

THE VIEW

July 15, 2023

No. 35

Opticians Association of New Brunswick

OANB Member News

It's NB License Renewal time!

If you haven't already, please complete and submit your renewal forms and payment to the OANB office before:

Midnight, Aug. 1, 2023



New, improved photo IDs (2 copies) will be sent to each member upon renewal.

Consequences of non-compliance

The license of any member who fails to pay the license fees prescribed by Section 31 on or before the first day of August in each year is automatically suspended, until such fees, as well as the late payment fee pursuant to Section 30(e), are paid.

- OANB Regulations



Professional Development

OAC CONNECT 2023 - JULY WEBCAST

Wed, July 19, 2023 | 8:00 - 9:00 PM

OAC Members & Students: FREE

**From Boomers to Gen Z:
Building a Harmonious and Inclusive
Workplace Culture**

Learn how to foster productive working relationships with coworkers; and how to identify and work around emotions experienced by people in the workplace, to become a more empathic coworker and have the skills to create a healthier workplace.

Find other great past webinars at:
<https://opticians.ca/viewEvent.html?productId=8118>



Important Motion to approve draft overall amendments to the OANB Regulations

While NBCC was developing their new curriculum, discussions regarding practical hour requirements for apprentices, lead Council to carry out an in-depth review of section 21 of the OANB Regulations. Colleges across Canada no longer require that a specific number of hours be accumulated during an apprentice's practical training. All accredited optical courses must meet the strict requirements of Accreditation Canada, and optical courses now provide students with specific and focused tasks/competencies which they must complete during their practical work. Competencies must be signed off as they are completed, by the student's sponsor and submitted to the school. This ensures students do not just put in time, but are always learning more.

Draft changes were made to the Regulations to reflect this. The Regulations Review Committee was further tasked by Council to go over all regulations to ensure they are relevant and easy to understand. Basic changes, with the input of our lawyer at Stewart McKelvey are proposed to the OANB membership to this end.

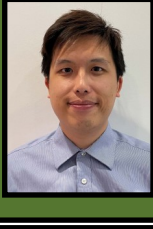
Important: To see a comparison of the existing Regulations and the proposed changes, please visit the OANB website (click here): <https://opticiansnb.com/2023/07/14/draft-amendments-to-the-oanb-regulations-july-14-2023/>. Review the Motion carefully and submit your comments to the OANB Council by **August 2, 2023. Council will consider all comments before giving final approval to the motion, and submitting it to the Minister of Health for approval. Thank you!**

Welcome New OANB Members!

Marie-Belle Hovington
Optical Warehouse



Alex Fan
Optical Warehouse



Three Generations at Kerr Optical the last Independent Optical in Saint John!

Douglas Kerr, opened Kerr Optical in the Lancaster Mall in 1972, and celebrated fifty years of business in March, 2022. "My father worked in the field for other local opticians, and as he was waiting on customers in the Uptown area, people from the west side of Saint John kept saying, I wish somebody would open on the west side. He finally took the leap and never looked back," said his daughter, Optician Kimberley Kerr-Hachey.

The Kerrs have operated the family-owned business across three generations, with Kerr-Hachey's daughter, Danielle, also working there as an optician.

"We fitted babies who are now bringing their babies and grandchildren in," she said. "We're quite proud of ourselves."

As an independent optical business versus chain businesses, Kerr Optical can focus on keeping its customers happy by making changes or customizations, without bumping against hard-set chain store rules. The business also holds safety glasses contracts with multiple local industries, including Moosehead Breweries and most of Irving group subsidiaries.

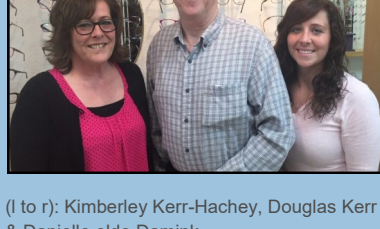
"Our customers become our friends," Kim said. "We work hard at making them very happy with our service – once we get them in the door, they're never leaving. It all comes down to service and what we can provide for them," explained Kerr-Hachey. "Kerr Optical uses state-of-the-art lenses and won't buy frames from a company that doesn't provide a two-year unconditional warranty. Our prices are very reasonable; chain store prices can't compare."

Covid-19 made people more aware of supporting local and independent businesses, and the benefits of doing so. Kim even continued to work and serve her clientele throughout the Covid lockdown in 2020, going into work every single day, doing repairs and passing paper bags containing glasses to clients out the back door. "Even if you were someone who stayed at home, with your day-to-day functions, you need your eyes," she said. "I had to service them – your glasses are broken, you're near blind, what were you supposed to do? Wait for the pandemic to lift?"



Kerr Optical plans to continue to grow. "My father is proud of us. Kerr Optical is his legacy, he's proud of it too," said Kerr-Hachey.

From an article by Elizabeth MacLeod in *Huddle*



(l to r): Kimberley Kerr-Hachey, Douglas Kerr & Danielle olde Damink

OANB APPRENTICE AREA

Welcome New OANB Apprentices!

**Monise Ouellette
Sacha Logan
Serena Tompkins**

PROGRAM LENGTH: 2 Academic Years
COST/TUITION: \$3,380.00 (DOMESTIC) | \$9,468.00 (INTERNATIONAL)
START DATE: September 2023
LOCATION: Moncton

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: PROFILE J

- High School Diploma
- Adult High School Diploma
- GED Diploma of High School Equivalency
- Essential Skills Achievement Pathway: Post-Secondary Entry High School Diploma
- Pre-calculus 110
- Geometry and Applications in Mathematics 112 and Functions and Relations 112

Total of three (3) sciences including at least two (2) from the following:

- Biology 112 or 122
- Chemistry 112 or 122
- Physics 112 or 122
- NB Francophone High School Math Equivalencies
- International Student Admission Equivalencies

To apply: [NBCC.CA](https://nbcc.ca)



Would someone you know like to become an Optician?

Learn about the NAIT Online Optical Program

Next intake start dates:
Aug 28, 2023 & Jan. 3, 2024

<https://www.nait.ca/programs/optical-sciences-eyeglasses?term=2023-fall>



NACOR EXAMINATION PREP RESOURCES!

NEXT EXAM : NOVEMBER 4-5, 2023

Free On-Demand via the OAC APP, including: recorded NACOR Examination Prep sessions (Eyeglasses, Contact Lenses—Pathology, Contact Lenses - Case Studies/Troubleshooting), sample questions,

<https://www.opticians.ca/site/studentresources?nav=sidebar>

Employment Opportunities



Vogue Optical is currently seeking a

**Managing Optician,
Shediac
Optician/contact lens fitter
Bathurst**

Must be bilingual. • Must be a licensed optician. • Have the ability to work in a team to ensure the overall success of the store. • Must have the ability to organize, set priorities, solve problems and work under limited supervision. • Excellent benefits offered with a competitive starting salary

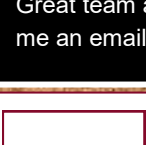
Permanent full-time positions

Interested candidates can apply by fax:
(902) 626-3610 or email: bmacdon-ald@vogueloptical.com



Optix by Dr Savoie,
Campbellton

We are looking for a full-time optician or student optician to join our team. Great team atmosphere. please send me an email: ffsavoie13@hotmail.com



**VisionPLUS is seeking
a bilingual certified
optician to join their team!**

Permanent full time position

Remuneration will be based on experience. Please submit your resume in person or at visionplusmoncton@gmail.com.

we're hiring

I R I S

(Full/Part) time position

Competitive wages, based on experience
Benefit program including health, dental, LTD, RSP with employer contribution, EAP program
Sales promotion, Periodic incentive program
Free eyeglasses annually, Family & Friends discount
store discount, referral bonus, paid vacation time off and personal days. Provincial Opticianry licensing fees and Liability insurance reimbursed.

IRIS The Visual Group is looking for a bilingual Optician in Dalhousie

What you need?

Current NB Optician license
Ability to communicate in both French and English
Willingness to deliver excellent patient-care
Be able to troubleshoot and support patients
Contribute to team goals and positive environment
Complete necessary administration
Like what you see? Click the link to apply:
<https://bit.ly/3VRfZG6>