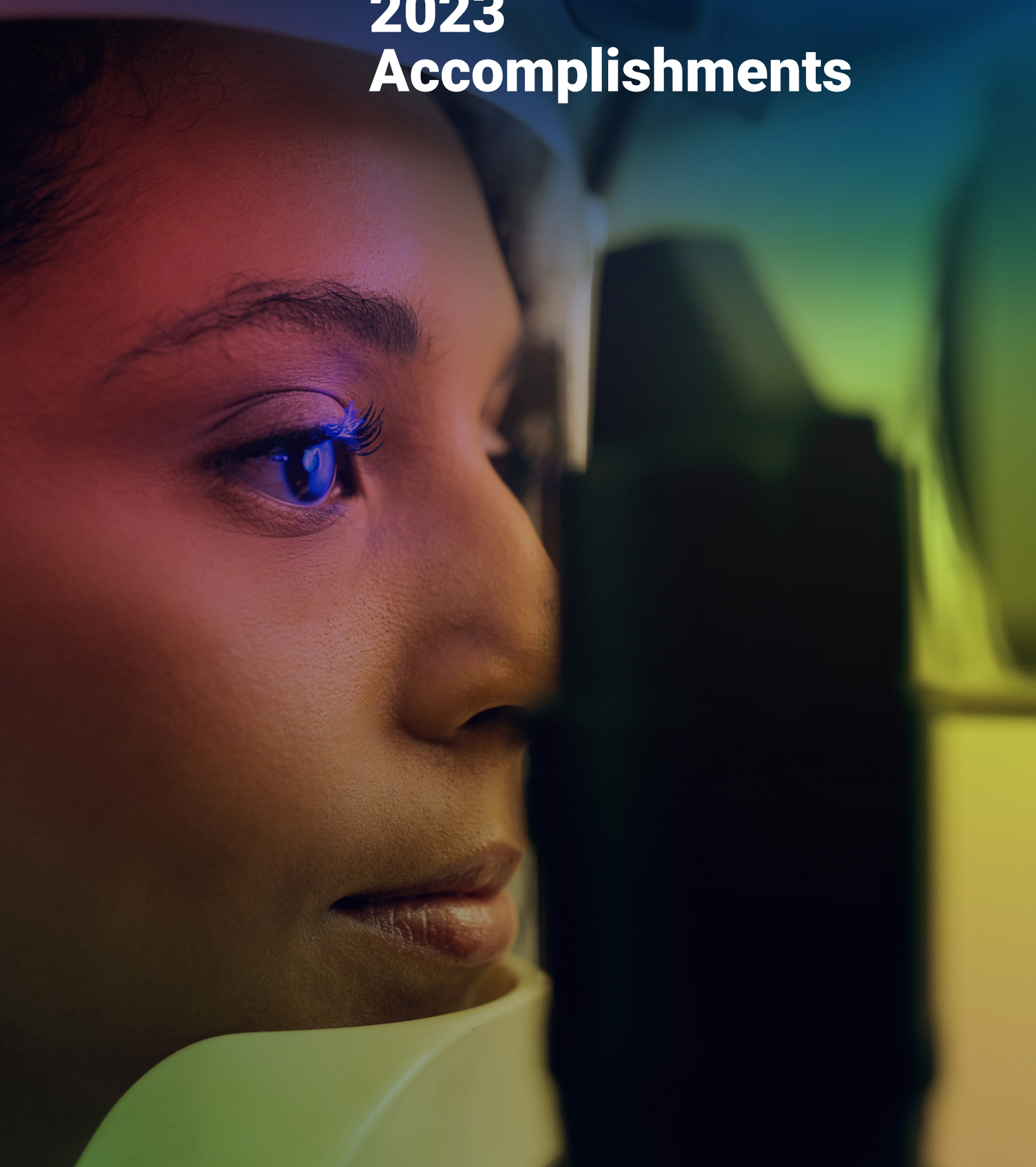


Integrity and
Respect



Lifelong
Learning

2023 Accomplishments



01

Education

Annual Meeting and Exhibition Creating a Vision for a Clear Tomorrow Quebec City, Quebec, June 15-18, 2023

1,327

Attendees

18

Canadian and
internationally renowned
keynote speakers

54

Scientific
sessions

27

Sponsors

46

Exhibitors

13

STC Supporters

30.5

15 Section 3
credit hours

9

Section
3 Credits


2023
COS Annual Meeting
and Exhibition
QUÉBEC CITY
Congrès annuel et
exposition de la SCO
JUNE 15 – 18 JUIN 2023
cos-sco.ca/COS2023

Creating a vision
for a clear tomorrow

Notre vision
d'un avenir plus clair

Canadian Society
Ophthalmological canadienne
Société d'ophtalmologie
DES OPHTHALMOLOGES ET CHIRURGIENS
DES OPHTHALMOLOGISTES
DU CANADA / DU CANADA

With a total of 54 sessions and an average of 80 attendees per session, COS2023 delivered exceptional scientific programming. The meeting featured 90 invited speakers and 123 paper presenters, offering diverse perspectives on ophthalmology. Attendees had access to 30.5 Section 1 credits, 69 Section 2 credits, and 15 Section 3 credit hours, ensuring a valuable educational experience. In addition, there were also multiple in-demand STCs, including:

- Mastering Ocular Trauma
- Microinvasive Glaucoma Surgery
- Yamane Technique

(all three sold out)

Co-developed Symposia



The Lions' Lair: Retina Research Proposals was a huge hit, judging three research presentations related to retinal disease. This session was co-developed by the COS and Bayer.

Winners

First Prize \$35,000

Dr Gareth Mercer

Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University of Toronto

Microinvasive Suprachoroidal Buckling: Research and Development of a Novel Device and Technique for Retinal Detachment Repair

Second Prize \$22,500 & Audience Choice Award Winner: Additional \$5,000

Dr Matthew Quinn

Department of Ophthalmology, Queen's University

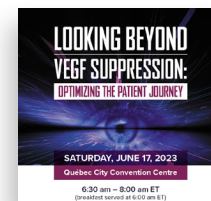
Dysbiotic Events and the Risk of Neovascular Age-related Macular Degeneration: A Population-based Study

Third Prize \$12,500

Dr Marko Popovic

Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, University of Toronto

A Prospective Matched Cohort Study of Intravitreal Topotecan in the Repair of Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment with Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy



Looking Beyond VEGF Suppression:

Optimizing the Patient

Journey was very engaging, as it uncovered the role of the Tie-2/ang pathway in DME and nAMD and its impact on patient outcomes. This session was co-developed by the COS and Roche.



Ophthalmic Jeopardy

Adding an element of fun and friendly competition, Dr. Daniel Black hosted an exhilarating game of Ophthalmic Jeopardy, which featured a realistic set, engaging attendees in an interactive 'answer and question' format.

Self-assessment Programs (SAPs) Paper Winners

This year, delegates found the SAPs valuable, gaining insights on delivering eye care in conflict zones and remote areas, utilizing portable eye care technologies, and addressing ocular trauma, among others. Hands-on experience and networking opportunities enhanced their ability to provide effective eye care in challenging contexts.

COS Awards for Excellence in Ophthalmic Research

COS2023 acknowledged outstanding research through the Paper and Poster Awards:

First Prize: Lia Huo (University of Toronto) for the paper titled "Sustained Release of Sh3-RdCVF to Rescue Cone Photoreceptor Death in Retinitis Pigmentosa"

Second Prize: Bryon McKay (University of Toronto) for the paper titled "2-Year Evaluation of Subretinal Fluid Drainage Techniques in Pars Plana Vitrectomy for Primary Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment (ELLIPSOID-2 Study)"

Third Prize: Oluwadara Onasanya (University of Manitoba) for the paper titled "The Incidence of post intravitreal injection endophthalmitis with and without anterior chamber paracentesis"



Poster Winners

First Prize: Evan Michaelov (Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry) for the poster titled “A Randomized, Controlled Comparison of 180° vs. 360° Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty in Open Angle Glaucoma and Glaucoma Suspects”

Second Prize: : Tina Felfeli (University of Toronto) for the poster titled “Evaluating the Long-Term Biological Stability of Cytokine Biomarkers in Ocular Fluid Samples”

Third Prize: Manlong Xu (University of Toronto) for the poster titled “SLE patients may be more likely than RA patients to tolerate a high cumulative dose of hydroxychloroquine without developing retinopathy”

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Symposium

The EDI Symposium was packed! Discussions covered how bias, discrimination, and racism affect health care outcomes and physician wellness, and how cultural humility and critical allyship can be used as tools in combating discrimination, along with a keynote lecture by Dr. Saroo Sharda.

Annual General Meeting

We thank all members who attended the AGM. It is an important opportunity for members to vote on the work of the organization and to have a voice in its future direction.

We would like to express our appreciation to Dr. Colin Mann and Dr. Hady Saheb as they concluded their tenure on the COS Board of Directors. Their contributions, dedication, and leadership played a crucial role in shaping our success and growth.

We welcomed Dr. Mona Harissi-Dagher as President-elect, and Dr. Cynthia Qian as Chair, Council on Continuing Professional Development and Maintenance of Certification.



L-R: Dr. Phil Hooper, Dr. Lorne Bellan his family members, and Dr. Stephen Brodovsky (far right)

Lifetime Achievement Award - Dr. Lorne Bellan

Dr. Lorne Bellan from Winnipeg, Manitoba was honoured with the 2023 COS Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to ophthalmology. With over 33 years as an oculoplastic surgeon, Dr. Bellan's dedication to education, research, and service within the medical community has left a lasting impact.

The Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS) introduced the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006 to honour members who have made significant contributions to eye and vision care during their lifelong career in medicine.

Please visit our Awards page at cos-sco.ca, to learn more.



Sponsors and Exhibitors

We thank our sponsors and exhibitors for showcasing state-of-the-art products, live demonstrations, and engaging interactive displays. Spanning more than 35,000 square feet, the Exhibition Hall created a vibrant atmosphere that facilitated learning and engagement.

Special thanks

The COS expresses its gratitude to our esteemed international keynote speakers and local invited speakers for sharing their expertise, contributing significantly to educational opportunities and fostering engaging discussions. We extend our appreciation to all attendees, Session Chairs, and STC Course Directors for their role in creating a comprehensive educational program. The event truly benefited from the collective efforts of each participant.

We sincerely thank the Planning Committee and the COS staff under the direction of Dr. Mona Dagher. Thank you for making this meeting such a success.

2023 Annual Meeting Planning Committee

Mona Dagher, Chair
 Marie-Josée Aubin
 Nupura Bakshi
 Raj Bindlish
 Isabelle Brunette
 Clara Chan
 Marvi Cheema
 Béatrice Des Marchais
 Jean Deschênes
 Maryam Eslami
 Jim Farmer
 Robert Gizicki
 Patrick Gooi
 Priya Gupta
 Bernie Hurley
 Cindy Hutnik
 Zainab Khan
 Cody Lo
 Kamiar Mireskandari
 Nav Nijhawan
 Jacinthe Rouleau
 Allan Slomovic
 Misty Stuti
 Tanya
 Josh Teichman
 Sonia Yeung
 Eunice You



CORNEA, CATARACT,
AND REFRACTIVE SURGERY:
**SCULPTING THE
PATH FORWARD**

54th
SALLY LETSON
SYMPOSIUM
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2023



Canadian Ophthalmological Society
Practice Resource Centre
Société canadienne d'ophtalmologie
**Carrefour de ressources
pour la pratique**

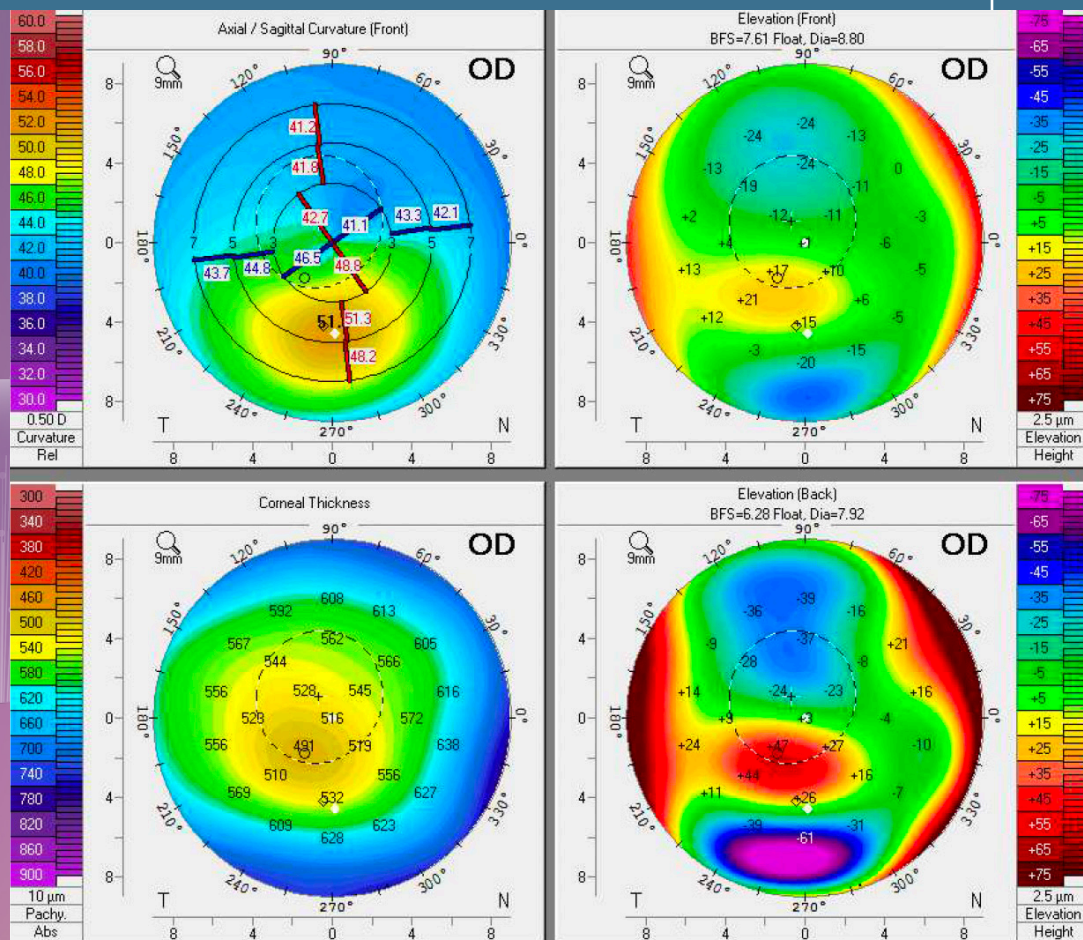
54th Sally Letson Symposium

Cornea, Cataract, and Refractive Surgery: Sculpting the Path Forward

The COS was again pleased to support the Sally Letson Symposium, September 21-23, 2023 in Ottawa. More than 500 attendees discovered cutting edge advancements in cornea, including managing endothelial dysfunction; learned key concepts in cataract surgery, with IOL selection and intraoperative technology; and explored innovative refractive surgery techniques with a focus on presbyopia management. Speakers provided engaging topical lectures and video presentations, and special sessions on wellness equipping attendees with tools to care for themselves and their patients. The Symposium was supported by 16 industry partners.

Practice Resource Centre

The Practice Resource Centre continues to be an online space providing ophthalmologists, residents, and members a variety of online educational resources. In 2023, the PRC released the Cornea Learning Modules in English for COS members-only access. In the same year, the PRC Committee welcomed our new chair, Dr. Marie-Josée Aubin, and our new Resident representative: Dr. Anne Xuan-Lan Nguyen.

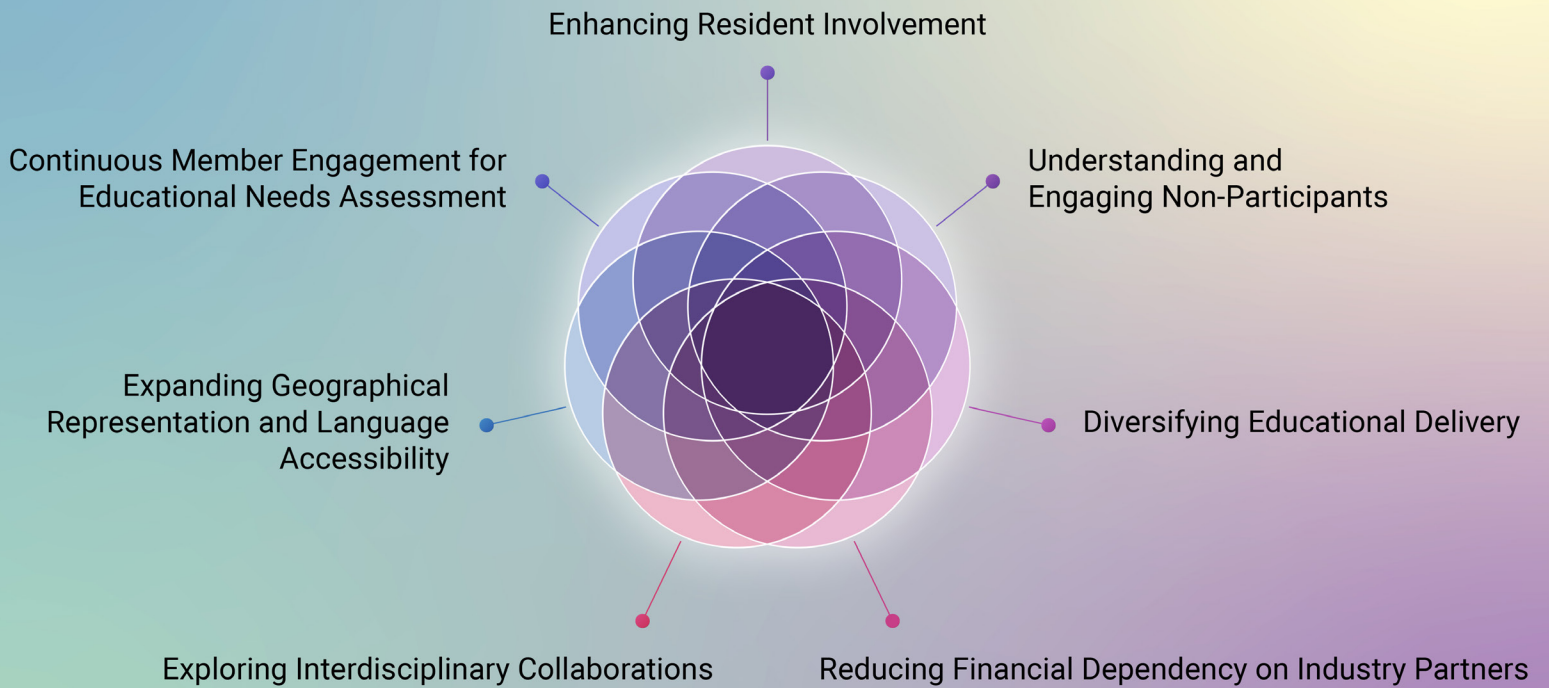


Continuing Professional Development

Under the leadership of Dr. Mona Dagher and Dr. Yelin Yang, work on the Cornea modules was completed and uploaded to our new Learning Hub on the PRC in August. The French version will be uploaded to the website in January, 2024. These modules provide Section III credits. We have already had over 50 members complete the modules and receive their Certificates. We intend to add more accredited modules to the new Learning Hub going forward.

In March, the COS hosted a webinar titled "Shining a Light on challenging glaucoma cases – from diagnosis to surgery" with Drs. Cindy Hutnik and Marcelo Nicolela. A second webinar was held in April, with timing tailored for the west coast audience.

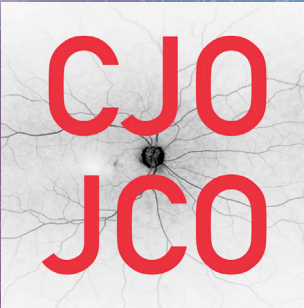
The What is this? *Surprises in Ophthalmic Pathology* webinar was a great success. We had 82 participants join and the evaluations were extremely positive with sentiments that included requests for more pathology educational offerings, takeaways for everyday practice, and that the webinar expanded their mindset on working with the pathology departments in their clinical settings. Congratulations to Dr. Farmer and Dr. Faraji for the hard work they put in! They were both excellent speakers, and this was also echoed in the feedback.



The CPD team held a strategic planning session in November and explored key areas essential for the continued success and evolution of our CPD programs in Ophthalmology. Members of our CPD Committees (CPD Council, Maintenance of Certification Committee and Practice Resource Centre Committee) engaged in discussions surrounding emerging technological advancements, notably artificial intelligence (AI) and the metaverse, recognizing their potential impact on our field. Balancing innovation with cost-effectiveness emerged as a central concern, ensuring the sustainability of our initiatives. The session addressed the challenge of maintaining membership post-COVID and working to increase membership in regions such as British Columbia. Strategies to understand how to retain and engage existing members

were discussed, highlighting the importance of community engagement and meeting evolving member needs. As a result of the session, immediate actions were outlined, including collating insights, seeking additional input, and formulating a comprehensive strategic plan for the next five years. This proactive approach demonstrates our commitment to translating discourse into actionable strategies, guiding our CPD programs towards their envisioned evolution.

The CPD team has begun researching different Learning Management Systems to see if it would be of value for the COS to have an in-house LMS. This initiative stems from a recognition of the evolving landscape of professional development in ophthalmology and the increasing demand for flexible and accessible learning platforms.



Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology

The CJO continues to grow under the guidance of Editor-in-Chief Dr. Varun Chaudhary. In 2023, the CJO saw another historic increase in Impact Factor, which rose to 4.2, and achieved the greatest jump in journal ranking of all 62 indexed ophthalmology journals, now sitting in 9th place. The CJO also implemented CRediT (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) functionality to the manuscript submission

process. CRediT is an industry-wide initiative that minimizes the risk of authorship disputes and facilitates collaboration by allowing authors to share accurate and detailed descriptions of their contributions to a manuscript.

Key Outcome Metrics for 2023:

- **Impact Factor: 4.2**
- **Journal Ranking: 9 of 62**

Other Key Metrics:



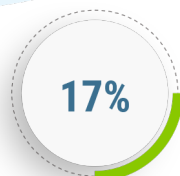
Total number of submissions



Submission to first decision



Acceptance to article first online



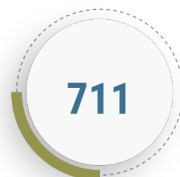
Acceptance rate



Average full text usage per month



Number of articles featured in PracticeUpdate



Article Influence score



SNIP
(Source-Normalized Impact per Paper)



CiteScore

02


Advocacy

As the voice for ophthalmology in Canada, the COS is proud of the many advocacy accomplishments we achieved in 2023

Several meetings with Members of Parliament and government officials to promote the role of ophthalmologists, to advance the Vision Health Desk, and to encourage the swift passage of Judy Sgro's Private Members Bill C-284, *An Act to establish a national strategy for eye care*. The COS continues its advocacy and outreach to MPs and government officials for the National Vision Health Desk. Over the course of 2023, we met with members of Indigenous Services Canada, Health Canada, the Ministry of Seniors, several MPs and members of the Health Committee.

- The COS submitted a pre-budget brief, highlighting the need for a National Vision Health Desk.
- The Bill moved on to the Senate and has already passed first reading.

- Prior to the Bill being passed, MP Sgro publicly recognized the COS member and Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Dr. Steve Arshinoff: <https://twitter.com/JudySgroMP/status/1716891282541601092>
- The COS has sent a letter to all Senators expressing our strong support for the Bill. We continue to reach out to Senators to try to meet with them in person.
- The COS created a national listserv that has allowed increased communication among Canada's vision health stakeholders. The COS also led or held a meeting of the group resulting in all-stakeholder agreement of a joint statement supporting the National Vision Health Desk.
- The COS also led the development of a press release sent on behalf of the vision health stakeholder community. The release, distributed following the spring budget announcement, stressed the need to allocate a portion of funding to address vision care in Canada.

- 
- Ontario announced the expansion of cataract services in private hospitals to help catch up on the backlog. The COS adapted our Non-hospital Surgical Centre Advocacy Principles to make them appropriate for the Ontario situation and supported EPSO as appropriate.
 - In September, EPSAA learned that the Alberta government was proceeding with acceptance of the optometrist scope expansion request. (The government had previously indicated that they would conduct a review first, and that ophthalmology would be included, but with a new government, this decision was overturned.) The COS provided a submission to the Alberta Government in response to the scope expansion request. We also worked with the Canadian Glaucoma Society and the Canadian Society of Oculoplastic Surgeons to write two additional letters specifically related to requests for use of laser (CGS) and lid surgery (CSOS).

Working Groups

The COS working groups are managed by a core group of dedicated volunteers – members who enthusiastically give us their time and expertise on topics of relevance and importance to our work. In 2023, the following working groups were created to assist with our efforts:

Private Equity and Non-hospital Surgical Centres – Several sub-committees have been created to tackle priority topics including the management of time intensive, low remuneration procedures and eye problems, as well as professional, unbiased oversight, including best practices.

Developing Referral Criteria for Dry AMD Injections – This working group will prepare clinician group input for the CADTH Reimbursement Review of pegcetacoplan for geographic atrophy secondary to age-related macular degeneration as well as preparing referral criteria standards for dry AMD injections.

Increasing the Ophthalmology Workforce in Canada

– This working group is focusing on gathering data, through the launch of surveys to gather input from early and late career practitioners to further assess Canadian ophthalmology workforce needs. This data will be incorporated into an advocacy and business case for increasing the number of ophthalmology resident positions in Canada.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

– The EDI Committee is focusing on three main priority areas: Communications; Mentorship; and Barriers to Corneal Donation in the LGBTQ+ community.

Provincial President's Council

The Provincial Presidents met regularly in 2023 and used the opportunity to exchange ideas, compare jurisdictions, discuss best practices and share information. Topics discussed throughout the year included fees, particularly for pediatric ophthalmology; human resources in ophthalmology; dry AMD injections; non-hospital surgical centres; optometry scope expansion and more. It is our hope that this forum will allow for greater cooperation and information sharing across the provinces.

COS Inaugural Forum

In January 2023, we held our inaugural Forum, focusing on the future of the organization and ophthalmology in Canada. Topics included:

- Advocacy
- Drug Shortages
- COS Annual Meeting and Exhibition
- Competency by Design



Combined, over 300 members of the vision health community attended the English and French events.



Drug Shortages

COS played an important role in the drug shortages consultations in 2023. With the content expertise from the COS Board Member David Plemel, we:

- Liaised with industry and the Health Canada, Tier Assignment Committee (TAC)
- Created an Ophthalmic Essential Medications List. Drug shortages can put vision and lives at risk. A pre-requisite in limiting harm is the creation of an essential medication list.
- Submitted a response to Health Canada's Consultation on Improving Access to Drugs and Other Health Products
- Continued to update our drug shortages webpage – applicable to all ophthalmic medications, updated every 24 hours.

The intention of this document is to provide a fundamental set of high priority ophthalmic medications currently used in Canada, which could be adapted into a future Canadian EML.



Communications & Brand Strategy

Rework tab

Media Relations

Press releases on topic-specific initiatives or health promotion months were issued throughout the year. Our releases can be found in our Newsroom.

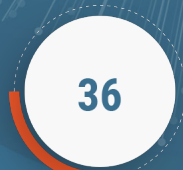
CBC Syndication

CBC reached out to the COS to participate in a CBC Syndication series based on the August press release, highlighting the importance of eye exams for children as part of the back-to-school routine. Thank you to Phil Hooper and Vivian Hill who participated and responded to a marathon number of interview requests!

Results: These interviews aired on 19 CBC radio stations and resulted in 625,500 impressions.

About syndication: A spokesperson is assigned a producer who submits an open call to CBC Radio shows across the country for a specific, timely topic. Following that, the spokesperson is assigned a certain time slot of two hours, which requires them to be available for incoming interview requests.

- Glaucoma Awareness Month
- AMD Awareness Month
- Eye Care Tips for March Break Travelers
- Federal Budget Needs to Support Vision Care
- National Vision Health Month
- Cataract Awareness Month
- Indigenous Children Eye Examination Project
- World Sight Day and National Photo Competition
- Diabetes Awareness Month



interviews secured



total media impressions



earned media impressions



See the Possibilities

seethepossibilities.ca

Our patient/public awareness website continued to focus on three objectives:

1. *Demonstrating and defining the value of ophthalmology:* Raising the awareness and promoting the value of ophthalmologists and developing an appreciation of the services they provide.
2. *Differentiating:* Distinguishing ophthalmologists from optometrists in a meaningful and respectful manner.
3. *Making it matter:* Empowering the targeted public to take control/responsibility of their eye health.

This year, we launched the following projects:

- A new *patient story* focusing on a patient who shares their journey toward freedom from glasses and contacts thanks to some resourceful thinking from their ophthalmologist.
- A new pediatric vision health Ask the Expert, helping us prioritize eye health from a young age and sharing steps parents can take to help set their kids up for a lifetime of healthy vision.
- A photo competition launched during World Sight Day that focused on celebrating eye health and the beautiful sights of Canada we take in when we have healthy vision. #loveyoureyes year round!

Total Users

Year: 2022
13,855

2023
32,825

Page views
pages/sessions

Year: 2022
39,447/2.32

2023
71,790/1.81

Time on site

Year: 2022
1:23

2023
00:54



New on the website

Two new sections on the COS website were launched this year:

- **Physician Health and Wellness** offering COS resources for our members support on topical resources including webinars, courses, articles, books, and more. The “Do No Harm” video was provided free of charge to all COS members.

- **Volunteering in Action**

testimonials demonstrating the importance of becoming a member of a COS working group or committee. We also provided calls for volunteers throughout the year.



The EyeCan Podcast

EyeCan Podcast – Season 3

Episodes of the popular EyeCan podcast were released this year, covering topics of interest to ophthalmology from a uniquely Canadian lens. Since inception, the podcast has garnered over 6,200 downloads from Canada and around the world. In 2023, we engaged with our listeners on a variety of topics:

- The Patient’s Journey - Doug Purdy (165)
- Women in Ophthalmology - Dr. Yvonne Buys (217)
- Physician Health and Wellness - Dr. Susan Biali-Haas (200)
- Dealing with Complaints Against Your Practice - Dr. R. Rishi Gupta (222)
- Ocular Oncology - Dr. Carol Shields (194)
- Innovations in Retina Therapy - Dr. David Brown (175)

- Artificial Intelligence - Dr. Netan Choudhry (247)
- Tele-ophthalmology - Dr. David Maberley (174)
- COS Foundation - Dr. Guillermo Rocha (220)

Season 4 launched in November 2023:

- Sustainability in ophthalmology – Dr. Marie-Claude Robert (157)
- Age-related Macular Degeneration - Dr. Ravi Dookeran (127)

Downloads in parentheses are as of February 2024.

Thank you to Bayer for their sponsorship of the podcast.

04

Strategic Initiatives



Awards

Thanks to the generous support of the Raymond Stein Family, the COS Foundation has supported the Harold Stein Innovator Lectureship at the COS Annual Meeting and Exhibition since 2018. This lectureship award is given to a keynote speaker who has *advanced innovation in ophthalmology*.

Access Project

Exploring ongoing ways to improve vision health in rural, remote, and underserved populations is paramount to the work of the Foundation:

1. Access to Vision Care
2. Preservation of Sight
3. Elimination of Preventable Blindness
4. Adherence to Treatments

Medical Student Travel Grant

The COS Foundation Medical Student travel grant opportunity was launched in May. 39 applications were received and grants to offset the cost of registration to the COS Annual Meeting were provided to the top 10 applicants.

Eyes on Ukraine

In 2023, the Foundation began the establishment of four key objectives for the coming year:

1. Establishing a publicly owned eye bank in Ukraine
2. Investing in surgical infrastructure (e.g. microscopes, phaco machines)
3. Improving accessibility to advanced surgical devices (e.g. high density silicone oil), and
4. Supporting education in advanced reconstructive techniques already in practice.



In 2023, the Harold Stein Innovator Lecture was provided by Shigeru Kinoshita, MD, PhD on June 17, 2023. Dr. Kinoshita's lecture was titled *Toward Corneal Regenerative Medicine*.

05

Membership

Member Benefits

COS membership offers many opportunities, including:

- Engaging and connecting with your ophthalmic community
- Staying updated on COS' advocacy and communications efforts, through our Council on Advocacy
- Continuously building on your medical portfolio
- Continuing to be informed on all things Ophthalmology in Canada and receive access to members-only information on advocacy, education and more

2023 Member Numbers by Province

In 2023, COS had 854 members and 240 residents/fellows:



2023 New Members

We were pleased to welcome the following new members to the COS in 2023:

Walid Abdelghaffar, FRCS, MD	Ontario
Redha Adel, MD	Quebec
Abdoul Aziz Ali Abdillahi, MD	Djibouti
Sara AlShaker, MD	Ontario
Ellen Anderson Penno, FRCSC, MS, MD	Alberta
Samir Georges Antaki, MD	Quebec
Niranjan Bhakare, MD, MBA	Ontario
Dani Cadieux, MD	Nova Scotia
Sophie Champagne, MD	Quebec
Marvi Cheema, MD	Alberta
Jaime Claramunt, MD	Alberta
Vlad Diaconita, MD	Ontario
Raphaëlle Fadous, MD	Quebec
Mary Feng, MD	Ontario
Riley Hall, MD	British Columbia
Munir Iqbal, MD, FRCSC	Ontario
Nicolas Kahuam-Lopez, MD	British Columbia
Gabriela Lahaie Luna, MD	USA
Shaobo Lei, MD	Ontario
Cody Li, MD	Ontario
Marie-Pier Matton, MD	Quebec
Freddy Bwetsia Mbumba	Botswana
Jonathan Noguchi, MD	USA
Luminita Oprea, MD	France
Mathew Palakkamanil, MD, MPH, FRCSC	Alberta
Faye Pesenti, MD	British Columbia
Ankur Ralhan, MD	Newfoundland
Jessica Ruzicki, MD	British Columbia
Shereen Salman, MD, FRCOphth	Ontario
Isabelle Schmit, MD	Quebec
Rami Shasha, MD, FRCSC, DABO	Ontario
Nirojini Sivachandran, MD	Ontario

2023 New Members (cont.)

We were pleased to welcome the following new members to the COS in 2023:

Vincent Sun, MD	Quebec
Mei Ling Sze, FRCSC, FRCSEd, LMCC, MBChB	Ontario
Alaa Tayyib, MD	Ontario
Antony Theogène, MD	Ontario
Maya Tong, MD	Ontario
William Trattler, MD	USA
Santiago Ruano Valenzuela, MD	Manitoba
Vinicius Vanzan, MD	New Brunswick
Allan Vernon, MD	Australia
Stephanie Wood, MD	Ontario
Yelin Yang, MD	Ontario

Board of Directors



Phil Hooper, MD
President



Mona Dagher, MD
President-elect
Chair, Annual Meeting
Planning Committee



Vivian Hill, MD
Chair, Council on
Advocacy



David Plemel, MD
Secretary



Hady Saheb, MD
Chair, Council on
Continuing Professional
Development
(until June 2023)



Cynthia Qian, MD
Chair, Council on
Continuing Professional
Development
(as of June 2023)



Briar Sexton, MD
Treasurer



Setareh Ziai, MD
Board Liaison,
Resident and Young
Ophthalmologist Affairs

Staff Team

Elisabeth Fowler, Executive Director/CEO
 Rita Afeltra, Manager, Membership & Meeting Logistics
 Laura Aliaga, Coordinator, Membership and Events
 Christine Bruce, Manager, Event Operations, Sponsorship and Exhibits
 Kate Cooke, Governance Coordinator
 Marie-Ève Deschatelets, Senior Coordinator, Continuing Professional Development (until August 2023)
 Jill Garner, Project Lead, Continuing Professional Development
 Barbara Moore, Coordinator, Continuing Professional Development
 Danika Nieuwkoop, Manager, Continuing Professional Development
 Stephanie Nou, Coordinator, Continuing Professional Development
 Suzanne Purkis, Managing Editor, Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology
 Moneika Ramsinghani, Coordinator, Communications and Public Affairs
 Kim Tytler, Manager, Communications and Public Affairs

Councils, Committees and their Chairs

- 2022/2023 Annual Meeting Planning Committee: Mona Dagher, MD
- CJO Editorial Board: Varun Chaudhary, MD, Editor-in-Chief
- Council on Advocacy: Vivian Hill, MD
- Council on Continuing Professional Development: Hady Saheb, MD (until June 2023); Cynthia Qian (as of June 2023)
- COS Awards of Excellence: Cindy Hutnik, MD
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI): Nupura Bakshi, MD
- Eye Bank Committee: Stephen Brodovsky, MD
- Investment Committee: Briar Sexton, MD
- Maintenance of Certification Committee: Hady Saheb, MD (until June 2023); Cynthia Qian, MD (as of June 2023)
- Nominating Committee: Colin Mann, MD
- Practice Resource Centre: Christine Law, MD; Marie-Josée Aubin, MD (as of November 2023)
- Residents and Young Ophthalmologists (Board Liaison): Setareh Ziai, MD
- Skills Transfer Courses: Patrick Gooi, MD

Stakeholders and Partners

COS is proud to work with our subspecialty societies, provincial ophthalmology associations, the academic community, and our partners in eye care on major issues that allow us to position the expertise and skill of the profession to government, the media, the public, and other medical and eye healthcare providers. In 2023, COS collaborated and partnered with the following organizations:



CAOT · ACE

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Association canadienne des ergothérapeutes



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES OPTOMÉTRISTES



CANADIAN COUNCIL
OF THE BLIND

LE CONSEIL CANADIEN
DES AVEUGLES



ASSOCIATION
MÉDICALE
CANADIENNE

CANADIAN
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION



FOUNDATION



IAPB



**FIGHTING
BLINDNESS
CANADA** | **VAINCRE
LA CÉCITÉ
CANADA**

HEAL

Organizations for Health Action



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada



OPTICIANS
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
ASSOCIATION DES
OPTICIENS DU CANADA



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada



ROYAL COLLEGE
OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF CANADA
COLLÈGE ROYAL
DES MÉDECINS ET CHIRURGIENS DU CANADA

**VISION LOSS
REHABILITATION™**
CANADA

National and International Partners

- American Academy of Ophthalmology: Michael Ashenhurst, MD
- Association of Canadian University Professors in Ophthalmology (ACUPO) (including chairs and program directors): Nina Ahuja, MD
- Canadian Ophthalmological Society Foundation Chair: Guillermo Rocha, MD
- International Council of Ophthalmology: Vivian Yin, MD
- Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology: Guillermo Rocha, MD
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Specialty Committee in Ophthalmology: Lorne Bellan, MD

Allied Health

- Canadian Orthoptic Council
- Canadian Society of Ophthalmic Medical Personnel
- Canadian Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses
- The Canadian Orthoptic Society

Affiliated Societies and Special Interest Groups

- Association des médecins ophtalmologistes du Québec
- British Columbia Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons
- Canadian Association for Public Health & Global Ophthalmology
- Canadian Association of Paediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
- Canadian Cornea, External Disease & Refractive Surgery Society
- Canadian Glaucoma Society
- Canadian Neuro-ophthalmology Society
- Canadian Ocular Regenerative Medicine Society
- Canadian Ophthalmic Pathology Society
- Canadian Retina Society
- Canadian Society of Oculoplastic Surgery
- Canadian Uveitis Society
- Comprehensive Ophthalmology
- Council of Canadian Ophthalmology Residents
- Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (EPSAA)
- Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Atlantic Canada (EPSAC)
- Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba (EPSOM)
- Eye Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (EPSO)
- Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada

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Canadian Société
Ophthalmological canadienne
Society d'ophtalmologie

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