ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS

VISION CARE STARTS WITH YOUR OPTOMETRIST

Committed to strengthening Ontario's frontline eye-care system



WHO WE ARE

The voice of Optometry in Ontario since 1909

REPRESENTING

2100+

Optometrists who are **trained** and **equipped** to provide urgent eye care, reducing avoidable ER visits.

THE ROADBLOCKS

Under strain

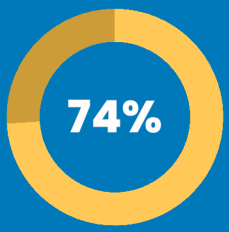
A shortage of family doctors and ophthalmologists leaves Ontarians waiting longer, visiting ERs unnecessarily, and driving up costs.

Underutilized

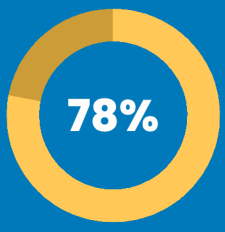
Ontario's outdated scope and funding model underuse optometrists' skills, particularly in rural and northern communities.

Under incentivized

Ontario's outdated OHIP fees make urgent eye care financially unsustainable.



Ontarians believe greater government funding of vision care would improve public health.



believe Ontario should increase funding for optometry services to match other large provinces.

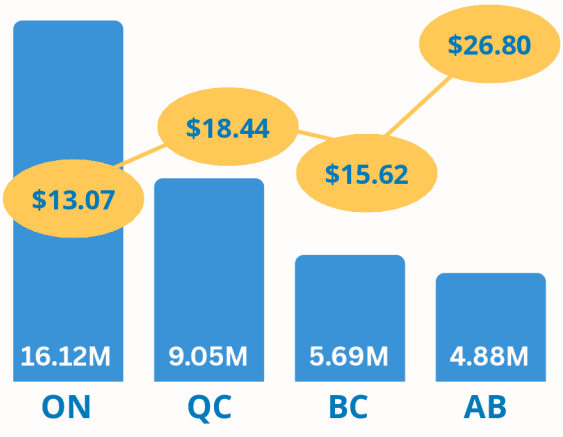
WHY IT MATTERS

66% of eye-related ER visits are avoidable.

$45M in annual hospital costs could be avoided with in-clinic optometry care.

9,280 patients each month could be treated directly in optometry clinics.

Population vs. Funding per Person



THE SOLUTION

Invest in Ontario's vision care model to align with **Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care.**

- ✓ **Add urgent-care appointment capacity in optometry clinics**
- ✓ **Introduce stackable billing codes that reflect patient complexity**
- ✓ **Improve access, cut wait times, and reduce ER congestion**

EXPAND ACCESS. RELIEVE PRESSURE. IMPROVE CARE.