

## **Opticians Association of New Brunswick Code of Ethics**

The mandate of the Opticians Association of New Brunswick is to regulate the profession of opticianry in the public interest. This Code of Ethics identifies the ethical principles all opticians must follow to meet their professional obligations; and serves to help them make ethical decisions in their practice. To uphold and advance the honour, integrity and high standards of the optical dispensing profession, opticians must:

1. Put the interests, well-being and benefit to their clients or patients above all other considerations, including their commercial or business interests.
2. Respect the inherent dignity of all clients or patients, regardless of race, colour, citizenship, religion/creed, sexual orientation, disability or financial position.
3. Be aware of, and comply with, relevant laws – the act, regulations, policies, standards of practice and other guidelines that govern the profession.
4. Treat all members of the public, clients or patients, and colleagues with respect and communicate in a respectful manner, whether in-person, by telephone or online - and never engage in harassment, abuse or discrimination in their professional practice.
5. Be honest in serving the public and the profession, while striving to increase the competence and prestige of the profession.
6. Accept responsibility for their professional behaviour and decisions.
7. Practice only within the limits of their professional competence and recognize any personal limitations.
8. Fulfill medically-based instructions of the prescribing Ophthalmologist/Optommetrist.
9. Respect the dignity and professional status of their colleagues, and the professional relationship between their colleagues and the public.
10. Participate in ongoing professional development and integrate current education and technical advancements into their practice.
11. Protect the health of the public at all times, by delegating regulated duties or procedures only to those registered with the Association and qualified by training; and report any regulated duties and procedures performed by untrained/unregistered dispensary staff.
12. Respect the privacy of their clients or patients and hold client's or patient's personal information in confidence, except as permitted or required by law. (For the purposes of collaboration with other health care providers involved in the care of the client or patient, the client's or patient's consent is required before information may be shared).
13. Provide clear information about the eyewear being dispensed, including information about warranties, billing and returns (where applicable) and what to do if the eyewear does not perform as expected.