

**ADDITIONS TO THE COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 22, 2021
TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT COUNCIL AGENDA**

- 5.1 CORRESPONDANCE – Item 13.1 Prioritization of OHIP Covered Eye Care be added to the Agenda.**

Recommendation

THAT Item 13.1 be added to the agenda under CORRESPONDANCE as Prioritization of OHIP Covered Eye Care be added to the Agenda.



June 25, 2021

SENT VIA EMAIL/MAIL TO:

The Honourable Doug Ford,
Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Christine Elliot, Minister of
Health
Stephen Crawford, MPP, Oakville

doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

stephen.crawford@pc.ola.org

Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP,
Oakville North – Burlington
The Honourable Anita Anand, MP, Oakville

effie.triantafilopoulos@pc.ola.org

anita.anand@parl.gc.ca

Pam Damoff, MP, Oakville North-Burlington
Ontario Association of Optometrists
Region of Halton
City of Burlington
Town of Milton
Town of Halton Hills

pam.damoff@parl.gc.ca

oaoinfo@optom.on.ca

graham.milne@halton.ca

kevin.arjoon@burlington.ca

townclerk@milton.ca

valeriep@haltonhills.ca

Subject: Notice of Motion - Prioritization of OHIP Covered Eye Care

At its meeting on June 21, 2021, Oakville Town Council approved the following resolution with respect to the subject item noted above:

WHEREAS routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life;

WHEREAS Conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crossed eyes) Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease;

WHEREAS payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies);

June 21, 2021

Subject: Notice of Motion - Prioritization of OHIP Covered Eye Care

WHEREAS the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease;

WHEREAS the Provincial government refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians;

WHEREAS the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery;

WHEREAS this job action will jeopardize good eye care for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups. Children—whose lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision—to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision-threatening ocular diseases.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Town of Oakville requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it;

THAT the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, MPPs Effie Triantafilopoulos and Stephen Crawford, MPs Anita Anand and Pam Damoff, the Ontario Association of Optometrists, the City of Burlington, the Town of Milton, the Town of Halton Hills, and Halton Region, to seek their support and be made publicly available.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter or should you require additional information, please contact Vicki Tytaneck, Town Clerk at 905-845-6601, extension 2003, or email vicki.tytaneck@oakville.ca

Sincerely,



Vicki Tytaneck
Town Clerk



Office of the City Clerk

September 24, 2021

Via email: drtiffany@slvision.ca

Dr. Tiffany Nazareth

Dear Dr. Nazareth:

Re: Kingston City Council Meeting, September 21, 2021 – New Motion 3 – Operating Costs of Optometrists

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for appearing as a delegation at the meeting of Council held on September 21, 2021, at which time you spoke to Council with respect to New Motion 3 regarding operating costs of Optometrists. At the same meeting the following resolution was passed:

Whereas to date the provincial government has not yet made a binding commitment to cover the operating costs of optometrists to deliver eye exams; and

Whereas insured eye exams in Ontario are funded at the lowest level in the entire country; and

Whereas the fees for seniors' eye exams would have to increase by 70% to reach the next lowest province, Manitoba; and

Whereas the number of seniors in Ontario has increased by more than 70% over the past 30 years and the province's own projections indicate these numbers will almost double from 2.6 million in 2020 to 4.5 million by 2046; and

Whereas it is vital that there continue to be a sustainable high quality eye care system that residents in Kingston can access today and in the future;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the City Council of Kingston add its voice to the many cities, institutions and people calling on the Provincial government to enter

into good faith formal negotiations with the Ontario Association of Optometrists, with the goal of bring service and funding levels in optometry in Ontario up to more equitable levels with the rest of Canada; and

That this resolution be shared with Premier Doug Ford, Health Minister Christine Elliott, and our local MPP Ian Arthur.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Bolognone', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Bolognone
City Clerk
/nb

October 22, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

Please be advised that the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington, at its meeting held Tuesday, October 12, 2021 enacted the following resolution:

No. C-303-21

Whereas routine eye care is critical in early detection of eye diseases like glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration, and the health of eyes is critical to overall health and quality of life; and

Whereas conditions that may be detected with an annual eye exam include Diabetes mellitus, Glaucoma, Cataract, Retinal disease, Amblyopia (lazy eye), Visual field defects (loss of part of the usual field of vision), Corneal disease, Strabismus (crosses eyes), Recurrent uveitis (an inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye that consists of the iris, ciliary body and choroid), Optic pathway disease; and

Whereas payments from OHIP have only increased 9% over the last 30 years, which has not come close to matching inflation of costs (which include rent, staff, utilities, equipment, taxes and supplies); and

Whereas the lack of funding makes it difficult to invest in modern technology, and newer technology means earlier detection of eye disease; and

Whereas the Provincial government's refusal to formally negotiate with Optometrists for more than 30 years has forced the Optometrists to absorb approximately 173 Million dollars annually in the cost to deliver eye care to Ontarians; and

Whereas the 2021 Ontario Budget did not address OHIP-insured eye care, Ontario Optometrists took action and voted to withdraw OHIP services starting September 1, 2021, unless the government agrees to legally-binding negotiations to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery; and

Whereas this job action will jeopardize good eyecare for those who need the care of an optometrist the most and will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable groups.

Children, who's lifetime ability to learn and develop depends on good vision and to the elderly, who are at the greatest risk for vision-threatening ocular diseases;

Now Therefore, be it resolved that the Municipality of Chatham-Kent requests that the Provincial government recognize the value that access to quality eye care brings to all Ontarians and act now to protect it; and further

That the Provincial government address the OHIP-insured eye care immediately and enter into legally-binding negotiations with Ontario Optometrists to fund these services at least to the cost of delivery, prior to any job action taking place; and further

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Ford, Ontario Minister of Health Christine Elliot, to the Ontario Association of Optometrists, and to all municipalities in Ontario.”

Carried

Dated today, the 22nd day of October, 2021.

Brenda Percy, Clerk
The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington