

**Manitoba Association of Optometrists**

**Council**

Darcelle Bohemier, Lorette (bil.)

**Board of Examiners**

Eden Sorrell, Winnipeg (bil.)

**Roster of Appointment to the Appeals/Discipline Committees**

Nkemdilim Oguchi, Winnipeg

Viola Davidson, Winnipeg

Ivan Sabesky, Winnipeg

Lloyd Harris, Winnipeg

**Mandate:**

The Manitoba Association of Optometrists is established under *The Optometry Act*. The Manitoba Association of Optometrists (MAO) is responsible for the regulation of the practice of Optometry in Manitoba.

The MAO's primary functions include:

- Registering qualified practitioners
- Setting and maintaining standards of practice
- Responding to public and patient inquiries and concerns
- Communicating optometrists' role in the health care system
- Promoting the importance of eye health care and regular, preventive examinations

**Authority:**

[\*The Optometry Act\*](#)

**Responsibilities:**

Council

Responsible for ensuring the objective of The Optometry Act are adhered to with respect to the regulation of the practice of optometry within the province, and to prevent incompetent persons from practicing optometry.

Board of Examiners

Examiners are responsible for conducting the examinations of the association and interviews with all new graduates to ensure their qualifications meet the requirements for registration as an optometrist under The Optometry Act.

Appeals/Discipline Committee Roster

Members of these Ad Hoc Committees participate in any discipline and/or appeals proceedings.

**Membership:**

Council

There shall be a council of the association made up of eight members of the association and one lay person. The members of the council who are members of the association shall be elected to office in accordance with the by-laws of the association; and the public representatives shall be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

Board of Examiners

The council shall appoint a board of examiners, one of whom shall be the registrar, for the purpose of conducting the examinations of the association and passing upon the qualifications of applicants for admission thereto; and the board may consist in whole or in part of members of the council. The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall appoint public representative as a member of the examining board for such a term as may be fixed by the Order in Council.

**Length of Terms:**

Three years – no maximum number of terms

**Desirable Experience:**

In all aspects of services on this board it is imperative that the public representative be comfortable advocating in the public interest. Good computer skills as members receive info via email & board portal.

Council

- Someone with previous board experience would be an asset;
- Cannot be a civil servant or an employee of any agency of the Crown; and
- Is not or was not at any time registered under The Optometry act or under any Act governing an allied health discipline.

Board of Examiners

- Someone who is interested in or understands the administration required for registration, examining and licensing would be an asset;
- Cannot be a civil servant, or an employee of any agency of the Crown .

Appeals/Discipline Committee Roster

Any member of the public with an interest in eye care would be an asset. Cannot be a civil servant within the meaning of The Civil Service Act, or an employee of any agency of the Crown. Is not or was not at any time registered under The Civil Service Act or any Act governing an allied health discipline.

**Time Commitment:**

Council Members meet quarterly as called by the chair. The Board of Examiners meet bi-annually and The Appeals/Discipline Committee Roster meets on an ad hoc basis. Roughly 4-10 meetings annually.

**Meetings:**

Council

Frequency: Council meets 6 times a year, Executive meets 4 times per year

Location: Two meetings a year in person. Mostly virtual.

Duration: Full day, Monday or Friday

Board of Examiners

Frequency: Twice per year

Location: Meetings are held in Winnipeg, teleconferencing available

Duration: Evenings

Appeals/Discipline Committee Roster

Frequency: 10 times per year, or as required

Location: Meetings are generally held in Winnipeg

**Additional Subcommittee Requirements:**

Roster of Lay members (Optometry Act s. 18. 4(1) and s. 18.6(2) – There are generally three lay members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council to the roster of lay members. These lay members are appointed from time to time to Discipline and Appeals Committees. Frequency of meetings of Discipline and Appeals Committees are unpredictable as these are ad hoc committees, appointed from the optometry and public rosters as required. Members of these rosters may not be asked to serve at all, or only a 1-2 times during a three year term.

**Remuneration:**

If meetings are held during a normal working day, remuneration is \$230.00 per day. No remuneration is provided for any meetings held outside of regular working hours.

Range: \$300 - \$1000 a year