

August 2014
Edition #12

THE *əYe* OPENER



A PUBLICATION FROM
SASKATCHEWAN
 **College of
Opticians**

OUR FOCUS IS YOUR SIGHT!

It's like **SPF** for your eyes[†]



The same UV rays that can damage your skin, can damage your eyes.
Help protect your eyes[†] with ACUVUE® Brand Contact Lenses.

ACUVUE®
BRAND CONTACT LENSES

**No other contact lens brand
has higher UV blocking[†]**



ACUVUE® Brand Contact Lenses are indicated for vision correction. As with any contact lens, eye problems, including corneal ulcers, can develop. Some wearers may experience mild irritation, itching or discomfort. Lenses should not be prescribed if patients have any eye infection, or experience eye discomfort, excessive tearing, vision changes, redness or other eye problems. Consult the package insert for complete information. Complete information is also available from Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Division of Johnson & Johnson, Inc., by calling 1-800-267-5098 or by visiting www.acuvueprofessional.ca.

[†] Helps protect against transmission of harmful UV radiation to the cornea and into the eye.

WARNING: UV-absorbing contact lenses are NOT substitutes for protective UV-absorbing eyewear such as UV-absorbing goggles or sunglasses because they do not completely cover the eye and surrounding area. You should continue to use UV-absorbing eyewear as directed. **NOTE:** Long-term exposure to UV radiation is one of the risk factors associated with cataracts. Exposure is based on a number of factors such as environmental conditions (altitude, geography, cloud cover) and personal factors (extent and nature of outdoor activities). UV-blocking contact lenses help provide protection against harmful UV radiation. However, clinical studies have not been done to demonstrate that wearing UV-blocking contact lenses reduces the risk of developing cataracts or other eye disorders.

ACUVUE®, 1-DAY ACUVUE® TruEye®, 1-DAY ACUVUE® MOIST®, ACUVUE® OASYS®, HYDRACLEAR® and LACREON® are trademarks of Johnson & Johnson, Inc. © Johnson & Johnson, Inc. 2014. April 2014

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HOW TO CONTACT US

MAILING ADDRESS

A4 116 103 St. East
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1Y7

EMAIL

office@scoptic.ca

PHONE

306-652-0769

FAX

306-652-0784

TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter:
@SASKOPTICIANS

FACEBOOK

Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/
SaskatchewanCollegeOfOpticians

WEBSITE

www.scoptic.ca

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday	9am - 4pm
Tuesday	9am - 4pm
Wednesday	9am - 4pm
Thursday	9am - 4pm
Friday	Closed

SCO COUNCIL 2013-2014

Jessica Brown	<i>President</i>
Ken Sorenson	<i>Registrar/NIRO Rep</i>
Paul Johnson	<i>Assistant Registrar</i>
Clarence Mott	<i>Treasurer/ Convention Chair</i>
Sheri Jones	<i>Councillor</i>
Diana Hicks	<i>Co-Education Chair</i>
Deanne Oleksyn	<i>Co-Education Chair</i>
James (Al) Brooks	<i>Public Representative</i>
Tamara Eberts	<i>Public Representative</i>

ADVERTISING

The Eye Opener	Website
Full Page Colour Ad \$250	Employment Ad
Full page B & W Ad \$150	\$25 for 2 months.
1/2 Page Colour Ad \$150	
1/2 Page B & W Ad \$100	

REMINDER

The **SCO CONVENTION & AGM**
takes place on
SEPTEMBER 27 & 28 at the
RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL REGINA



With the warm weather and barbeque season upon us I hope everyone is taking the time to relax with family and enjoy the summer.

Your college continues to stay busy and are working hard to advance the profession of opticianry in Saskatchewan and across the country. Amendments to the bylaws have been made and provisions added for prior learning assessments to assess the



skills of immigrants and others that wish to join the profession of opticianry. We are presently working with the NACOR and other regulatory bodies across the country to develop a national standard for assessments and are currently developing our own materials pertinent to our own Act and Regulations.

As everyone is aware by now, the college was successful in prosecuting an illegal contact lens dispenser and as a result, charges are currently in the process of being filed against another. We are also in the process of preparing for a push on illegal contact dispensing leading up to Halloween. A special prosecutor has been appointed by the Department of Justice to handle all prosecutions of the college, and because the college has limited resources, we are currently working with the prosecutor to develop a workable protocol for prosecutions across the province. As that develops enforcement action will increase.

The college is also pleased to announce the appointment of Paul Johnson as assistant Registrar. Paul will be working with the Register on all matters related to licensing and the regulations including, the prosecution of illegal dispensers.

Enjoy the summer everyone.

Ken Sorensen
Registrar

Paul Johnson
Assistant Registrar

Members are reminded that all opticians practicing in Saskatchewan, no matter what the duration, are required to be licenced in accordance with the Act.

Please advise the SCO office of any changes to your employment or home contact information.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN vs COSTUME EMPORIUM

On February 20th., 2014, members of the legislative group appeared in Provincial Court in Regina, Saskatchewan to argue charges laid against Costume Emporium for illegally dispensing contact lenses. Costume Emporium was convicted and a fine levied for \$1000 for a first offence, as a message to others illegally dispensing, that the court views the illegal dispensing of contacts as a serious matter.

The ruling also clarified our legislation and supported the colleges position that all contacts whether or not containing a prescription fall under the provisions of the *Opticians Act* and must therefore be dispensed by a qualified trained and licensed individual. The SCO took the Judges ruling one step further by amending the regulations to clarify even further that the dispensing of contact lenses of any kind are regulated by the college.

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

The SCO is pleased to announce the appointment of Paul Johnson to the position of Assistant Registrar.

Paul brings an abundance of knowledge and experience to the position from his many years in the optical field. Paul also served on the council numerous times and, as president for several of those terms. During his presidency, Paul oversaw and participated in the developing and drafting of the new Opticians Act, Regulatory and Administrative Bylaws, and Standards of Practice .

Paul will be assisting the Registrar in all matters related to licensing and regulatory affairs including, the investigation and prosecution of illegal contact lenses dispensers.

PRESCRIPTION DISCLAIMERS

In response to a complaint from a member, the SCO recently approached the SAO to ask that all disclaimers be removed from prescriptions issued.

If you notice any inappropriate disclaimers on prescriptions, please notify the SCO immediately.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to congratulate and welcome our new opticians and contact lens practitioner who recently successfully challenged the NACOR exams.

We have 9 new Opticians: Tessa Andrea, Troy Baillie, Rene Carson, Jessica Hollstein, Katelyn Janzen, Amanda Low, Janelle Luddington, Shelby-Lynn Moniuk and Nicolette Osowsky, We also have 1 new Contact Lens Practitioner: Lori Farmer. We wish them every success for the future.

**LOVE YOUR EYES CAMPAIGN 2014**

The 2014 Love Your Eyes Campaign is a national campaign run by the Opticians Council of Canada. The campaign will focus on educating the public on the importance of always asking for an optician for their vision care needs. The campaign runs from September 5th until October 9th, World Sight Day.

Opticians had a chance to sponsor this event by donation or for free from May until July and we sent members lots of emails informing them of this advertising opportunity. In the end we had 11 Opticians from Saskatchewan sign up. There over 200 sponsors across the country. If you would like to know more about the campaign, then contact Matthew Tsang at matthew.tsang@myloudspeaker.ca



2014 has been a busy and rewarding year for the SCO. We had our first conviction against the illegal sale of cosmetic contact lenses. This was a big victory for the SCO and for all our members since we all know of the harm that can be done to the public. Our Legislative Committee used

their expertise and hard work to provide the evidence for this conviction and not to mention keeping all legal fees to a minimum. Saskatchewan has been mentioned as a role model to other provinces with this victory and we are continuing to work hard to put a stop to this illegal activity in Saskatchewan. We hope all other provinces do the same.

Also this year, Clarence Mott, Paul Johnson and I met with Robert Dalton and Pat Dobbryn from the OAC. We knew collaborating together would provide many great things for our members. We are currently finalizing our exciting 2014 Convention which takes place on September 27th & 28th in Regina. With OAC assisting with their great resources and expertise we know that this will be a great motivating

convention and will provide the best education for our members. I invite you all to attend and look forward to seeing you there.

I encourage everyone to get involved with the college, whether it is joining council, volunteering, or even providing any feedback you may have. It is all appreciated. I want everyone to remember that the college is here to help you in anyway we can

I wish you all a great summer with family and friends,

Best Regards,



Jessica Brown
President SCO

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

The SCO office deals with lots of enquiries regarding continuing education credits. As a reminder, here is an explanation of how the continuing education system works.

Each year at renewals, we look at the credits you have accumulated over the previous three years. Credits should be submitted to the SCO office by fax, email or mail. For renewals next year March 2015, we remind everyone to have their credits up to date. Members cannot be licenced unless their credits are up to date. A statement of your continuing education credits is sent out twice a year, in February and August. You can now check your continuing education credits balance online. Further information on this new feature is available on Page 16.

Licence Renewal	Credits accumulated in years		
March 31, 2015	2012	2013	2014
March 31, 2016	2013	2014	2015

Members are also reminded that seminars that are not SCO or NACOR approved require pre-approval from the SCO. The pre-approval process is relatively simple, and only requires that when a member makes a decision to attend a non sponsored event, the member contacts the SCO office in Saskatoon and provide a copy of the material for review. The College will review the material being offered at the event and pre-approve those seminars qualifying for education credits.

The member could also request that the sponsors of the event, forward their material directly to the college for review and approval prior to the member registering for the event. The college would be pleased to review the material being offered at the event and advise the sponsor which seminars can be approved for credits and the amount of credits to be awarded to each seminar.

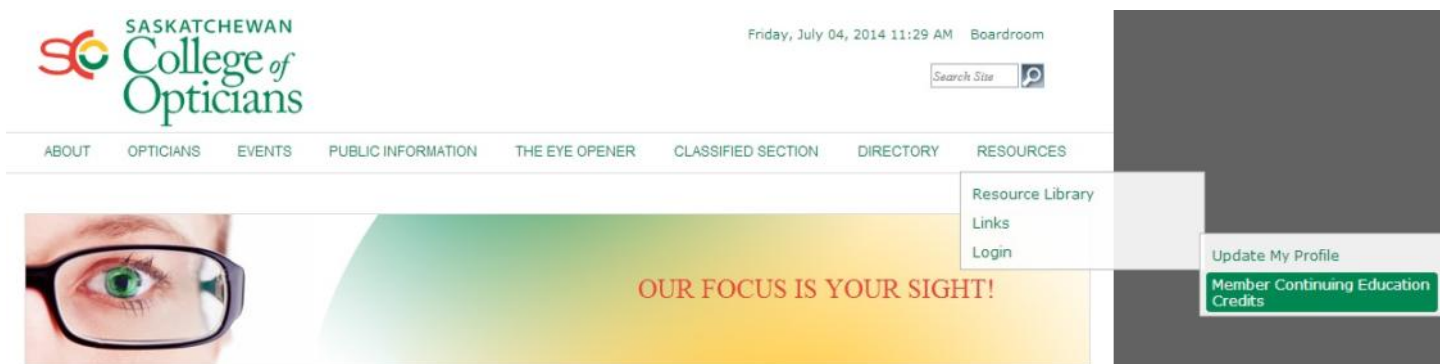
We are very excited to announce that we have introduced a number of online tools for our members. Members can now check their continuing education credits from our website www.scoptic.ca. Members can also update their profile online. You can now update your work or home address, and your preferred mailing address all online without having to call the SCO office. We will be sending out a username and password to each member in the coming weeks, which will enable members to log in and view their continuing education credits or update their profile at any time. We have also added a searchable online directory of our membership to our website, which members along with the public can use. Only your business information will be posted in accordance with the Privacy Information Act.

A step by step guide is included below and will also be posted on our website. We will also be giving a demonstration at our Convention in September to help members become familiar with these tools. If you would like further information, please call the SCO office at 306-652-0769 or email office@scoptic.ca.

CHECKING CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS ONLINE

STEP 1: LOG ON TO THE SCO WEBSITE AT WWW.SCOPTIC.CA

STEP 2: UNDER RESOURCES CHOOSE **"MEMBER CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS"**



STEP 3: ENTER YOUR **USER ID, PASSWORD & LICENCE NUMBER**



STEP 4: YOU WILL NOW SEE A **LIST OF THE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS** SUBMITTED TO THE SCO OFFICE

REMEMBER FOR LICENCE RENEWAL, ONLY THE CREDITS ACCUMULATED IN THE PREVIOUS 3 YEARS ARE CONSIDERED. THIS MEANS FOR RENEWAL IN MARCH 2015, WE WILL LOOK AT THE CREDITS ACHIEVED FROM 2012, 2013 & 2014.

IF YOU NOTICE ANY DISCREPANCIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCO OFFICE.

Continuing Education Credits

Continuing Education Period: (all) ▼

Seminar Date	Course Name	Presenter	Sponsor	Credit Type	Credits	Period	Notes
09/29/2012	High Resolution Vision & New Technologies	Claude Hazel	Essilor	EG	1	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/29/2012	The Wonder of One Days	Janice Schmidt	CooperVision	CL	1	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/29/2012	Fostering Healthy Sight in Canada - Focus on Kids	Tim Schmidt	Transitions	EC	1	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/29/2012	Vantage Lenses	Tim Schmidt	Transitions	EG	1	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/29/2012	RELN Workshop	Damon Steadman		EG	2	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/30/2012	SCO AGM 2012		SCO	EC	2	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/30/2012	Resolving Customer Issues w/PAL'S	Martin Bell	Rodenstock	EG	1	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
09/30/2012	How to Build your Practice with Loyal, Happy Contact Lens Patients	Richard Mahanaj	Johnson & Johnson	CL	1	Jan 1 2012 to Dec 31 2012	
03/10/2013	Teleconference: Review of The National Competencies		Comp Consulting	EC	3	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/28/2013	I Choose Growth - Practical Ways to Grow Your Practice	John Nasbit	Essilor	EG	2	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/28/2013	The Road Ahead	Emmett McRobie	Centennial	EG	1	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/28/2013	Continuing the Journey to Perfect Vision	Maxine Stewart		EG	1	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/28/2013	The Road Less Travelled	Emmett McRobie, Romer Gaspar & Nadine Eliezer		EC	2	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/28/2013	Dare to Differentiate		OAC	CL	1	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/29/2013	SCO Office Update	Clarence Matt	SCO	EC	1	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
09/29/2013	SCO AGM 2013		SCO	EC	2	Jan 1 2013 to Dec 31 2013	
					23		

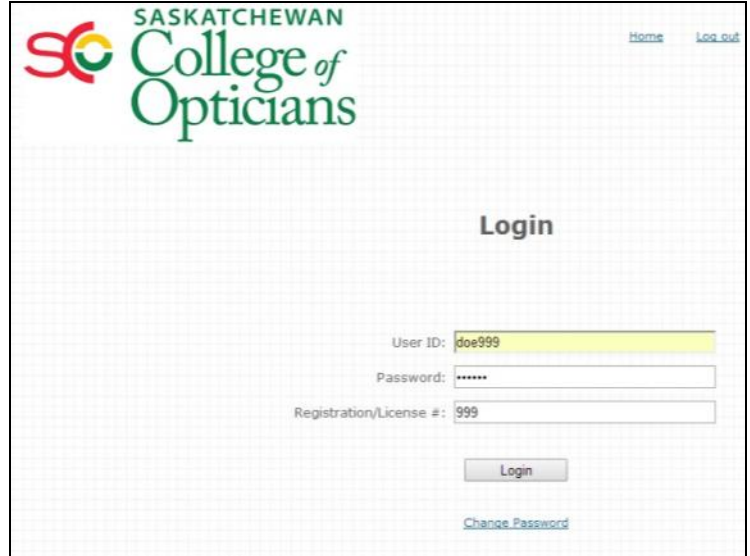
UPDATING YOUR PROFILE ONLINE

STEP 1: LOG ON TO THE SCO WEBSITE AT **WWW.SCOPTIC.CA**

STEP 2: UNDER RESOURCES CHOOSE **"UPDATE MY PROFILE"**

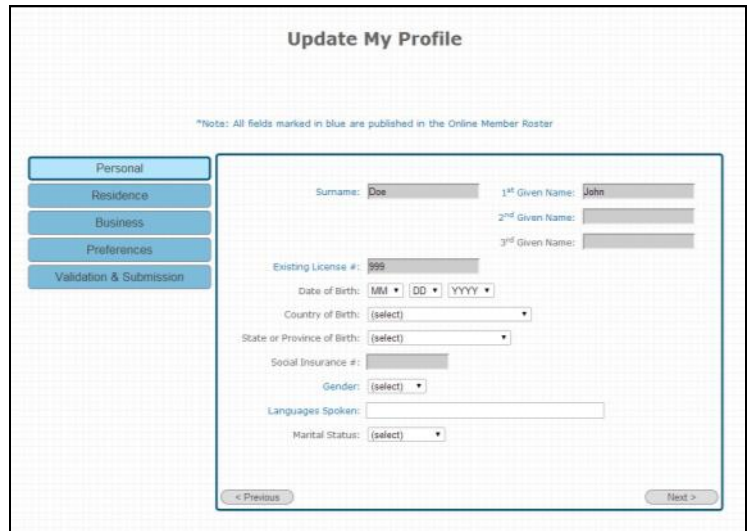
STEP 3: CLICK **"PROCEED"**

STEP 4: ENTER YOUR **USER ID, PASSWORD**
& LICENCE NUMBER

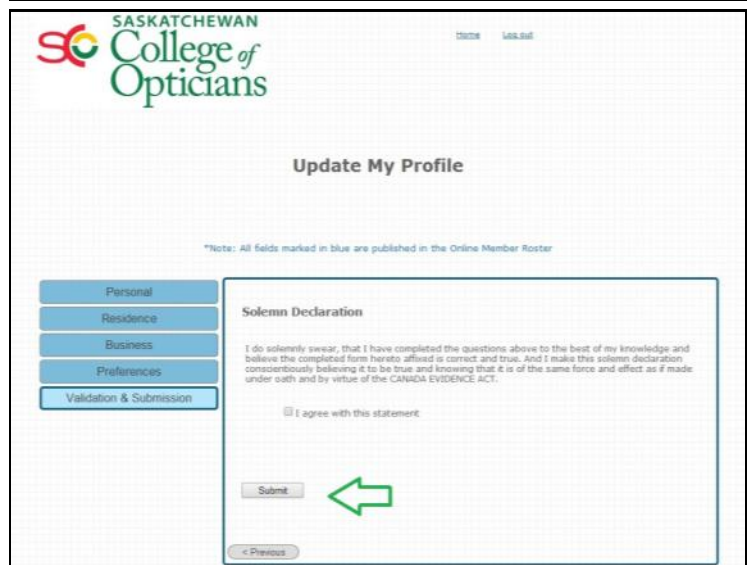


STEP 5: UPDATE YOUR **PERSONAL, RESIDENCE, BUSINESS**
& PREFERRED COMMUNICATION METHOD BY
CLICKING THE BUTTONS ON THE LEFT.

NOTE: FIELDS IN BLUE ARE PUBLISHED ON THE
ONLINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY.



STEP 6: REMEMBER TO **SUBMIT** YOUR PROFILE ONCE
YOU HAVE FINISHED MAKING ANY CHANGES.





36th Annual Convention & AGM

RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL, 1818 VICTORIA AVENUE

REGINA, S4P 4R1

September 27th & 28th 2014

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration received prior to September 15th will be eligible for early bird pricing
TICKETS FOR ALL FUNCTIONS WILL BE ENTERED INTO DRAW FOR FABULOUS DOOR PRIZES

SURNAME _____	FIRST NAME _____
LICENCE NUMBER _____	GUEST _____
HOME ADDRESS _____	
CITY _____	POSTAL CODE _____
PHONE _____	EMAIL _____
SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS _____	

REGISTRATION SCO MEMBER

✓ Pre-Registration ✓ After Sept. 15

Full Convention (Saturday & Sunday Seminars, AGM, Breakfasts & Lunches)		\$145		\$170
Saturday Seminars (includes Lunch)		\$90		\$100
Sunday Seminars (includes Lunch)		\$90		\$100
Saturday Evening Entertainment - Admission to The Laugh Shop		\$15		\$15

REGISTRATION SCO STUDENT

✓ Pre-Registration ✓ After Sept. 15

Full Convention (Saturday & Sunday Seminars, AGM, Breakfasts & Lunches)		\$80		\$90
Saturday Seminars (includes Lunch)		\$50		\$60
Sunday Seminars (includes Lunch)		\$50		\$60
Saturday Evening Entertainment - Admission to The Laugh Shop		\$15		\$15

REGISTRATION GUEST

✓ Pre-Registration ✓ After Sept. 15

Saturday Lunch		\$10		\$10
Sunday Lunch		\$10		\$10
Saturday Evening Entertainment - Admission to The Laugh Shop		\$15		\$15

TOTAL PAYMENT DUE

MAIL COMPLETED FORMS & PAYMENT TO:

SASKATCHEWAN COLLEGE OF OPTICIANS, A4 116 103 STREET EAST, SASKATOON, SK S7N 1Y7

We accept CHEQUE, MONEY ORDER OR VISA

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO SCO

VISA - 5% SERVICE CHARGE APPLICABLE

Hotel Accommodations can be booked directly at: **Ramada Plaza Regina Hotel.**

Reserve your accommodation for \$139/night by calling 306-569-1666 or toll-free at 1800-316-8704 or Email regina@saskramada.com.
Please mention Saskatchewan College of Opticians when booking. **Rooms must be booked by August 26th in order to avail of this special rate.**



36th ANNUAL CONVENTION & AGM

Partners in Optics

RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL, 1818 VICTORIA AVENUE REGINA, S4P 4R1

September 27th & 28th 2014

12 CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AVAILABLE

Credit Categories: EG - Eyeglass CL - Contact Lens

EC - Eyeglass or Contact Lens RF - Related Field

With generous sponsorship from



SPEAKER TOPICS & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27th 2014

8am - 9am Registration & Breakfast - Sponsored By ESSILOR			
9am - 11am	Beyond the Visible - John Nesbit	Sponsored by Essilor	2 EC
11am - 12pm	Dry Eye - Dr. Ron Gaucher	Sponsored by SCO	1 EG
12pm - 1pm Lunch			
1pm - 2pm	Laser Refractive Surgery - Matthew Woodham	Sponsored by Lasik MD	1 EG
2pm - 3pm	To be Announced		
3pm - 4pm	Effective Communications - Romer Gaspar	Sponsored by SCO	1 EC
4pm - 5pm	OAC National Update - Robert Dalton	Sponsored by OAC	1 EC

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28th 2014

8am - 9am	Registration & Breakfast		
9am - 10am	SCO Office Update	Sponsored by SCO	1 EC
10am - 11am	UV Protection - For the Health of your Patients and the Health of Your Practice - Jim Thompson	Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson	1 CL
11am - 12pm	To be Announced		
12pm - 1pm	Lunch - Sponsored By OAC		
1pm - 3pm	SCO AGM - 2 Council Positions for Election		2 EC

Hotel Accommodations can be booked directly at:

Ramada Plaza Regina Hotel

Reserve your accommodation for \$139/night

by calling 306-569-1666 or

toll-free at 1800-316-8704

or email regina@saskramada.com.

Please mention Saskatchewan College of Opticians when booking.

Rooms must be booked by August 26th in order to avail of this special rate.

SATURDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

AT THE RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL

ADMISSION TO THE LAUGH SHOP FOR \$15.

SHOW STARTS AT 9.30PM. SUPPER NOT INCLUDED.

TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR OR AHEAD OF TIME

WITH YOUR CONVENTION REGISTRATION.





This year there are **2 positions** open for election at our **AGM on September 28th 2014**: Jessica Brown and Deanne Oleksyn.

Do you want to make a difference in our profession?

Do you have some spare time to give? Then consider running for council and have a chance to make a difference in the direction this profession is going. Nomination forms can be found below and can be submitted to the SCO office before the AGM. We will also be taking nominations on the day. Candidates must be open to questions from the membership.

If you are interested in sitting on council and have any concerns or questions, then please contact the SCO office at 652-0769 and we will be happy to assist you.



Deanne Oleksyn LO
CO-EDUCATION CHAIR

Deanne became a licenced Optician in 1995 and started work at the Tisdale Eye Care Centre in the fall of 1996, where she still dispenses full time. She is coming to the end of her second term on council. She previously sat on the SODA Council from 2006 - 2008 and was re-elected to the SCO council in the fall of 2011. Currently on council, she holds the position of Co-Education Chair with Diana Hicks. She was recently appointed Vice Chairperson of NACOR.



Jessica Brown LO
PRESIDENT

Jessica has been a licensed Optician since 2007 but has been in the Optical Industry since 2000. She works at the Regina Eye Centre since 2001 She has over 14 years experience in the industry and have been able to explore all the areas of eyewear and eye health. She has worked in all areas of the clinic to learn more about the medical side as well as dispensing eye wear which is a true passion of hers. This has been her first term on council, and she was elected as President after the AGM in 2013.

COUNCIL 2014 - 2015 NOMINATION FORM

NOMINEE: _____ LICENCE NUMBER: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

NOMINATOR: _____ LICENCE NUMBER: _____

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
SCO Convention	Sept. 27 - 28 2014	Ramada Plaza, Regina
SCO AGM	Sept. 28 2014	Ramada Plaza, Regina
Visions Expo West	Sept. 17- 20 2014	Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Las Vegas, Nevada
Vision Canada	Nov. 14 - 15, 2014	Marriot Hotel, Toronto, ON



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Bright

WWW.JOBS4ECPS.CA

Saskatchewan Association for Safe Workplaces in Health (SASWH) on Safety Talks in the Workplace

Article by Sandra Cripps

The Saskatchewan Association for Safe Workplaces in Health (SASWH) is dedicated to the sustainability of workplace health and safety through education, support and consultation. Our commitment is to support the Saskatchewan Healthcare industry in the elimination of workplace illness and injury with a vision of workplace health and safety: a priority for all.

What is a Safety Talk?

It's a two to five minute "talk" on a safety related topic. It's a quick safety "huddle". A staff person can hold a safety talk so long as you are someone who is knowledgeable on the subject matter and can lead the Safety Talk. Consider having a Licensed Optician speak about the benefit and necessity of eye protection in the workplace, or the necessity of an eye wash station in the workplace. It's important that everyone attend because safety is everyone's responsibility.

Safety Talks are one way to remind workers and reinforce choosing safety first. They are part of an effective safety management system. Safety Talk topics can be chosen based on the identified need and repeated at various times throughout the day, week, month or year. Safety Talks should take place at the beginning of the work schedule to heighten safety awareness throughout the shift/work day. Consider posting the Safety Talk in a visible place and make reference to the topic throughout the shift. "Catch" and acknowledge people working safe and making safe choices - a positive reinforcement.

The use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is a legislative requirement and is one example of a good safety talk to hold with your co-workers. The use and provision of PPE is known to most employers and the workplace safety message below is just one example of how SASWH can provide additional resources to our members in creating a more effective safety talk.

I would encourage you to check out our website for current healthcare specific safety information, tools and resources at www.saswh.ca

Note: Effective July 1, 2014 in Saskatchewan, the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety and the Ministry of Justice have created what is called "Summary Offence Tickets" (SOT). The following definition is taken from the Government website stating that: "A Summary Offence Ticket is a ticket issued by one of two designated Occupational Health Officers and is directed toward

employers, contractors, owners, self employed persons and suppliers." It is interesting to note that there is one offence that will apply to all workers:clear failure to use personal protective equipment (PPE) that has been provided by ones employer. Before ticketing a worker, officers will assess if the worker was provided with the correct PPE, received adequate training on its use, and was clearly directed to use the PPE but chose not to. (Source: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/work/safety-in-the-workplace/complaints-enforcements-penalties-and-fines/summary-offence-ticketing>)

SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION FOR
SAFE WORKPLACES
IN HEALTH

WORKPLACE SAFETY MESSAGE

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

The use of PPE is one method of protecting a worker from a hazard. The type of PPE required is worksite and job/task specific, and must be worn when required.



Visit www.saswh.ca and click on Resources to build your Safety Toolkit.



NACOR EXAMINATION DATES

Province	Date	Location	Application Deadline
British Columbia	Sept 19 - 21, 2014	Douglas College, Coquitlam	Friday August 15, 2014
Ontario	Oct 24 – 26, 2014	Georgian College, Barrie	Friday September 19, 2014
New Brunswick	Nov 1 - 2, 2014	St. John	Friday October 3, 2014

Winners of the SCO Bursaries for 2013-2014



Nicolette Osowsky

Highest Mark Year Two Eyeglass

Lori Farmer

*Highest Mark Year Two
Advanced Practice Contact*

STUDENT LICENCE INFORMATION

All students must register each academic year with the SCO for a student optician or student contact lens practitioner licence. The fees are \$30 annually and there is also a \$10 once off registration fee for first time applicants. A passport photo must also be submitted for your student card. Registration forms are available from the SCO office.

REMINDER TO STUDENTS

While the OAC looks after the enrollment and administration of the NAIT Optical Programs, we would like to remind students that our Education Chairs are always on hand to help or answer any questions that you might have during the year. Please contact the SCO office if you have any questions or concerns.

STUDENT Bursaries & Scholarships 2014-2015

LASIK MD

National to NAIT Students

\$750.00

Highest overall mark in

Year One Eyeglasses

Highest overall class average in

Year One Advanced Practice Contact Lenses

S.C.O.

\$250.00

Top overall written mark in

Year Two Eyeglasses

Top overall written mark in

Year Two Advanced Practice Contact Lenses

O.A.C.

National to NAIT Students exc. Alberta

\$250.00

Top overall written mark in

Year Two Eyeglasses

Top overall written mark in

Year Two Advanced Practice Contact Lenses

On June 3, 2014 the opticians of Saskatchewan lost a very special friend and colleague. Lil was far more than our Registrar, or Office Administrator. She was the backbone of the SODA. Any attempt to begin listing how important and resourceful she was cannot do her justice, so I will attempt to focus on the lighter side of working with Lil.

For those of us that had the pleasure of working closely with Lil, we knew a lady that worked tirelessly; there were countless Saturday afternoons spent at the office finishing something up, followed up by Sunday mornings for finishing touches. I am sure her devoted husband Ron will attest to this.

"I truly adored Lil. When I worked at Shoppers Optical in the Midtown plaza I would often go visit her on my lunch break at SODA. She was such a kind and caring woman and will be greatly missed. I hope when I get to be her age, I could be as glamorous as she was." Leah Power, LO at Eyes, Regina

She was also known to "bend the rules" when it was necessary to help someone out. She had a special soft spot for the students. There was a time when she actually delayed sending all of the student assignments to the OAC because **one student** was late sending theirs in to her and she didn't want anyone to lose precious marks. If asked about this she would just explain how "busy" she was.

On that note, there was never a brief conversation with Lil. No matter how busy she was, she made time to visit with you for a while. I think she knew everyone in the SODA, the names of their spouses, and probably even many of their children. Lil had a unique method of organisation, a system that I am sure only made sense to her, but she could get you an answer on any question within minutes. On one trip through Saskatoon, I stopped in to the office to drop something off, and commented on her sticky notes. All the way around her monitor were two layers of sticky notes, each with its own vital piece of information. I teased her about this, saying the information should be in the computer not on it, and we had a lengthy chuckle about this.

"Lil was such a special lady! She will be missed by many. We ALL looked forward to our exams because we knew she would have CANDY for us!! She will be missed." Crystal Hilton, Former SCO member

She recorded the minutes of the meetings flawlessly using a form of shorthand that looked a lot like hieroglyphics to everyone but her. At the council meetings she would sit at the end of the table opposite to the president. She was a taskmaster on proper protocol and I often felt she really chaired the meetings, she merely allowed the presidents feel it was their doing. She had one printed copy of the old legislation and bylaws. This copy had more tabs, pieces of colored tape, and paper clips marking special segments and clauses re-written in layman's terms than you can imagine. There were segments crossed out in red ink, and others marked with bright yellow highlighter, and even some that were circled with a black marker.

But once again ask her a question and she had the answer immediately.

"Lil was a super woman...always calmed us down when waiting for marks. She will truly be missed." Bonita Ciotka, LO LCLP at Hakim, Saskatoon

Lil was a dear friend, an asset to the SODA and is missed by all that knew her. May she rest in peace.

A Celebration of Lil's Life will take place on Wednesday, August 13th at 2:00pm at the Masonic Temple, Blue Room, 1021 Saskatchewan Crescent West, Saskatoon. Her husband Ron would be so pleased to have her dear friends and colleagues in attendance and afterwards at a reception in the Shrine Club Rooms, located downstairs in the Temple. For those who have not been to this location, there is lots of free parking in the upper or lower parking lots.





**SASKATCHEWAN
College of
Opticians**

AGM 2014

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2014 AT 1:00 PM,
RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL, REGINA**

**2 COUNCIL VACANCIES
SEE PAGE 13 FOR DETAILS**

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH SCO

Have you checked out our website?

[**www.scoptic.ca**](http://www.scoptic.ca)

We update this regularly to keep you up to date with the latest developments from the college. We have recently added login functions for our members, details can be found on Page 7.

We have had lots of new followers in the last few months and we encourage you to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. We regularly post information and articles to our pages and it is a great way for you to communicate with the SCO.

DOES THE SCO HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

The SCO contacts members regularly throughout the year and is promoting the use of email as the preferred method of communication. For those that chose email as their preferred method, you will now receive all communication including licence renewal information via email.

Please check with the SCO office if you are unsure of your preferred communication method. Please add the SCO email address to your contact or safe sender list to ensure our emails reach your inbox.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Lensmatic Optical is looking full/part time Optician/Contact Lens dispenser/Student optician and Frame stylist for its both locations. Salary and commission and bonus will be offered according to prior experience in optical industry.

Please email resume to : info@lensmaticoptical.com or fax 306 652 5101 or drop off resume at "Lensmatic Optical Ltd. 2036 Quebec Ave, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 1W4".

Please visit us for more details www.lensmaticoptical.com.



To: Members of the Saskatchewan Ophthalmic Dispensers Association (SODA)
From: Saskatchewan Blue Cross Provider Relations Team

Provider Portal for Claims Submission

Saskatchewan Blue Cross is excited to announce that Opticians can now submit claims for Blue Cross group plan members through our new Secure Provider Portal. Providers will be reimbursed directly by Saskatchewan Blue Cross for the eligible portion of the claim, while members simply pay the Provider the amount not covered by their benefits plan.

For more information about our Provider Portal, please visit www.sk.bluecross.ca/provider. Here, you will find detailed user manuals and other support materials for your reference. You may also access our portal registration page and complete the registration process. Once your request is approved, you will receive a User ID and Temporary Password.

If you have additional questions or feedback, please contact our Provider Relations department using the contact information below.

By Email: ProviderRelations@sk.bluecross.ca
By Phone: 1-306-667-5823



Special Membership Offer

Become an OAC Member between
Sept - Dec 2014 and receive:

- Membership to December 31, 2015
- 6 CE Tokens towards online CE
- Liability Insurance coverage Jan - Dec 2015

Check out member benefits and become a member at
www.opticians.ca



FREE TRIP TO VC IN TORONTO

A FREE trip to Vision Canada in Toronto is up for grabs for one lucky OAC member who is in attendance at the SCO convention in September. More details available at the OAC table onsite at the SCO convention. *You must be there to enter!*

OAC+SCO working together

"Working within a spirit of commonality and collaboration is a road to success. The OAC holds great respect for Jessica Brown and the entire SCO organization. By pooling resources and sponsorship both organizations will serve Opticians well." - Robert Dalton, OAC E.D.

"I always believed 'Meeting together is the beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.' After speaking with Robert and Pat on behalf of the OAC this year. I knew both the SCO and the OAC wanted what was best for the future of Opticianry. With the ideas and strengths of both organizations we see nothing but a bright, strong and successful future for Opticians." - Jessica Brown, SCO President

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Online:



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