

January 2015
Edition #13

THE **əYe** OPENER



A PUBLICATION FROM
SASKATCHEWAN
 College of
Opticians

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OPTICIANS INSURANCE PROGRAM

PROFESSIONAL ERRORS & OMISSIONS LIABILITY

2015

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*Membership includes a \$1,000,000.00 PLI policy. \$3,000,000 & \$5,000,000 PLI policies also available for a minimal fee.



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"Why am I not a member
of the OAC?"

Go to www.opticians.ca
for a list of benefits



October 2 - 4, 2015

Pacific Gateway Hotel
Richmond, B.C.

Save the Date!

Vision Canada 2015



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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 2014-2015

Deanne Oleksyn	<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>Education Chair</i>
Sherryl Maier	<i>Councillor</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

**License Renewals are due by
March 31st 2015.
Submit your renewal on time to
avoid a late penalty.**



Another year is already behind us as the time seems to pass so quickly when you're busy. We're already at the end of January with spring just around the corner. As always, your college continues to work hard to better the profession of opticians, professionalize the practice of opticianry, and keep members current with the many changes that have been occurring both here at home and nationally.



As mentioned in the last issue of the Eye Opener, the regulatory bylaws have now been amended to include provisions for prior learning assessments (PLAR). Training is already in process, and the college is moving forward as quickly as it can so that the program can be fully implemented as soon as possible. Interviewer training will be taking place for all provinces in February in Toronto and our PLAR team will be in attendance.

As an update to the private members Bill C313, which was passed a couple years ago, to place cosmetic contacts under the Health Canada Regulations as medical devices, has finally been published in the Canada Gazette. What that means, is that it has finally become law, and will now go a long way to stopping the flow of cosmetic contacts into the country. Once in its full effect, only licensed suppliers of medical goods will be able to "legally" sell cosmetic contacts.

The college is also moving forward with the prosecution of those dispensers that refuse to stop dispensing and to date, the college now has three convictions and in total, have removed six major dispensers from the market as a result of those convictions. As well, four other illegal dispensers have ceased dispensing of their own accord. As well, as a part of the penalty, in addition to each illegal dispenser receiving a monetary fine, each dispenser was also required to agree to an undertaking in writing to never dispense again.

The college is also working with our regulatory partners across the country on several national projects such as a national ID program, and web portal program that is designed to provide people from outside of Canada that wish to move to here and practice opticianry, access to all the legislation, regulations, and bylaws etc., for each jurisdiction across Canada.

If anyone would like more information, or clarification on this or any other matter please contact the office at. 306-652-0769.

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.

You can do this by updating your profile online or emailing office@scoptic.ca



I'm very pleased to address our membership in this issue of the eye opener as the new president of the college. For those that don't know me, I have been a Licensed Optician for over 18 years and work at the Tisdale Eye Care Centre. I served on the SODA council from 2006 – 2008 and then returned to Council in 2011 serving as one of the Education Chairs. I have been attending national meetings since 2012 and in May 2014, I was appointed vice-chair of NACOR.

I'm excited to be taking over the helm of the college at a time when so many new and dynamic changes are taking place. The college is working hard to increase the professionalism of our profession, and to assist our members through such undertakings; as working with our partners across the country on a national ID program, prior learning assessments and a national web portal designed to reach out to international opticians that may wish to move to Canada. As well, the college is hard at work streamlining the registration process so that our members can register and pay their license fees online.

I would also like to take a minute to invite all of our members to get involved and assist your college where you can. We have committees from time to time that require the support of our members. For instance with the implementation of the prior learning assessment, two of our members have stepped up and agreed to take the interviewer training. Those two members will be heading to Toronto for training shortly. We are also looking for volunteers to form a committee to promote opticianry as a career choice at job fairs or in high schools. Please contact June at the SCO office if you are interested in assisting or serving on this committee.

So, as you can see, these are busy times for your college and I look forward to working and serving the college and the members throughout my tenure.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Deanne Oleksyn'.

Deanne Oleksyn
President

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Toll Free Fax: 1-800-661-9175
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SCO members can now renew their annual license online. Up to now members have already been able to check their continuing education credits and update their profile information all done through our website www.scoptic.ca.

User IDs and passwords were sent to each member last Summer. You will need this information to renew your license online, as well as use the other login features mentioned above.

To help reduce costs and streamline licensing, members are encouraged to use the online facility to renew their license. We can now accept Visa, MasterCard and Visa Debit. Your private information and credit card number will be safe and secure in our system. No credit card information is ever stored, tracked or viewed. Personal information is kept in a secure, internal, password-protected database, which is not stored online. **You can also renew online and mail a cheque for your license fees.**

A step by step guide is included on the next pages and will also be posted on our website.

If you would like further information, please call the SCO office at 306-652-0769 or email office@scoptic.ca.

Renewal Guidelines

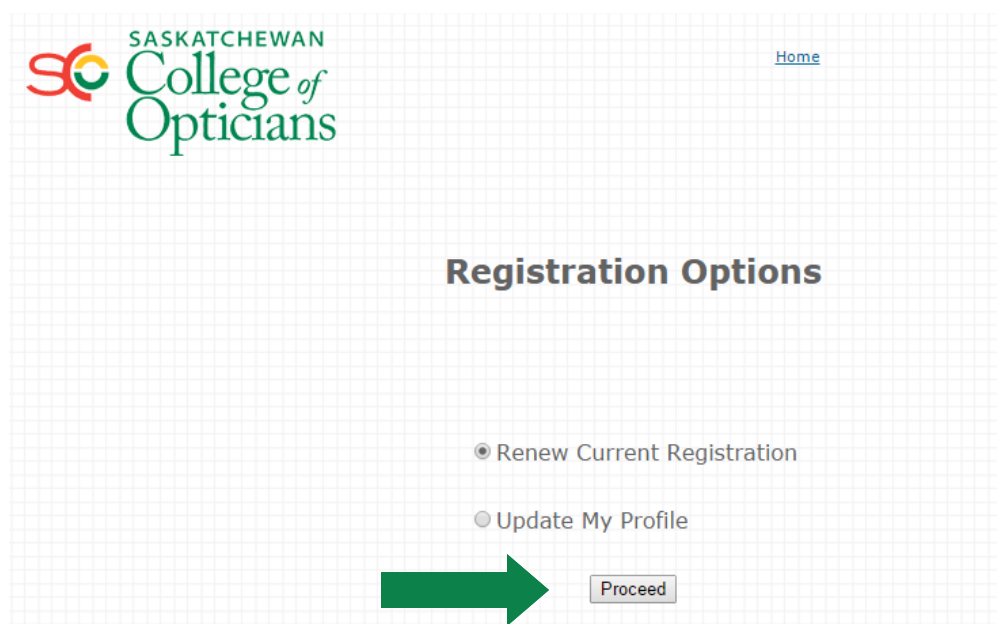
- ⇒ License renewal applications are due by April 1st 2015.
- ⇒ Members are encouraged to renew online.
- ⇒ It is the member's responsibility to ensure your renewal is **RECEIVED** by the SCO Office by April 1st. If payments or application forms are mailed, they must be **RECEIVED** by the SCO Office by April 1st.
- ⇒ Late Payment Fees of \$75 will apply to all applications received on April 2nd or later.
- ⇒ **Any member who has not renewed by April 1st is unlicensed and will not be allowed to practice.**
- ⇒ Proof of Liability Insurance must be submitted with your renewal each year.
- ⇒ It is necessary for practicing members to have their Continuing Education Credits up to date in order to renew their licence. As a reminder, Licensed Opticians need 10 Credits within the previous 3 years and Licensed Contact Lens Practitioners require 15 Credits within the same time period.
- ⇒ Payments: We accept Cheque/Money Order/Visa/Mastercard. Please make cheques and money orders payable to *Saskatchewan College of Opticians*. Please note there is a 5% service charge for card payments.
- ⇒ Applications received without payment or proof of insurance will **not** be processed.
- ⇒ We will use the photo on file from last year unless a new one is submitted with the renewal form.
- ⇒ Members who have not renewed by April 1st, will be notified in accordance with the Regulatory Bylaws that their licence has expired and will also be advised at that time of the date that they will be removed from the Register should they remain unlicensed.
- ⇒ Members that have been removed from the Register and wishing to be reinstated, will be subject to the re-licensing requirements as set out in the Administrative Bylaws i.e. the normal licence fee, plus a penalty of a lapse fee equal to the licence fee, and a re-registration fee of \$100.
- ⇒ Members are encouraged to receive correspondence from the College by email. Please choose your preferred communication method when completing their renewal. Should you not choose a method on the renewal, correspondence will be sent by email.

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

STEP 2: CLICK ON
"LICENSE RENEWAL LOGIN"



STEP 3: CHOOSE **RENEW CURRENT REGISTRATION** AND
CLICK ON **PROCEED**



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

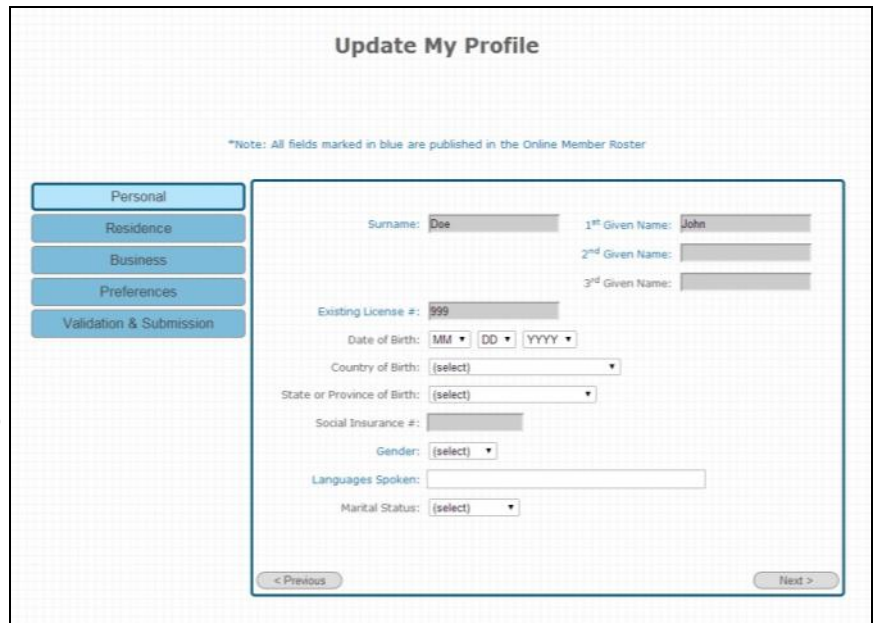
LOGIN INFORMATION WAS SENT TO ALL MEMBERS LAST YEAR.



STEP 5: UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL, RESIDENCE, BUSINESS & PREFERRED COMMUNICATION METHOD

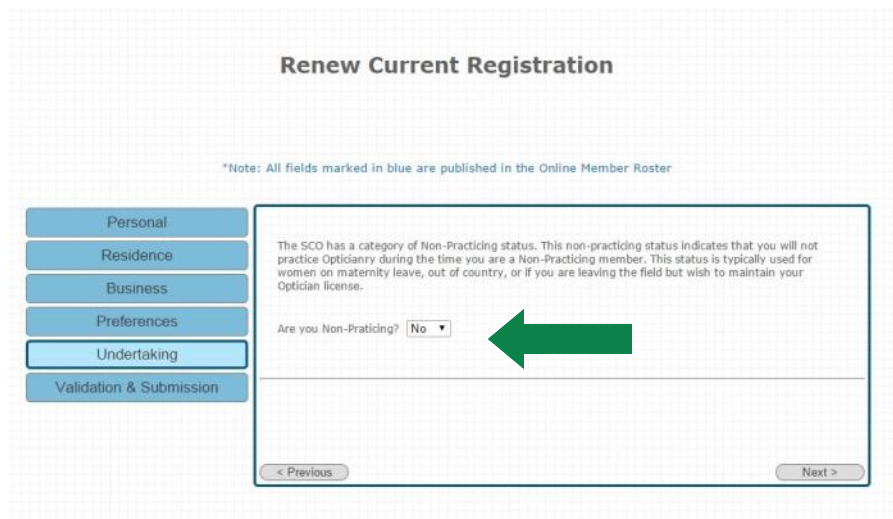
USE THE **PREVIOUS** AND **NEXT** BUTTONS TO GO FROM ONE SECTION TO ANOTHER OR CLICK ON THE SCREEN TITLES ON THE LEFT TO GO TO A SECTION.

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



STEP 6: THE UNDERTAKING SECTION ASKS IF YOU ARE PRACTICING OR NON-PRACTICING.

IF YOU ARE **PRACTICING**, CHOOSE **NO** AND CLICK **NEXT**



Renew Current Registration

*Note: All fields marked in blue are published in the Online Member Roster

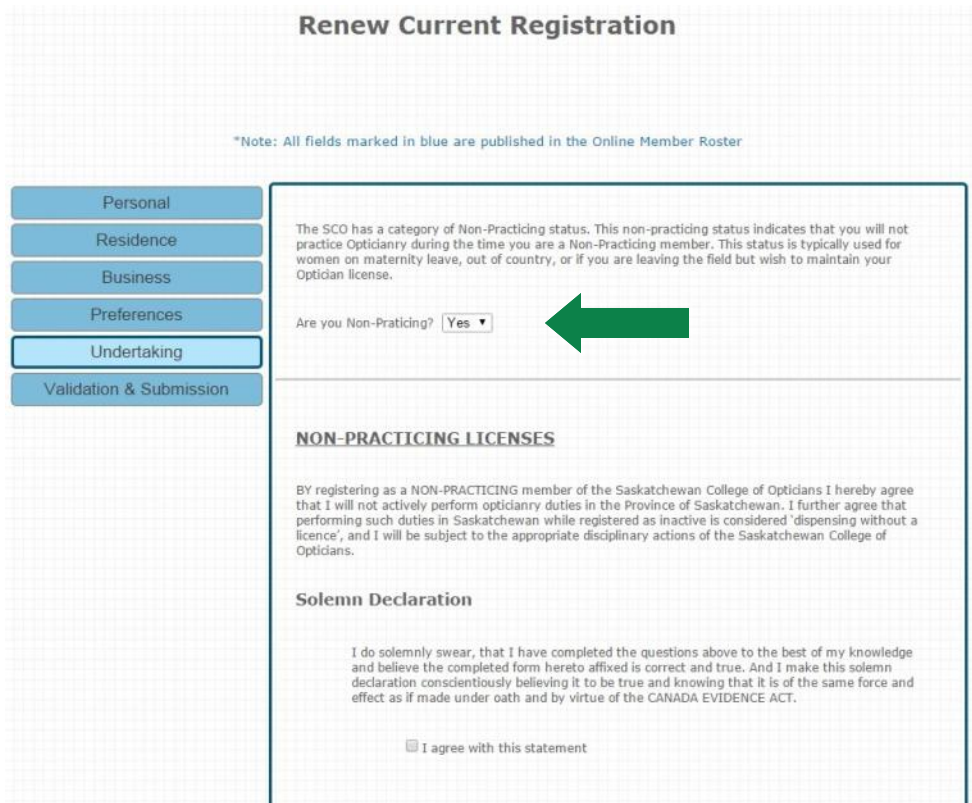
Personal
Residence
Business
Preferences
Undertaking
Validation & Submission

The SCO has a category of Non-Practicing status. This non-practicing status indicates that you will not practice Opticianry during the time you are a Non-Practicing member. This status is typically used for women on maternity leave, out of country, or if you are leaving the field but wish to maintain your Optician license.

Are you Non-Practicing? **No** ▼

< Previous Next >

IF YOU ARE **NON-PRACTICING**, CHOOSE **YES** AND **READ THE DECLARATION AND CHECK THE BOX TO CONFIRM YOU UNDERSTAND AND WILL NOT PERFORM OPTICIANRY DUTIES WHILST REGISTERED AS NON-PRACTICING**



Renew Current Registration

*Note: All fields marked in blue are published in the Online Member Roster

Personal
Residence
Business
Preferences
Undertaking
Validation & Submission

The SCO has a category of Non-Practicing status. This non-practicing status indicates that you will not practice Opticianry during the time you are a Non-Practicing member. This status is typically used for women on maternity leave, out of country, or if you are leaving the field but wish to maintain your Optician license.

Are you Non-Practicing? **Yes** ▼

NON-PRACTICING LICENSES

BY registering as a NON-PRACTICING member of the Saskatchewan College of Opticians I hereby agree that I will not actively perform opticianry duties in the Province of Saskatchewan. I further agree that performing such duties in Saskatchewan while registered as inactive is considered 'dispensing without a licence', and I will be subject to the appropriate disciplinary actions of the Saskatchewan College of Opticians.

Solemn Declaration

I do solemnly swear, that I have completed the questions above to the best of my knowledge and believe the completed form hereto affixed is correct and true. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the CANADA EVIDENCE ACT.

☒ I agree with this statement

Renew Current Registration

*Note: All fields marked in blue are published in the Online Member Roster

Personal
Residence
Business
Preferences
Undertaking
Validation & Submission

Step 3

☐ I have reviewed my continuing education requirements for the current three (3) year period and the record of my professional activities is accurate.

Insurance

In accordance with Section 4 of the Regulatory Bylaws, each member must submit proof of liability insurance in the amount of at least \$1 million before their license can be processed. Please fill in your insurance details and fax or email proof of insurance to the SCO office at 306-652-0784 or email office@scoptic.ca

Liability Insurance

4. Every member in good standing upon payment of their fees shall provide to the Registrar proof of liability insurance in an amount approved by the College before a License to practice or restricted License to practice will be issued.

Insurance Company:

Policy Number:

Expiry Date: MM ▼ DD ▼ YYYY ▼

Solemn Declaration

I do solemnly swear, that I have completed the questions above to the best of my knowledge and believe the completed form hereto affixed is correct and true. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the CANADA EVIDENCE ACT.

☐ I agree with this statement

Fees Information

For fees and registration instruction for:

[Opticians of Saskatchewan](#)

Fees and Payment Information

Fees:

Category

Fee + Tax

I want to renew as a Optician & Contact Lens Practitioner and pay by Cheque \$716.63

Payment Information:

Paid Via: Visa ▼

Name on Credit Card:

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

City:

Province/State: (select) ▼

Country: (select) ▼

Postal Code/Zip:

Phone: Area Code: Number:

Credit Card Number:

Credit Card Expiry: MM ▼ / YYYY ▼

Send Confirmation Email To:

Submit

STEP 7: CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR **CON ED CREDITS UP TO DATE BEFORE CHECKING THE BOX.**

ENTER YOUR **INSURANCE POLICY INFORMATION **AND** SEND PROOF OF THE POLICY TO THE SCO OFFICE.**

CHECK THE SOLEMN DECLARATION TO CONFIRM ALL THE INFORMATION YOU ENTERED IS CORRECT AND ACCURATE.

CHOOSE YOUR PAYMENT TYPE:

MASTERCARD AND VISA ARE ACCEPTED ONLINE. ENTER THE CARD INFORMATION AND CLICK SUBMIT.

IF YOU WISH TO PAY BY **CHEQUE**, CHOOSE OTHER FOR PAYMENT TYPE AND CLICK SUBMIT. **YOUR RENEWAL WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL THE CHEQUE IS RECEIVED.**

STEP 8: WHEN YOU HAVE SUBMITTED YOUR REGISTRATION SUCCESSFULLY YOU WILL SEE THIS MESSAGE.

YOUR RENEWAL WILL BE THEN BE CHECKED AND PROCESSED BY THE SCO OFFICE AND YOUR LICENSE AND RECEIPT WILL BE MAILED TOYOU.

IF THE REGISTRATION COMPLETE MESSAGE DID NOT APPEAR, THEN SCROLL TO THE TOP TO SEE ANY MISSING INFORMATION THAT MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE SUBMITTING AGAIN.




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**APPLICATION for ANNUAL OPTICIAN LICENCE
&/or CONTACT LENS LICENCE**

Saskatchewan College of Opticians
A4 116 103rd Street East, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N 1Y7
Phone: 306-652-0769 Fax: 306-652-0784 Email: office@scoptic.ca

Name (print) _____ Licence # LO _____ Licence # LCLP _____

Signature _____ Communication Home ____ Business ____ Email ____

Residential Information (required)

Address _____ City/Province _____
Postal Code _____ Phone # _____ Cell # _____
Email address _____

Practice Information (required)

Company _____ City/Province _____
Address _____ Fax # _____
Postal Code _____ Phone # _____ Website _____
Email address _____

Fee Structure

PRACTICING MEMBER FEES

OPTICIAN \$468.56 ☐
CONTACT LENS PRACTITIONER \$716.63 ☐

PRACTICING MEMBERS MUST INCLUDE:

COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP FORM ☐
PROOF OF LIABILITY INSURANCE ☐
PAYMENT IN FULL ☐

NON-PRACTICING MEMBER FEES

OPTICIAN \$ 148.84 ☐
CONTACT LENS PRACTITIONER \$ 297.68 ☐

NON-PRACTICING MEMBERS MUST INCLUDE:

COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP FORM ☐
PAYMENT IN FULL ☐
SIGNED DECLARATION BELOW ☐

HONARARY MEMBER FEES

OPTICIAN \$38.59 ☐
CONTACT LENS PRACTITIONER \$77.18 ☐

HONARARY MEMBERS MUST INCLUDE:

COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP FORM ☐
PAYMENT IN FULL ☐
SIGNED DECLARATION BELOW ☐

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Signature _____ Date _____

Please make cheques payable to:
Saskatchewan College of Opticians

5% service charge applicable with card payments
Do Not include Card # on form
We will contact you for it.

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED WITHOUT FEES OR PROOF
OF INSURANCE WILL NOT BE PROCESSED**

**\$75 LATE FEE APPLICABLE FOR APPLICATIONS
RECEIVED AFTER APRIL 1ST**

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Visions Expo East	March 19 - 22, 2015	Javits Center, New York
Visions Expo West	Sept. 16 - 19, 2015	Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Las Vegas, Nevada
Vision Canada	October 2 - 4, 2015	Pacific Gateway Hotel Vancouver, BC
SCO Convention	October 17 - 18, 2015	Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon
SCO AGM	October 18, 2015	Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon



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Canada's Eyecare Jobsite

NACOR EXAMINATION DATES

Province	Date	Location	Application Deadline
Ontario	April 17 - 19, 2015	Georgian College, Barrie	Friday March 20, 2015
British Columbia	May 23 - 24, 2015	Douglas College, Coquitlam	Friday April 24, 2015
Saskatchewan	May 30 - 31, 2015	Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	Friday May 1, 2015
Manitoba	June 6 - 7, 2015	Winnipeg, Manitoba	Friday May 8, 2015
Alberta	June 13 - 14, 2015	NAIT, Main Campus, Edmonton	Friday May 15, 2015
New Brunswick	June 26 - 28, 2015	Moncton, New Brunswick	Friday May 29, 2015

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 SEMINAR INFORMATION

The OAC are holding a workshop/lab exam for Eyeglass students in Saskatoon at the Holiday Inn on Idylwyld Drive on February 21 & 22 2015. The Eyeglass Year 2 workshop will take place on Saturday February 21 from 9am to 5.30pm with the lab exam taking place at the end of the workshop. The Eyeglass Year 1 workshop takes place on Sunday February 22 from 8am until 4pm. The lab exam will take place during the last hour of the workshop.

STUDENT Bursaries & Scholarships 2014-2015

LASIK MD	National to NAIT Students	\$750.00
Highest overall mark in	<i>Year One Eyeglasses</i>	
Highest overall class average in	<i>Year One Advanced Practice Contact Lenses</i>	
S.C.O.		\$250.00
Top overall written mark in	<i>Year Two Eyeglasses</i>	
Top overall written mark in	<i>Year Two Advanced Practice Contact Lenses</i>	
O.A.C.	National to NAIT Students exc. Alberta	\$250.00
Top overall written mark in	<i>Year Two Eyeglasses</i>	
Top overall written mark in	<i>Year Two Advanced Practice Contact Lenses</i>	

Our “Partners in Optics” Convention was held at the end of September at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Regina. We would like to say a sincere thanks to all of our speakers and sponsors and to everyone who attended and helped make the weekend a huge success. The Convention is a great way to build your Continuing Education Credits, stay in touch with fellow members and keep up to date with the latest trends. There was a great turnout and there was lots of positive feedback; if you have any suggestions for our 2015 Convention, please contact the SCO office.



There were 12 Credits available for attending this year’s convention as well as a chance to socialize with fellow opticians and make some new friends. There were several great speakers over the weekend, including some familiar faces and some new ones. On Saturday we had presentations from John Nesbit from Essilor, Dr. Ron Gaucher, Matthew Woodham from Lasik MD, Sandra Cripps from the Saskatchewan Association for Safe Workplaces in Health, Jim Thompson from Johnson & Johnson and Robert Dalton from OAC. On Sunday, our presentations were delivered by Jim Thompson from Johnson & Johnson and Kim McEachern from OAC and our Treasurer Clarence Mott who updated everyone on developments at the SCO Office.

Check out pictures of the winners from this year’s convention on the following page!

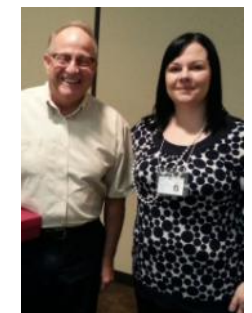
At the AGM, a new council was elected. It would be great to see all of our members attend these meetings and we encourage you all to think about putting your name forward to run to become part of the Saskatchewan College of Opticians Council.



REMINDER
CONVENTION & AGM 2015
OCTOBER 17 & 18 2015

Prize Winners

SCO Convention 2014 Ramada Plaza Hotel, Regina





*THANKS
to our
convention sponsors !*



CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

Each year at renewals, we look at the credits you have accumulated over the previous three years. A Licensed Optician must have 10 credits over the previous three years; 8 of which must be Eyeglass Credits. A Licensed Contact Lens Practitioner must have 15 credits over the previous three years; 5 of which must be Eyeglass Credits and 5 Contact Lens Credits.

Please make sure you have the right amount of credits before submitting your license renewal as members cannot be licensed unless their credits are up to date. You can check your continuing education credits online anytime by logging in through our website. If you have misplaced your User ID and password, please call the office. **Members cannot be licenced unless their credits are up to date.**

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. To have an event pre-approved, please contact the SCO office and provide details about the event and 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.

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.

Have you checked out our website?

www.scoptic.ca

Our website is updated regularly to keep you up to date with the latest developments from the college.

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

We love what we do, and you will too.

You have talent, skills and passion.



Put them to use at Factory Optical and Optiks International.

We are always looking for those who want to be the very best at what they do. We look for Licensed Opticians and non-licensed Sales Associates who aspire to more than a retail position. We look for people wanting and willing to make a difference. And, we reward merit.

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Factory Optical and Optiks International are among the fastest growing optical companies in western Canada.

With our unique approach to marketing eyewear, our commitment to customer service and our ability to offer the latest technological advancements in the field of optics, we are always growing. We are looking for Licensed Optician's/Student Optician's for several of our locations across Western Canada.

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If you would like to be part of our team, please submit your resume below:

pjohnson.factoryoptical@sasktel.net

WHAT

IS IT ABOUT HER?

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LENS

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Help your patients correct their vision while **enhancing their natural radiance**

1-DAY ACUVUE® DEFINE™ Brand Contact Lenses are available with and without 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, available from Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Division of Johnson & Johnson, Inc., by calling 1-800-267-5098 or by visiting www.acuvueprofessional.ca.

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“engineered for a better fit.”



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Accessory Source Ltd.

1.800.265.3937
Customerservice@2020as.com
www.2020as.com