



# Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand

Annual Report  
July 2021 – June 2022

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## 1.0 CORPORATE INFORMATION FOR OPTOMETRY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (OCANZ)

**ABN / ACN:** ABN 38 074 875 111  
ACN 074 875 111

**Members:** Mr Colin Waldron (nominee of Optometry Board of Australia)  
Mr Jayesh Chouhan (nominee of Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board)  
Mr Wilson Sue (nominee of New Zealand Association of Optometrists)  
Dr Michael Pianta (nominee of Accredited Heads of Schools)  
Ms Lyn Brodie (nominee of Optometry Australia)

**Directors:** Emeritus Professor Leo Carney  
Dr Andrew Collins (Deputy Chair)  
Professor Jennifer Craig  
Mrs Shannon Davies  
Professor Alex Gentle (Chair)  
Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert  
Mr Tony Lund  
Dr Linda Turner  
Dr Lynn Weekes  
Ms Katrina Yap

**Company Secretary:**  
Ms Sian Lewis (until 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022)  
Ms Susan Kelly (from 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022)

### Registered Office and Principal Place of Business:

Suite 3, Level 10  
167 Queen Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

**Auditors:** RDL Accountants  
60-64 Railway Road  
Blackburn VIC 3130

**Staff:** Ms Sian Lewis, Executive Officer, 0.6 FTE (until 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022)  
Ms Susan Kelly, Chief Executive Officer, 0.6 FTE (from 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022)  
Ms Susan Kelly, Accreditation Manager, 0.4 FTE (until 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022)  
Dr Melisa Rangitakatu, Accreditation Manager, 0.4 FTE (from 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022)  
Ms Lisa Vella, Finance & Office Manager, 0.6 FTE  
Ms Tamara McKenzie, Examination Manager, 0.3 FTE  
Mrs Kelley Baldwin, Policy and Projects Manager, Indigenous, 0.4 FTE

OCANZ as required engages consultants and temporary staff to support the accreditation and examination activities and other OCANZ functions.

## 2.0 CHAIR'S REPORT 2021-2022



On behalf of OCANZ, I acknowledge the traditional custodians of country throughout Australia and New Zealand and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. I pay my respects to them and their cultures; and to Elders past and present.

As an accreditation and assessment authority, OCANZ continues to play a vital role in protecting the eye health of the public by assuring the quality of optometric education and assessing overseas trained optometrists' competence to practise optometry in Australia and New Zealand. Our collaborative relationships with the Optometry Board of Australia (OBA) and the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board New Zealand (ODOB), for whom we provide accreditation and assessment services, remain positive and ongoing.

In February 2022, OCANZ bid farewell to Sian Lewis after 7 years as OCANZ Executive Officer. Sian's work on cultural competency and establishing a range of sound governance processes will be a lasting legacy of her leadership. I, personally, remain extremely grateful to Sian for her sage advice during my initial years with OCANZ and as Board Chair. We all wish Sian all the best in her retirement.

The OCANZ Board is also very excited to welcome our new CEO Susan Kelly. Many of you will already know Susan in her role as OCANZ Accreditation Manager. Susan is a practising optometrist with 20 years' experience in clinical, administration, regulation and policy roles. Dr Melisa Rangitakatu has been appointed Accreditation Manager. Melisa has wide-ranging experience in academic management and executive leadership roles in various health disciplines, in both public and private higher education providers in Australia and the United States.

This year's annual report covers the end of the second and start of the third year of the Coronavirus pandemic, and new ways of living and working and COVID-19 responses have become part of business as usual. OCANZ staff worked remotely until November 2021 and now embrace a blended mix of remote and in-office work. From January 2022 Board and committee meetings have operated via a hybrid model, with those able to travel attending in person. February 2022 also saw the return of in-person accreditation site visits after conducting site visits remotely in 2021.

Financial and risk management was a necessary focus for the Board, as was ensuring the safety of OCANZ personnel and operations. Sound management and willingness to adapt has enabled the positive results detailed later in this report.

During the year optometry education providers continued to inform OCANZ of any material changes made to their programs as a result of the pandemic. OCANZ congratulates providers for their innovation and very considerable achievements that continue to deliver to students the required learning outcomes in challenging circumstances. The OCANZ Competency in Optometry Examination written exam is now permanently administrated online using live remote proctoring allowing candidates to sit the exam from anywhere in the world. The clinical exam was held in Auckland, New Zealand for the second time in January 2022 before returning to the Australian College of Optometry Melbourne in March 2022. Additional clinical exams were scheduled to make up for examinations cancelled as a result of lockdowns.

I am very pleased to report that in support of the OCANZ vision to deliver high quality and robust accreditation and assessment services, a remarkable number of milestones were achieved during this challenging year. In particular a number of projects were completed to improve the contribution of optometry accreditation functions to better health outcomes for Indigenous Peoples in Australia and New Zealand:

- ✓ The review of the OCANZ Accreditation Standards for Entry-level Optometry Programs was completed and the Standards approved by the OCANZ Board and Optometry Board of Australia. The new Standards come into effect from 1 January 2023. The new Standards include a stand-alone Domain on Cultural Safety.

- ✓ A review of the OCANZ postgraduate ocular therapeutic accreditation Standards was commenced, with a consultant appointed and Reference Group formed.
- ✓ The adaptation of an online course in cultural safety for overseas trained physiotherapists for use in optometry was completed in May 2022. June 2022 clinical exam candidates will trial the program and provide feedback. Its completion by overseas trained optometrists will be a new requirement for the COE.
- ✓ Optometry Māori health curriculum framework development was undertaken with extensive community consultation and a literature review. A cross-Tasman theme was identified that will align the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori frameworks.
- ✓ OCANZ was awarded a VOTE grant to develop videos and associated supportive learning materials that model culturally safe care in an optometric setting to be used by optometry education programs and OCANZ.
- ✓ The OCANZ Board approved OCANZ's commitment statement to work with First Nations Peoples to improve eye health outcomes for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori Peoples.
- ✓ OCANZ have partnered with the Indigenous Allied Health Association to develop culturally responsive training for all staff, Directors, and Committee and Taskforce members.
- ✓ OCANZ awarded four education bursaries for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori community members, students and/or academics working with the optometry schools.
- ✓ The Board commissioned a review of the COE following on from the findings of the 2021 report on the viability of remotely assessing clinical competence.
- ✓ The second annual report on the outcomes of Australia-wide surveys enabling optometry graduates and their employers to comment on the extent to which programs of study are preparing graduates for the optometry workforce was completed. De-identified comparative data was shared with education providers in February 2022. Year three survey collection commenced in May 2022.
- ✓ OCANZ developed and ran assessment workshops in conjunction with education providers.
- ✓ OCANZ conducted an external review of Board governance including evaluation and benchmarking.

It would not have been possible to deliver the Board's strategic directions in 2021-2022 without the support of the exceptional OCANZ staff team. The outcomes are a testament to the professionalism, commitment and passion of the OCANZ staff, Members, Committee Members and Directors and the many education, community and optometry professionals involved in our work. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by OCANZ.

I look forward to meeting with all Directors, Members and staff in person at the annual Directors and Members meeting in August 2022 to discuss OCANZ priorities in preparation for OCANZ new five-year strategic plan in July 2023.

**Professor Alex Gentle, Chair**

### 3.0 QUALITY FRAMEWORK REPORT

OCANZ reports to the Optometry Board of Australia (OBA) and the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board (ODOB), including against a Quality Framework for the Accreditation Function (Quality Framework) that was developed in Australia. When OCANZ performs its accreditation functions, it does so within the Quality Framework and its 8 domains. A summary of how OCANZ meets the requirements of each domain follows.

#### Governance

OCANZ has a robust governance structure with well-defined governance policies and processes in place that ensure that OCANZ meets its legislative and statutory obligations. The Board of Directors of OCANZ has adopted a strategic plan for July 2018-June 2023 which is supported each year by an annual business plan. Directors review progress against the annual business plan at every OCANZ Board meeting. A joint meeting with the Members is held annually to discuss strategic and operational issues.

#### Independence

There are clear procedures in place for ensuring the independence of OCANZ's activities, including identifying and managing conflicts of interest, complaints and appeals. There was one complaint received regarding an optometry program which was resolved during the year. OCANZ's complaints and appeals policies are available at <https://ocanz.org/concerns-and-complaints/>

#### Operational management

OCANZ employs its own staff to provide administrative and executive services to the organisation, which it supplements by the use of consulting and professional services, including academic experts, external accountants and information technology support services. A consultant was engaged for the review of both Accreditation Standards. As mentioned previously, a new CEO was appointed in February to replace the retiring EO. A new Accreditation Manager was appointed in January to replace the Accreditation Manager who was appointed CEO. The contract of the Indigenous Policy and Project Manager was extended by six months to assist with delivering the work program of the OCANZ Indigenous Strategy Taskforce.

#### Accreditation standards

Revised accreditation standards for entry level programs of study in optometry were finalised during the year and subsequently approved by the Optometry Board of Australia as required under the National Law. A review of the accreditation standards for optometry programs of study in ocular therapeutics was commenced. Detailed information on the review is available at <https://ocanz.org/accreditation/standards-review/>

#### Processes for accreditation of education providers and programs of study

OCANZ accredits nine programs at eight institutions against standards for the accreditation of optometry programs that OCANZ develops, maintains and applies. OCANZ has clearly defined procedures to ensure consistency, transparency and equity in undertaking accreditation decisions. Accreditation assessments are detailed in section 4.0 of this report.

#### Assessing authorities in other countries

This domain is not applicable because OCANZ assesses the competence of overseas trained optometrists as described below rather than evaluating assessing authorities in other countries.

#### Assessing overseas qualified practitioners

OCANZ assesses overseas trained optometrists by evaluating their qualifications and the subsequent conduct of standardised written and clinical examinations. OCANZ moved to holding written examinations online permanently in 2021 and clinical examinations recommenced in Australia in March 2022. More detailed examination information and statistics are presented in section 5.0 of this report.

#### Stakeholder collaboration

OCANZ has mechanisms in place to build stakeholder support and collaboration. This includes active membership of the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum which works collectively on interprofessional issues. The OCANZ Board adopted a communication and stakeholder engagement strategy which includes producing periodic newsletters.

## 4.0 ACCREDITATION REPORT

### Purpose

O CANZ assesses, for the purposes of accreditation, programs designed to produce graduates suitable for registration as optometrists in Australia or New Zealand. The accreditation process assesses whether a program of study, and the education provider that provides the program of study, is able to deliver graduates with the knowledge, skills and attributes to meet standards required for competent professional practice and with the necessary skills to maintain those competencies.

### Accreditation Committee

The Accreditation Committee makes recommendations to the O CANZ Board on matters concerning the accreditation of entry-level and ocular therapeutics training in Australia and New Zealand. The committee is responsible for implementing and administering accreditation in accordance with set procedures and standards.

The committee's roles include:

- to help develop and maintain O CANZ Accreditation Standards
- to oversee the accreditation assessments of programs and education providers by assessment teams which have been recommended by the committee and appointed by the O CANZ Board
- to review and approve the annual reports and evaluation reports from accredited programs
- to regularly review and evaluate the accreditation process to ensure fairness, transparency and conformity with good practice.

In 2021-2022, there were three meetings of the Accreditation Committee. The committee comprises 6 members. The term of appointment for each committee member is three years. Members are eligible for re-appointment on three occasions only (maximum of nine years in total), unless otherwise determined by the O CANZ Board. During the year Emeritus Professor Leo Carney was appointed by the O CANZ Board for a second term and Associate Professor Andrew Anderson was appointed for final three-year term. Jennifer Caulfield joined as a shadow observer and will be appointed by the O CANZ Board for a three-year term at their August 2022 meeting, replacing Peter Grimmer at the expiration of his term.

Member	Date of Commencement	No. meetings eligible to attend	No. attended
<b>Emeritus Professor Joyce Kirk (Chair)</b>	10/08/2018	3	3
<b>Associate Professor Andrew Anderson</b>	04/12/2015	3	3
<b>Emeritus Professor Leo Carney</b>	16/03/2018	3	3
<b>Ms Jane Duffy OAM</b>	10/08/2018	3	2
<b>Mr Peter Grimmer</b>	21/08/ 2015	3	3
<b>Dr Linda Turner</b>	03/05/2017	3	3

### Accreditation Standards

O CANZ accreditation standards are focussed on outcomes and are in harmony with and operate alongside the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) *Higher Education Standards Framework* and the institutional review requirements of the Academic Quality Agency (AQA) of New Zealand. The standards include guidance notes which are profession- specific and have been developed in collaboration with optometry stakeholders.

The O CANZ *Standards and Evidence Guide for Entry-Level Optometry Programs* available at <https://ocanz.org/accreditation/standards/> were approved by the Optometry Board of Australia in July 2016 and became effective on 1 January 2017. In March 2021, O CANZ commenced a review of the standards with

the appointment of Dr Lindsay Heywood as consultant and an expert Reference Group. The review was completed in 2021 with the OCANZ Board approving the new Standards in December 2021 and the Optometry Board of Australia approving them in February 2022. The 2023 OCANZ *Standards and Evidence Guide for Entry-Level Optometry Programs* will come into effect 1 January 2023 and are available at <https://www.ocanz.org/assets/Accreditation/7c3f0e44fc/OCANZ-Accreditation-Standards.pdf>

The OCANZ *Standards for Programs of Study in Ocular Therapeutics* available at <https://ocanz.org/accreditation/standards/> were approved by the OCANZ Board and the Optometry Board of Australia in 2017 and became effective on 1 January 2018. The review of these Standards commenced in April 2022 with the appointment of Dr Lindsay Heywood as consultant and an expert Reference Group. The revised standards are expected to come into effect 1 January 2024.

The *Optometry Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework* <http://ocanz.org/assets/Accreditation/1e67933cc4/Optometry-Aboriginal-Torres-Strait-Islander-HCF-OCANZ-Board-October-2018.pdf> took effect in January 2019. The Framework supports the OCANZ Board's commitment to ensuring that accredited programs of study produce culturally safe graduates through the development of cultural capabilities during their training. OCANZ has run annual workshops with education providers since 2018 to assist optometry education providers with the implementation of the Framework.

An *Optometry Māori Health Curriculum Framework* is currently being developed. See Section 6.0 in this report for further details.

## Accredited Programs of Study

OCANZ publishes summaries of accreditation reports after the reports have been approved by the OCANZ Board. The summary reports are on the OCANZ website at <http://ocanz.org/accreditation/accredited-programs-of-study>

## New Programs examined during 2021-2022

New programs apply to OCANZ in two stages. Stage 1 involves an initial assessment and must be approved before progressing to Stage 2.

### University of Western Australia

Program: Doctor of Optometry Program

Accreditation Status: Accredited with 5 conditions until 30 June 2024

In October 2021, the University of Western Australia provided its Stage 2 accreditation submission, addressing each of the OCANZ Standards and providing the associated 15 core pieces of evidence outlined in the OCANZ Accreditation Standards and Evidence Guide as well as a wide range of additional evidence. Due to COVID-19 pandemic border restrictions, the site visit was conducted virtually via video conferencing. The UWA program was accredited in November 2021 with 5 conditions. The conditions include the requirement to undergo a site visit by an OCANZ assessment team at the start of 2023 (Condition 1), a report on staffing (Condition 2), three reports by the end of Year 3 providing aggregated patient data and a qualitative analysis of patient consultations, reporting on external placements (Condition 3), OCANZ observation of the end of program OSCEs (Condition 4), and, a specified requirement for reaccreditation (Condition 5). The program was approved by the OBA in March 2022.

## Programs examined by Assessment Teams and/or Accreditation Committee during 2021-2022

### Flinders University

Program: Bachelor of Medical Science (Vision Science) and Master of Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited with two conditions until 30 June 2030

The Flinders program is accredited until 30 June 2030 subject to two conditions set out in the 2022 OCANZ Flinders University Assessment Team Report. The report was endorsed by the Accreditation Committee in April 2022, and approved by the OCANZ Board on 13 May 2022 and the OBA on 27 May 2022. Condition 1 relates to



their new curriculum including (a) notification of approval, (b) implementation strategy, and (c) reporting on implementation progress, including resourcing and staff development. Condition 2 requires reporting on progress on the implementation of the cultural competence plan outlined in the reaccreditation submission.

#### **Queensland University of Technology**

Program: Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 December 2022

The program was accredited in 2014 for eight years with no conditions. QUT submitted a reaccreditation submission on May 2022. An assessment team appointed by the OCANZ Board have reviewed this submission and will conduct a three-day site visit in August 2022.

#### **University of Canberra**

Program: Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited with 5 conditions until 30 April 2023

The University of Canberra optometry program has 5 conditions on its accreditation. The first condition, related to curriculum, was deemed met by the Accreditation Committee at their July 2020 meeting. Condition 2 was met in September 2021 and conditions 3 and 4 were met in part in May 2022. These conditions required reporting on the number of patients seen by students, the diversity of the students' patient experiences, the development of the campus clinical facilities and staffing. The University is currently reporting to OCANZ on a revision of their staffing plan.

#### **Australian College of Optometry**

Program: Australian College of Optometry Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics (ACO-COT)

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 December 2029 with 3 conditions

An assessment team appointed by the OCANZ Board reviewed ACO reaccreditation submission and conducted a two-day site visit in May 2021. The final report of the assessment team was approved by the OCANZ Board at their August 2021 meeting and the OBA at their September meeting. The conditions relate to conducting a review of external input into the program, strategy and plan for implementing cultural competence and review of the marking rubric for the oral examination.

### **Routine Monitoring of Programs**

Monitoring of all accredited programs of study is conducted through receipt of annual reports. In addition to the programs mentioned above, the following programs were monitored:

#### **Deakin University**

Program: Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 July 2027

Program was accredited in 2019 for eight years with no conditions

#### **University of Auckland**

Program: Bachelor of Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 December 2025 with no conditions

Two conditions were imposed after the program's 2017 reaccreditation assessment. One related to monitoring various curriculum changes in train but not yet implemented, and the other concerned the impact of the closure of one on-campus clinic previously operated by the University. Both conditions have been met.

#### **University of Melbourne**

Program: Doctor of Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 December 2023

Program was accredited in 2015 for eight years with no conditions

#### **University of New South Wales (UNSW)**

Program: Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Clinical Optometry

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 December 2027 with one condition

The condition on accreditation on the UNSW's optometry program related to the need for the UNSW optometry curriculum to better address cultural safety. Condition 1a required UNSW to develop an optometry program cultural safety plan and Condition 1b and 1c required reporting on the implementation of the plan. This condition has been met.

### **University of New South Wales**

Program: Graduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics

Accreditation Status: Accredited until 31 December 2024

Program was accredited in 2016 for eight years with no conditions

## **Monitoring of Material Changes to Programs during COVID-19 Pandemic**

Material changes to programs of study must be reported to and evaluated by OCANZ. Material changes are any changes that significantly affect the way an education provider meets the requirements of an Accreditation Standard. They include changes such as reorganising teaching or assessment from face to face to online delivery. The COVID-19 pandemic required all accredited optometry programs to make a variety of material changes to their programs of study in particular to the delivery of clinical training. At the end of March 2020, OCANZ implemented a streamlined and fast-tracked process to assess material changes to programs in response to the pandemic. Throughout 2021-2022, OCANZ assessed any accredited education provider that had made material changes and advised the OBA and ODOB of the approved changes. OCANZ will continue to review material changes to programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic as required. At minimum, each education provider is required within its annual report to describe any further changes made to the program during the year. This will include advising any material changes to the resources allocated to the accredited optometry programs.

## **OCANZ Accreditation Project Work**

### **Graduate and Employer Surveys**

The Social Research Centre is administering survey questions developed by OCANZ to optometry graduates and their employers. The purpose is to explore the extent to which optometry graduates are prepared for the workforce. The survey questions are additions to the existing Australian national survey instruments the *Graduate Outcomes Survey* and the *Employer Satisfaction Survey*. The first year of responses were collected from November 2019 to May 2020, with OCANZ receiving an analysis report in September 2020. The surveys will continue to be administered and analyses provided to OCANZ until 2024. De-identified data from the surveys is being provided to participating optometry education providers to assist with program review and improvement. OCANZ met with the SRC prior to the May 2022 GOS data collection to discuss options for increasing response rates on the *Employer Satisfaction Survey*. Wording in the GOS was amended, and optometric specific infographics were developed. OCANZ has developed a social media campaign for the final 4 weeks of the ESS to influence response rates. Further information is available at <https://ocanz.org/accreditation/graduate-outcomes/>

## **Collaborative Work with other Accreditation Authorities in the NRAS Scheme**

In 2021-2022 OCANZ continued its active involvement in the work of the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum (Forum). During the year the Forum published a Framework for accreditation requirements for the safe and effective use of medicines and members agreed to a joint approach to Cultural Safety Training for accreditation contributors. In October 2021, the EO and other Forum members participated in Universities Australia and National Alliance of Self Registering Health Professions joint workshops on COVID-19 learnings. The OCANZ Accreditation Manager is active on the Accreditation Managers' sub-committee of the Forum. During the year the accreditation manager contributed to projects in train to develop a Monitoring Framework and develop common assessment team training materials, as well as sharing approaches to the monitoring of accredited programs during COVID-19 and contributing to the Forum Interprofessional Education project.

## 5.0 ASSESSMENT OF OVERSEAS TRAINED OPTOMETRISTS REPORT

### Purpose

OCHANZ undertakes assessments of overseas trained optometrists wishing to obtain registration and ocular therapeutic endorsement in Australia and/or New Zealand. In addition, OCHANZ undertakes assessments for optometry graduates who are seeking skilled migration to Australia.

### Assessment for Skilled Migration to Australia

A person intending to migrate to Australia under the skilled migration program must obtain a skills assessment before applying to the Australian Department of Home Affairs. OCHANZ is currently the assessing authority for the optometry profession. Skills assessments can be issued by OCHANZ to people registered with the Optometry Board of Australia (OBA), and/or who have successfully completed the COE. In 2021-22 OCHANZ provided 19 positive skills assessments.

### Eligibility for the Competency in Optometry Examination (COE)

During the year 16 people applied and were deemed eligible to sit the COE (5 are currently being assessed by the EEC). This compares to 31 eligible applications assessed in 2020-2021, and 41 eligible applications assessed in 2019-2020. Applications included 13 from optometrists holding a qualification in optometry that entitles automatic admission to the examination, and 10 which required individual assessment – 3 were subsequently deemed eligible to sit the COE. Two other applications were assessed as not eligible (the Country of Institution where these applicants studied were Singapore and Lebanon). Five applications are currently being assessed.

Eligible applications for the COE by Country of Institution, with qualifications that entitled automatic admission to the examination, were as follows:

Country of Institution	UK	South Africa	Hong Kong	India
<b>No. Eligible Applications</b>	4	6	2	1

Eligible applications for the COE by Country of Institution, with qualifications that required individual assessments for admission to the examination, were as follows:

Country of Institution	Philippines	Nepal	Malaysia
<b>No. Eligible Applications individually assessed</b>	1	1	1

### Examination Eligibility Committee

The OCHANZ Examination Eligibility Committee (EEC) determines which qualifications in optometry are suitable for automatic admission to the Competency in Optometry Examination and undertakes an individual assessment for all applicants who do not hold such a qualification. The committee works predominantly by email to assess applications requiring individual review, and also met once during the period.

The committee comprises three members appointed by the OCHANZ Board. The term of appointment for each committee member is three years. Members are eligible for re-appointment on two occasions only (maximum of nine years in total), unless otherwise determined by the OCHANZ Board. Associate Professor Stephen Vincent was approved for a fourth term by the Board, ending in September 2022 (at which point Peter Hendicott will commence his appointment as Chair of the committee). Alissa Maillet has been appointed for a second term until March 2023 and Michael Hare has been appointed for two years until March 2023.

Member	Date of Commencement	No. meetings eligible to attend	No. attended
<b>Associate Professor Stephen Vincent (Chair)</b>	18/09/2014	1	1
<b>Mr Michael Hare</b>	16/03/2020	1	1
<b>Ms Alissa Maillet</b>	16/03/2019	1	1

## Examination Committee

The Examination Committee oversees the conduct of, and makes recommendations on, matters concerning the Competency in Optometry Examination and the Assessment of Competence in Ocular Therapeutics examination for overseas trained optometrists. Members of the Examination Committee also serve on sub-committees, one focussed on the written components of the examination (written sc) and the other on the clinical components of the examination (clinical sc).

The committee comprises six members appointed by the Board. The committee met twice during the reporting period and there were also 4 sub-committee meetings. The sub-committees additionally approve the results of each examination session by teleconference and/or email.

Member	Attending	Date of Commencement	No. meetings eligible to attend (incl. sub-committees)	No. attended
<b>Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert (Chair)</b>	Exam Committee; both sc	01/01/2017	6	6
<b>Dr Simon Backhouse</b>	Exam Committee; written sc	01/01/2017	4	4
<b>Mr Neville Chiavaroli</b>	Exam Committee; written sc	01/01/2017	4	4
<b>Associate Professor Anthea Cochrane</b>	Exam Committee; clinical sc	01/01/2017	4	4
<b>Dr Geraint Phillips</b>	Exam Committee; clinical sc	01/01/2018	4	4
<b>Associate Professor Katrina Schmid</b>	Exam Committee; written sc	01/01/2017	4	3

## Types of Exams

### Competency in Optometry Examination (COE)

OCANZ has been conducting the Competency in Optometry Examination (COE) twice yearly since 1997. The COE assesses the ability of overseas trained optometrists to meet Optometry Australia's Entry-level Competency Standards for Optometry, excluding the specific skills to be endorsed for ocular therapeutics. The COE comprises of four parts, two written and two clinical:

- Candidates who have previously been deemed eligible to sit the examination are required to pass two written papers before being able to proceed to the clinical section of the examination. The first paper, a multiple-choice question examination (MCQ) focuses on clinical science. The second paper, a short-answer question examination (SAQ) focuses on diagnosis and management. The written examinations in August 2021 and March 2022 were held as an online remotely proctored examination and this is a permanent change to the format of the examination.
- The clinical examination comprises two parts – the skills testing examination and the patient examination. The candidate is required to pass the skills testing component before being allowed to proceed to the patient examination. The skills exam tests each candidate's ability to perform 12 essential optometric techniques. All skills must be passed. The patient exam requires the candidate to conduct four patient examinations in a clinical setting. The candidate is required to achieve a pass in 3 out of 4 patient examinations. The clinical examination component of the COE is undertaken at

the Australian College of Optometry in Melbourne in accordance with OCANZ requirements. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated travel and health restrictions in place globally, the November 2021 clinical examination was offered for Australian-based candidates only but was cancelled due to no candidates expressing interest. An additional clinical examination was held at the University of Auckland in New Zealand in January 2022. With the reopening of Australian borders, an examination was held at the Australian College of Optometry in Melbourne in March 2022 in addition to the examination held in June 2022.

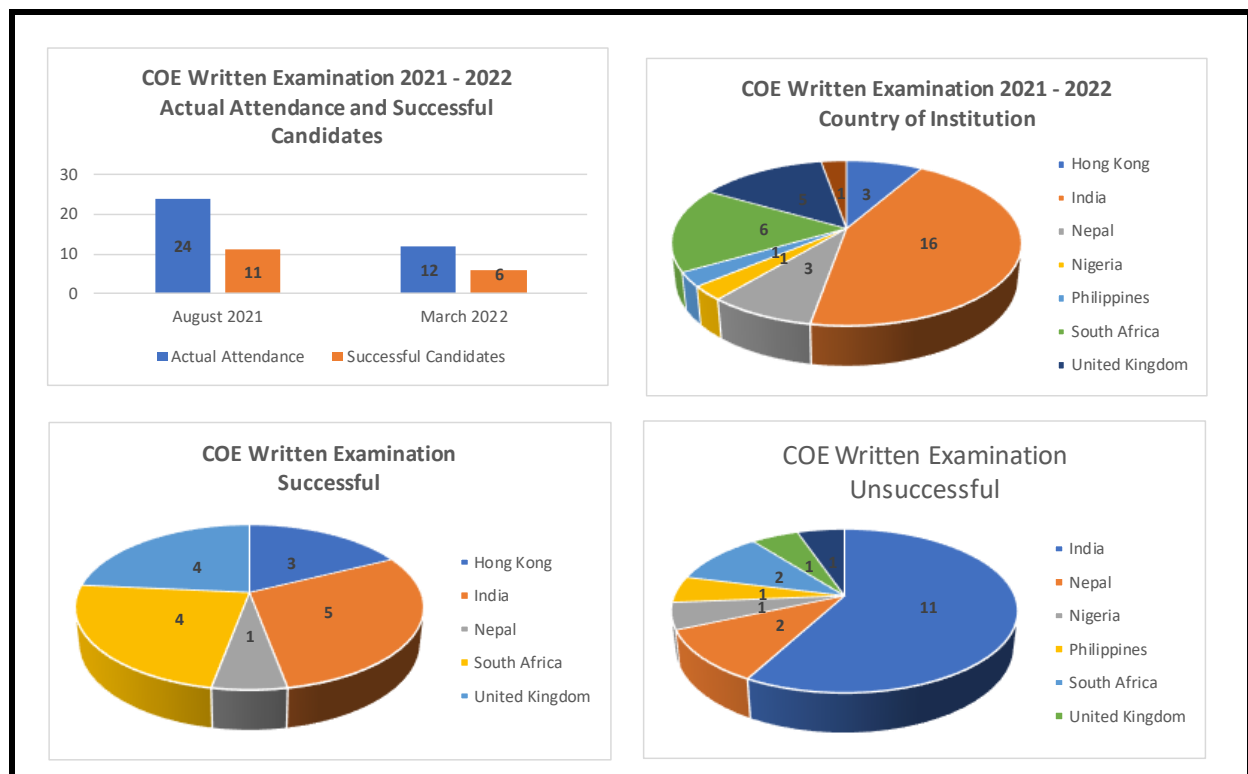
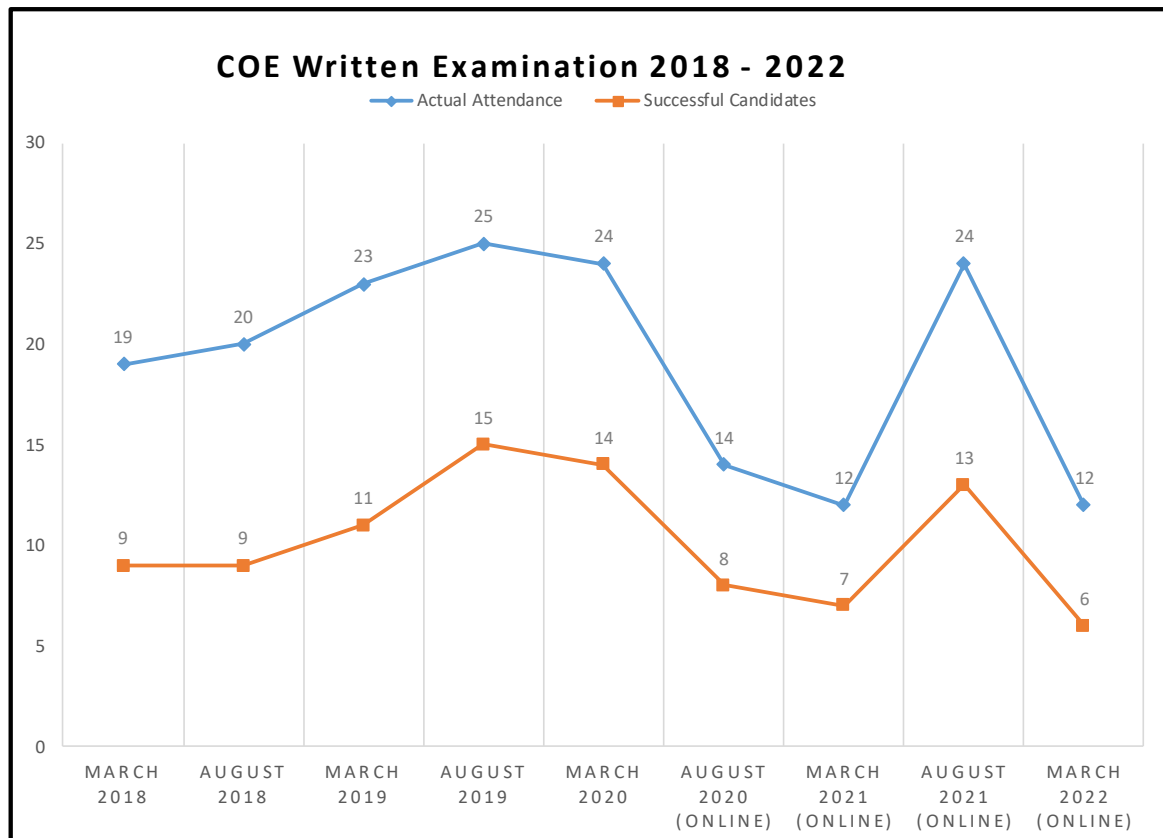
Candidates who pass the COE are eligible to apply for limited registration with the Optometry Board of Australia and provisional registration with the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board in New Zealand and must then complete either the Assessment of Competence in Ocular Therapeutics (ACOT) examination or an accredited program in ocular therapeutics within specified timeframes to gain full registration.

#### **Assessment of Competence in Ocular Therapeutics (ACOT)**

The purpose of this examination is to assess competence in Ocular Therapeutics (ACOT). To do this, candidates must demonstrate safe and competent use of ophthalmic therapeutic agents for a primary practice setting in the Australian or New Zealand situation. Candidates are required to prepare three case reports for assessment and sit an oral examination. One candidate from the UK successfully undertook this examination during 2021-2022, and two others (one from Canada and one from Australia who qualified in ocular therapeutics in the UK) are undergoing the examination process.

#### **Competency in Optometry Examination (COE) Activity**

The following two tables report on the Written Examination component of the COE. Historically the number of candidates sitting the COE written examination has varied from year to year, although the pass rate has remained fairly constant over time at around 50 per cent. Analysis of the written examination results is conducted using robust Rasch measurement theory, ratings of content experts and data from past exams. This ensures that the same level of performance is required to pass the exam over time. Candidate pass rates for the written examination in 2021-2022 were consistent with those in previous years, but candidate application numbers were reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following two charts report on the COE Written Examination component.

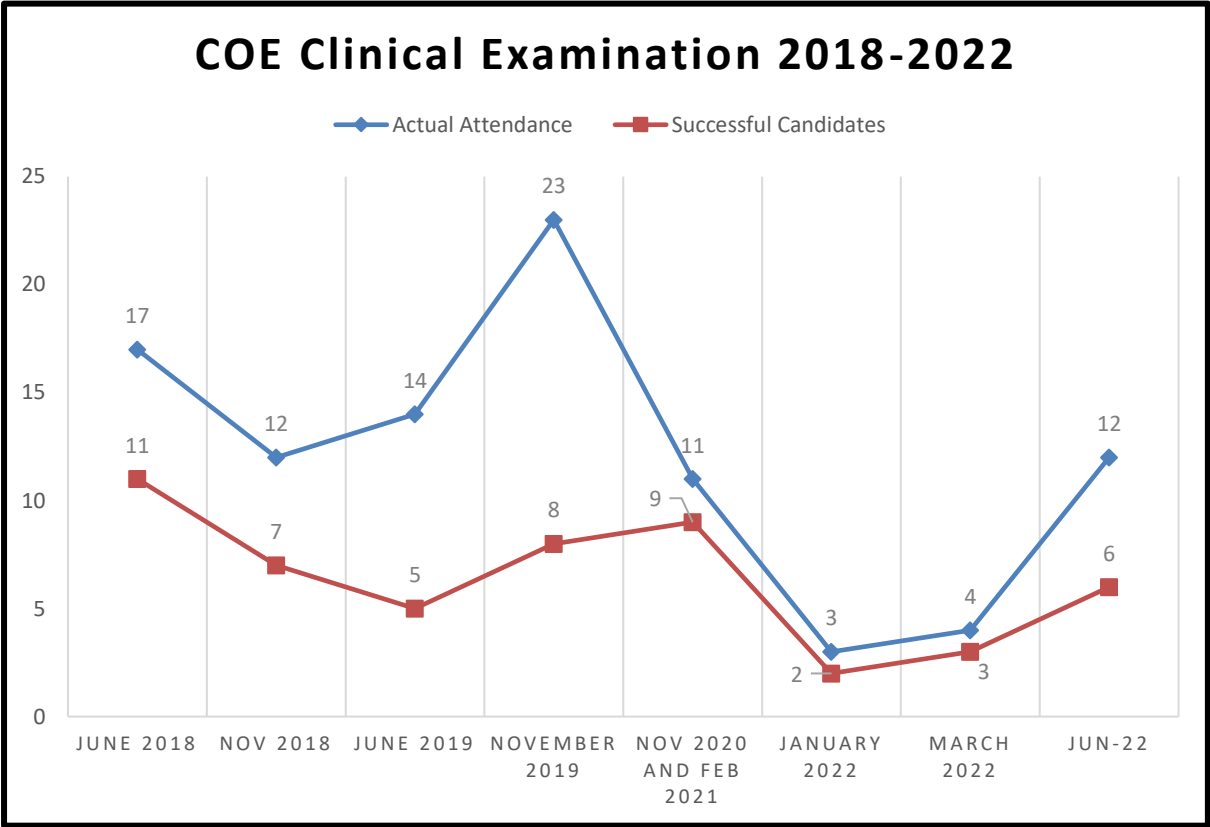


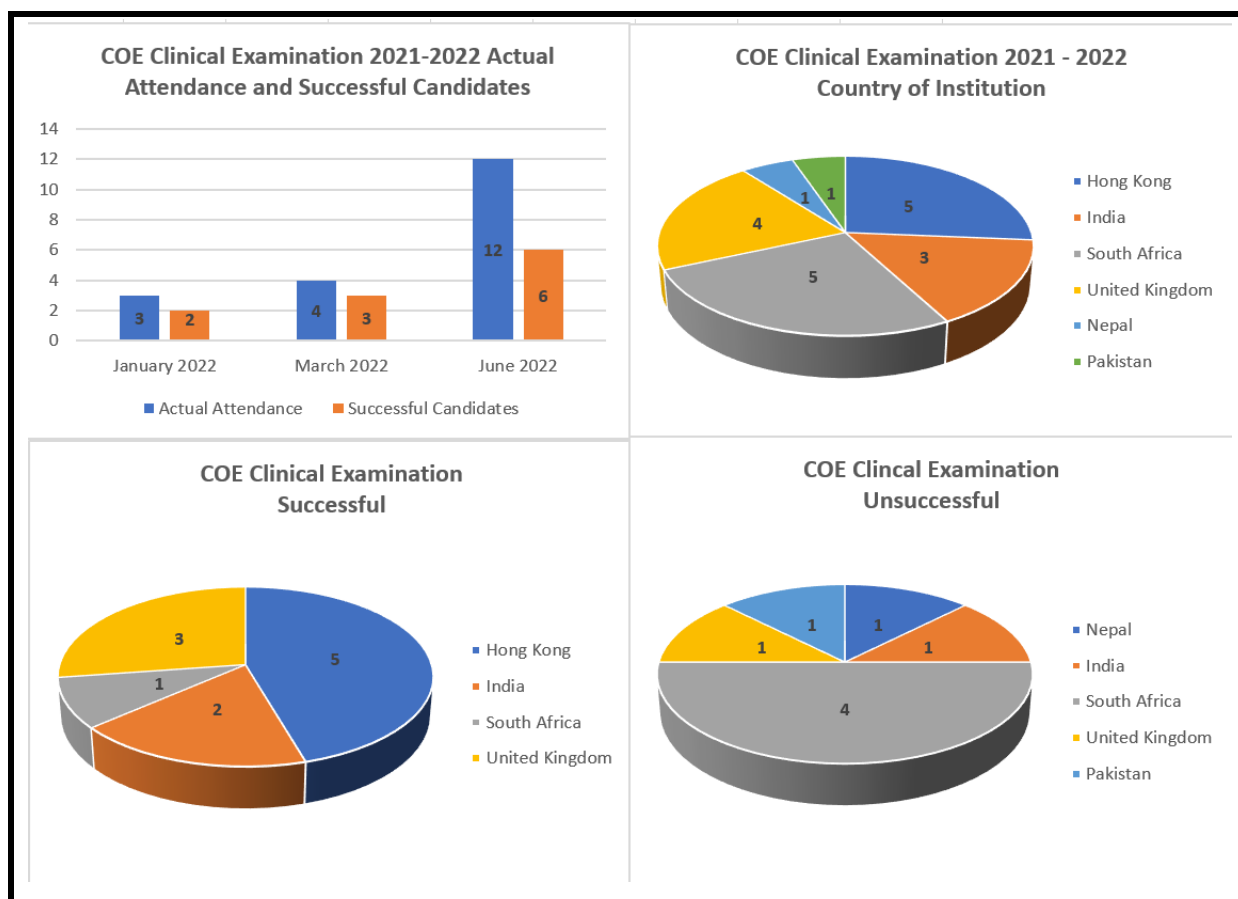
The following two tables report on the COE Clinical Examination component.

This year candidate application numbers were severely restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated border restrictions in Australia and New Zealand. Three candidates sat the clinical examination in New Zealand at the University of Auckland in January 2022. Four candidates sat the clinical examination in

March 2022 at the Australian College of Optometry and 12 candidates sat the clinical examination in June 2022 at the Australian College of Optometry.

For only the third time since 1997, due to pandemic lockdown restrictions OCANZ had to cancel one of its two annual clinical examination sessions. The November 2021 clinical examination was not held but an additional March 2022 exam was held.





## Other Work

During the year OCANZ continued to invest in the development of new Multiple Choice and Short Answer Questions for the written examination, and the updating of Short Answer Question marking guides.

The OCANZ Board commissioned a review of the COE following on from the findings of the 2021 report on the viability of remotely assessing clinical competence. A consultant and Reference Group have been appointed to undertake this review.

## Examination Workshops

As part of an initiative to help promote best practice in assessment, OCANZ has supported and part-funded a series of assessment workshops available to Schools of Optometry in Australia and New Zealand. To date workshops have been delivered to staff from the Optometry Schools at Deakin University, Flinders University, Queensland University of Technology, University of Melbourne, and the University of NSW. The workshops were well attended with between 14 and 20 academics attending each workshop.

The workshops have been designed by OCANZ Examination Committee member Mr Neville Chiavaroli, and co-delivered with members of the Examination Committee, namely: Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert (Chair of the committee), Dr Simon Backhouse, Associate Professor Anthea Cochrane, Dr Geraint Phillips, and Associate Professor Katrina Schmid. Neville is a Principal Research Fellow at the Australian Council for Education Research and an expert in assessment design and practice. He has been involved with the OCANZ assessment processes for over 10 years and been a member of the OCANZ Examination Committee since 2016.

The workshops have covered various aspects of assessment, depending on the interest and needs of each School. Topics covered include: the principles of quality assessment; developing written examination questions (multiple choice, extended matching, and short answer questions); assessing clinical skills with the OSCE format; promoting validity through peer review and statistical analysis; and formal standard setting of pass



scores. The goal of the workshop is for Optometry educators to consolidate and refresh their knowledge of quality assessment design and practical implementation.

The response of workshop participants has been very positive. A further benefit has been the opportunity the workshops have offered Optometry educators to come together and discuss and work through common assessment issues and challenges.

A follow-up evaluation of the workshop is currently underway to gather participants' feedback. The OCA NZ Question Writing Guide for MCQ and SAQ was also made available to each School to support further development in assessment practice.

## 6.0 INDIGENOUS STRATEGY TASKFORCE REPORT

### Purpose

The OCANZ Indigenous Strategy Taskforce was established in 2018 to make recommendations to the OCANZ Board on how to improve the contribution of optometry accreditation functions to better health outcomes for Indigenous Peoples in Australia and New Zealand and to help implement Board approved initiatives in this area.

### Taskforce Membership and Meetings

The Indigenous Strategy Taskforce's role is to advise the OCANZ Board on:

- how best to support the implementation of the *Optometry Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Curriculum Framework* across all Australian and New Zealand optometry education providers;
- supporting the development of an Optometry Curriculum Framework to address Māori peoples;
- how best to work with relevant partners to develop optometry clinical placements which work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori persons and communities;
- how best to work with relevant partners to encourage an increase in the size of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori optometry workforce; and
- other actions appropriate to the role of an Australian and New Zealand accreditation body to achieve a culturally safe health workforce.

In 2021-2022, there were three meetings of the Taskforce. The Taskforce comprises 8 members, with the term of appointment for each member being three years. At the November 2021 meeting, Professor Nicola Anstice replaced Professor Fiona Stapleton as an optometry academic member and Donna Murray joined as the Indigenous health sector expert.

Member	Date of Commencement	No. meetings eligible to attend	No. attended
<b>Associate Professor Mitchell Anjou (Chair)</b>	10/08/2018	3	3
<b>Professor Nicola Anstice</b>	20/08/2021	2	2
<b>Associate Professor Lilon Bandler</b>	01/05/2020	3	1
<b>Dr Andrew Collins</b>	19/10/2018	3	3
<b>Mrs Shannon Davies (Deputy Chair)</b>	22/02/2019	3	3
<b>Dr Shelley Hopkins</b>	19/10/2018	3	3
<b>Ms Donna Murray</b>	20/08/2021	2	1
<b>Professor Fiona Stapleton</b>	19/10/2018	1	1
<b>Mrs Renata Watene (Co-Chair)</b>	19/10/2018	3	3

### Taskforce Workplan and Activities

The Taskforce adopted its second work plan, which in 2021-2022 focused on these key areas:

- Activities to help embed the *Optometry Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Curriculum Framework* across all Australian and New Zealand optometry education providers primarily by supporting activity which helps further develop the Leaders in Indigenous Optometry Education Network (LIOEN)
- Progressing the development of an OCANZ Māori Curriculum Framework to be used across all Australian and New Zealand Optometry education providers
- Helping to strengthen OCANZ cultural safety training

The adapted *OCANZ Cultural Safety training for [overseas trained] optometrists' online program* was approved by a First Nations oversight committee and OCANZ CEO in April 2022. The adaptation project was informed by an extensive review, consultation and development process by the project team and expert individuals. Optometry content was developed based on the collective outcomes from two OCANZ Think Tanks held in July and August 2021. COE candidates from the June 2022 clinical exam will trial the program and provide feedback. OCANZ would like to thank the Australian Physiotherapy Council for allowing OCANZ to adapt the

*Cultural Safety Training for Physiotherapists* online program. OCANZ would also like to give special thanks to the OCANZ First Nation's oversight committee and the participants of the Think Tanks for their expertise.

Phase two of the Optometry Māori Health curriculum framework, undertaken by Iwi United Engaged Limited (IUE), was completed in November 2021. This phase included extensive community consultation and a literature review to inform the development of the framework in phase three. OCANZ are thrilled to announce that in May 2022 IUE were selected through a Request for Quote process to complete phase three of the project. Work on Phase three of the Optometry Māori Health curriculum framework has commenced, with a view to be finalised by February 2023. Phase three will include the development of a completed version of the *Optometry Māori Health Curriculum Framework*, informed by the outcomes of previous consultancies. This phase will also include work to align the *Optometry Māori Health Curriculum Framework* and the *Optometry Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Curriculum Framework* to recognise the cross-Tasman relationships and describes how to bridge uses of the two curriculum frameworks in optometry education programs delivered in each country.

In October 2021 OCANZ received VOTE grant funding to develop training videos and associated supportive learning materials that model culturally safe care in an optometric setting. A project reference group met in December 2021 to determine the scope and topics for the development of three teaching modules, which can be used by schools of optometry in their teaching curriculum or as standalone education resources. In May 2022 OCANZ engaged the services of Wingaru, an Aboriginal owned education company to develop the learning materials and produce videos. The teaching modules are due for completion in late 2022.

In May 2022 three OCANZ Staff members and the Co-Chairs of the Indigenous Strategy Taskforce attended the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference, on Larrika country in Darwin. The conference program aimed to advance the collective work of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health sector towards the shared goal of improving eye health access and outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. Delegates included representatives from Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and other primary care service providers, eye care clinicians, policy makers, researchers, non-government organisations, hospitals, professional peak bodies and government departments from across the country. OCANZ would like to congratulate Taskforce Co-Chair Mitchell Anjou for receiving an award to special allyship and contribution to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health sector.

#### OCANZ Board Activities

In August 2021 the Indigenous Strategy Taskforce agreed to develop an *OCANZ Commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Māori peoples health and wellbeing* statement which serves as OCANZ's public pledge to contribute to better health and wellbeing outcomes for First Nations peoples in Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand. The *OCANZ Board approved the commitment statement* in February 2022 and it is available on the OCANZ website.

In February 2022 the OCANZ Board advertised bursary awards for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori community members, students and/or academics who are working with one or more Australian or New Zealand optometry schools to improve the delivery of culturally safe curriculum and have a strong interest in Indigenous health. Each bursary was for up to \$2,000 to contribute to the costs of registration, travel, accommodation and meals to attend a professional development event approved by OCANZ. OCANZ was thrilled to award bursary supports to Shaun Tatipata (University of Western Australia), Alemka Davies (University of New South Wales), Holly Chinnery (University of Melbourne) and Jose Estevez Bordon (Flinders University). Of the successful applicants three attended the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander National Eye Health Conference (May 2022) and the fourth will use the funds to attend the Indigenous Allied Health Conference (November 2022).

In February 2022 the OCANZ Board approved ongoing culturally safety training for all OCANZ staff, Board and committee members. To support this OCANZ engaged Indigenous Allied Health Australia to deliver cultural responsiveness training to the organisation. Twenty-eight OCANZ staff, board and committee members have enrolled in levels 1 – 3 training. Access to self-paced, online levels 1 and 2 training was provided to participants in June and the level 3 interactive workshop will be held on the 27 July 2022.

## 7.0 FINANCE AND RISK REPORT

### Finance and Risk Committee

The Committee oversees OCANZ internal financial systems and accountabilities, monitors the accuracy and timeliness of the financial and non-financial reporting to the Board, reviews annual audit findings and the annual financial statements before presentation to the Board for adoption, and monitors corporate risk, including financial risk, and the internal controls instituted in response to such risks.

The committee comprises up to four members appointed by the Board, including a Chair who must be a Board Director. The term of appointment for each committee member is three years. Members are eligible for re-appointment on two occasions only (maximum of nine years in total), unless otherwise determined by the OCANZ Board. The committee met 4 times during the financial year.

Member	Date of Commencement	No. meetings eligible to attend	No. attended
<b>Mr Tony Lund (Chair)</b>	04/12/2015	4	4
<b>Associate Professor Mitchell Anjou</b>	17/04/2012	4	4
<b>Mr Damian Koppens</b>	21/02/2020	4	4
<b>Dr Linda Turner</b>	09/12/2016	4	4

### Financial Report Analysis 2021-2022

The subsequent Special Purpose Financial Report presents the finances of the Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand for the financial year ended 30 June 2022. The following discussion and analysis are provided to assist readers to understand the financial performance and position of OCANZ in this period.

### Statement of Comprehensive Income

The reported deficit from ordinary activities in 2022 was \$74,586. This represents a planned result of using reserves to fund project work and compares to a 2021 deficit of \$10,919.

Total revenue increased by a margin of 1 per cent, from \$787,939 in 2021 to \$796,285 in 2022. This included an annual increase of 3 per cent in accreditation and examination fees approved by the OCANZ Board. The contributions from registration boards also increased by 3 per cent, from \$370,308 in 2021 to \$381,418 in 2022.

Revenue from examination fees increased by \$64,482 from \$172,756 in 2021 to \$237,238 in 2022, with Australian borders reopening and enabling the clinical examination components of the Competency in Optometry Examination to recommence in Australia. Accreditation revenue increased from \$104,295 in 2021 to \$159,293 in 2022 due to fees for a new program assessment. These increases in revenue were offset by government pandemic support payments ceasing in 2022. In 2021, OCANZ had received \$112,873 in government assistance.

Total expenditure increased by 8.2 per cent from \$798,858 in 2021 to \$870,871 in 2022.

There were increased costs related to assessment panels and examination due to an increase in activity from 2021. In 2022, OCANZ spent \$107,959 on projects including the review of the accreditation standards for entry-level optometry programs; commencement of ocular therapeutics Standards review; ongoing surveys of optometry graduates and their employers to explore the extent to which all optometry graduates are prepared for the workforce; support to enhance various aspects of the Competency in Optometry Examination which assesses the competence of overseas trained optometrists for entry to practice in Australia and New Zealand; and the funding of a range of projects undertaken by the Indigenous Strategy Taskforce. The details of all projects which were funded are described in full in earlier sections of this report.

Employee benefits expense increased by 8.6 per cent from the previous year (from \$372,412 in 2021 to \$413,804 in 2022), reflecting annual wage inflation plus extension of the project officer's contract. Rent and occupancy expense rose 4 per cent, from \$46,093 in 2021 to \$48,035, in line with a multi-year agreement

related to the rental of the OCANZ office. Office expenses increased by 14% per cent (from \$55,645 in 2021 to \$65,372), mainly reflecting additional information technology and communication costs associated with setting up new staff to work remotely and ongoing support. Meeting costs also increased from \$39,717 to \$49,312 due to a return to face-to-face meetings.

### Statement of Financial Position and Change in Equity

Total equity decreased by \$74,586 to \$655,147. The total retained earnings of \$655,147 mainly comprised cash at bank and held to maturity term deposits plus non-current property plant and equipment.

### Statement of Cash Flows

There was a net decrease in cash flow from activities for 2022 of \$5,285 resulting in a cash and cash equivalent balance of \$97,482 at the end of the financial year.

### Other work - Finance and Risk Committee

In 2021-2022 the OCANZ Finance and Risk Committee, in addition to its regular oversight of the OCANZ budget and financial reporting, continued to monitor OCANZ risks using the OCANZ Board's management framework for the management of the organisation's financial and operational risks.

There was considerable work required in 2022 to manage the ongoing risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, with the Committee undertaking additional scrutiny of the impact of the pandemic on the OCANZ budget and advising the OCANZ Board on revisions to both the 2022 budget forecast and the forward budget estimates to 2024.

The Committee oversaw the annual cases for funding of OCANZ activities to the Optometry Board of Australia and the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board of New Zealand and oversaw the setting of accreditation and examination fees taking into account national requirements and international cost comparisons.

## 8.0 SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT 2021-2022

### 8.1 Directors' Report

The Directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2022.

#### Directors

The following persons were Directors of the Company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Emeritus Professor Leo Carney

Dr Andrew Collins

Professor Jennifer Craig

Mrs Shannon Davies

Professor Alex Gentle

Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert

Mr Tony Lund

Dr Linda Turner

Dr Lynn Weekes

Ms Katrina Yap



Pictured top row left to right are:

Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert, Professor Jennifer Craig, Dr Linda Turner, Professor Emeritus Leo Carney, Ms Susan Kelly (OCANZ CEO), Dr Andrew Collins

Pictured bottom row left to right are:

Professor Alex Gentle, Ms Katrina Yap, Dr Lynn Weekes, Mrs Shannon Davies (Absent: Mr Tony Lund)

In compliance with Section 23 of the OCANZ Constitution, Rotation of Directors, Mr Tony Lund, Professor Alex Gentle, Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert and Ms Katrina Yap all retired. Mr Tony Lund and Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert have each served two consecutive terms as Directors, and are eligible for re-appointment for a third and final term. Professor Alex Gentle and Ms Katrina Yap have each served one term and are eligible for re-appointment for a second term. All were reappointed.

New Director, Mrs Shannon Davies, a registered optometrist working in regional and remote Queensland and the first woman Aboriginal graduate of an Australian optometry program, was appointed by the OCANZ Board in December 2020 under Rule 21.7. This rule allows the Board to appoint an additional person to be Director, by unanimous resolution of the Board for the purpose of ensuring that the Board has suitable qualifications, skills and experience to discharge its functions from time to time. Each person appointed pursuant to this Rule must retire at the next Annual General Meeting of the Company and is eligible for election by the Members. Mrs Shannon Davies was reappointed to the Board.

In February 2022 Susan Kelly was appointed CEO and Company Secretary of OCANZ, replacing Sian Lewis who retired.

## Objectives

The objects of OCANZ, as set out in its Constitution, are all of the following:

- a) To grant accreditation to Australian and New Zealand optometry schools, departments and academic units and the courses/programs conducted by them leading to eligibility for registration as an optometrist in Australia and New Zealand.
- b) At the OCANZ's discretion, to vary, withdraw or suspend any accreditation previously granted by the OCANZ in the event that OCANZ resolves that such accreditation should be varied, withdrawn or suspended.
- c) To assess for admission to practice in Australia and New Zealand overseas trained optometrists.
- d) To advise and make recommendations to the Optometry Board of Australia (OBA) and Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board (ODOB) and to assist on matters concerning the registration of optometrists.
- e) To provide information to any Governmental Agency relating to law and policy concerning the registration of optometrists in Australia and New Zealand.
- f) To provide information and advice to any Governmental Agency relating to law and policy concerning the adequacy or otherwise of a person's skills in the field of optometry for the purposes of migration to Australia or New Zealand.
- g) To assess Australian and New Zealand postgraduate courses of study in the field of optometry (including but not limited to ocular therapeutic drugs) for the purpose of granting, varying, withdrawing or suspending accreditation.
- h) To assess the therapeutic competence of optometrists registered in Australia or New Zealand who have completed a non-accredited course of study in ocular therapeutic drugs.
- i) To perform activities ancillary to the education and registration of optometrists and accreditation of optometry courses or any other incidental activity related to the objects described above.

OCANZ is continuing to meet its short-term objectives to:

- Safeguard organisational governance through use of efficient and effective business processes
- Ensure the standards for the accreditation of optometry programs and the standards for the examination of overseas trained optometrists remain best practice



- Continue to deliver the accreditation function as defined under agreements with the Registration Boards of Australia and New Zealand
- Continue to plan and develop, in consultation with key stakeholders, OCANZ strategy and resources in response to the outcomes of the Australian Accreditation Systems review and other external factors.

OCANZ long-term objectives remain to:

- Consolidate OCANZ's position as a leader in accreditation and assessment standards
- Advocate for standards and safety in optometry education
- Support and encourage the exchange of expertise and information relating to accreditation and assessment nationally and internationally.

## Strategy to Achieving the Objectives

Directors have agreed a strategic plan to 30 June 2023 which is published on the OCANZ website at <http://ocanz.org/about/strategic-plan/>

OCANZ has four standing subcommittees that help Directors to oversee the activities of OCANZ:

- An Accreditation Committee that oversees the accreditation of programs of study
- An Examination Eligibility Committee that determines candidate eligibility to sit the OCANZ examinations
- An Examination Committee that oversees the examination of overseas qualified optometrists and
- A Finance and Risk Committee that supports OCANZ Directors in ensuring sound financial control and risk management.

OCANZ established an Indigenous Strategy Taskforce late in 2018. Its role is to make recommendations to Directors on how to improve the contribution of optometry accreditation functions to better health outcomes for Indigenous Peoples in Australia and New Zealand and to help implement Board approved initiatives in this area.

OCANZ engages with over 50 academics, clinicians, educationalists and experts in accreditation and assessment to support its activities.

OCANZ currently has a dedicated team of five staff to provide management and administrative oversight of OCANZ operational activities and to support the OCANZ committees and the Indigenous Strategy Taskforce. The staff are in regular communication with the OBA and ODOB with respect to registration matters and the Australian Government with respect to migration matters.

OCANZ has developed informal links with relevant accreditation and assessment bodies nationally and internationally and participates in the Health Professions Accreditation Collaborative Forum and the World Council of Optometry.

OCANZ collaborates with the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board of New Zealand and the Optometry Board of Australia to support the achievement of OCANZ objectives.

## Principal Activities

The Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (ABN 38 074 875 111) was registered as a company limited by guarantee in 1996.

The principal activity of OCANZ during the financial year was to provide the accreditation function as defined in the *Health Practitioners Regulation National Law (Victoria) Act 2009* (the National Law) to the Optometry Board of Australia, the optometric profession's registration body in Australia. The same activity (accreditation function) is also provided to the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board of New Zealand.



The accreditation function has two primary activities - the examination of overseas trained optometrists, and the assessment, against agreed standards, of the optometry programs of study in Australia and New Zealand which lead to registration as an optometrist. Both functions provide a system of quality assurance for the Registration Boards that registered optometrists are competent to practise to contemporary standards.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the OCANZ's principal activities during the financial year.

## Performance Measures

OCANZ has adopted a number of mechanisms to measure performance:

- OCANZ enacts annual business activity plans which outline a range of ways in which the OCANZ Board monitors and measures its performance
- OCANZ has published timelines for the processing of candidate application materials and the provision of results to candidates. Examination results are scrutinised externally to ensure transparency and accuracy
- OCANZ currently provides accreditation functions for the Optometry Board of Australia and the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board of New Zealand as per service agreements which expire on 30 June 2024. A new service agreement with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Authority (AHPRA) was signed in June 2019. A new service agreement with the Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board of New Zealand was signed in March 2020. Both agreements contain regular and defined performance reporting requirements
- The Finance and Risk Committee support the Directors in their oversight of the financial performance of OCANZ.

## Information on Directors

Emeritus Professor Leo Carney	
Qualifications	Bachelor of Applied Science, Master of Science (Optometry), Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Science
Experience	Emeritus Professor, Queensland University of Technology; Previous Head of School, School of Optometry, and Director, Centre for Eye Research, Queensland University of Technology; Previous Professor and Associate Dean, College of Optometry, The Ohio State University; Member, Optometry Australia; Fellow, Cornea and Contact Lens Society of Australia; Fellow, American Academy of Optometry, Member, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology; Registered Optometrist, Optometry Board of Australia; Honorary Life Member, Australian College of Optometry
Special Responsibilities	OCANZ Accreditation Committee member

Dr Andrew Collins	
Qualifications	Bachelor of Optometry, Master of Science, Doctor of Philosophy, Certificate in Ocular Pharmacology <i>Auckland</i>
Experience	Employed as Head of School in the School of Optometry and Vision Science, University of Auckland; Registered Optometrist; Member, New Zealand Association of Optometrists; Member, The Cornea and Contact Lens Society (NZ); Member, International Advisory Board of Clinical and Experimental Optometry
Special Responsibilities	OCANZ Board of Directors Deputy Chair; OCANZ Indigenous Strategy Taskforce member

Professor Jennifer Craig	
Qualifications	PhD, MSc (Cataract & Refractive Surgery), BSc (Hons), FCOptom, FAAO, FBCLA, FCLS
Experience	Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Auckland; Registered optometrist; Past Chair, Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board of New Zealand; Life Fellow, College of Optometrists, UK; Member, New Zealand Association of Optometrists (NZAO), NZ; Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada; Visiting Research Associate, Aston University, Birmingham, UK; Visiting Professor, Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou, China; Director, Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society (TFOS), USA; Councillor, International Society of Contact Lens Researchers (ISCLR), USA; Scientific Director, Eye Institute Ltd, Auckland, NZ; Fellow, British Contact Lens Association (BCLA), UK; Fellow (Dry Eye), British Contact Lens Association (BCLA), UK; Member, Cornea and Contact Lens Society (CCLS), NZ; Member of the Cornea and Contact Lens Society of Australia (CCLSA), Australia; Member, American Academy of Optometry (AAO), USA; Member, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), USA; Member, International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE), Canada; Associate Editor, Ocular Surface Journal, USA; Associate Editor, Ocular Immunology and Inflammation Journal, Netherlands; Director, Craig Dean Ltd, NZ; Member, ARVO Global Members Committee

Mrs Shannon Davies	
Qualifications	BOptom
Experience	Registered optometrist, Optometry Board of Australia; Member, Optometry Australia; Associate Member, Eyecare Plus; Optometrist, private practice
Special Responsibilities	OCAZ Indigenous Strategy Taskforce member

Professor Alex Gentle	
Qualifications	BSc (in Optometry) with First Class Honours, Diploma in Clinical Optometry (MCOptom), PhD, GCertUniTeach, PGCertOcTher
Experience	Professor in the Deakin University School of Medicine; Registered Optometrist, Optometry Board of Australia (OBA); Member of the Optometry Board of Australia Scheduled Medicines Advisory Committee; Member of the Victorian Optometrists Training and Education (VOTE) Trust Advisory Committee; Fellow, College of Optometrists; Fellow, Australian College of Optometry; Fellow, American Academy of Optometry; Member, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology; Member Optometry Australia (Vic/SA)
Special Responsibilities	OCAZ Board Chair

Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert	
Qualifications	Doctorat en optométrie <i>Montréal</i> ; PhD <i>UNSW</i> , Masters of Public Health <i>UNSW</i> , Postgraduate Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics <i>UNSW</i>
Experience	Associate Professor, School of Optometry and Vision Science, <i>UNSW</i> ; Registered optometrist, Optometry Board of Australia; Member, Optometry Australia NSW/ACT; Member, Editorial Board and Associate Editor, Clinical and Experimental Optometry; Fellow, American Academy of Optometry; Member, Association for Vision Research in Ophthalmology; Member, International Society for Contact Lens Research; Member, Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society; Honorary member, Ordre des Optométristes du Québec; Member, American Academy of Optometry Awards Committee; Member, editorial board, Eye & Contact Lens; Member, Editorial Board, PLoS One; Deputy President, Optometry Council of New South Wales
Special Responsibilities	OCAZ Examination Committee Chair

Mr Tony Lund	
Qualifications	Master of Arts <i>Cambridge</i> ; Fellow Chartered Management Accountant, CIMAG
Experience	Director MHM Limited, Japan; Board Member, Director and Treasurer, Nutcote Trust P/L - May Gibbs; Member, China Book International Advisory Board; Consultant with Beijing Joint Education Technology Company, China; Formerly: Managing Director Asia and Regional Finance Director, Asia Pacific, Cambridge University Press.
Special Responsibilities	OCAZ Finance and Risk Committee Chair

Dr Linda Turner	
Qualifications	Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) Southern Cross University; BA, BCom, MCom University of Auckland; DipTchg, North Shore Teachers College, Auckland; Fellow, Chartered Accountant (FCA); Graduate, The Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).
Experience	Governance roles - Surveyors Registration Board of Victoria, Surveying Taskforce, Southern Metropolitan Regional Council of Adult, Further and Community Education (ACFE), Victoria; Dove Hawkes Bay, NZ Institute of Chartered Accountants Board and National Council, President of NZICA 2009; Academic roles - Melbourne University Accounting Department tutor and mentor; Head of the Business Schools, UNITEC Institute of Technology and Manukau Institute of Technology, Auckland; and Eastern Institute of Technology, Hawkes Bay; Business roles – New Zealand Victoria Business Group (NZVBG) Director, Co-Founder WOMANZ network, KPMG Senior Consultant.
Special Responsibilities	OCAZ Finance and Risk Committee member; OCAZ Accreditation Committee member

Dr Lynn Weekes AM	
Qualifications	Bachelor of Pharmacy <i>Syd</i> , MSc <i>Syd</i> , PhD <i>UNSW</i> , GAICD
Experience	Former Chief Executive Officer and Board Director of NPS MedicineWise; Director, Health Strategy and Sciences Pty Ltd; Registered pharmacist; Reviewer Annals of Pharmacotherapy, Medical Journal of Australia, British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research; appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia 2013 for significant service to Australian community health through the promotion of quality use of medicines; Board Chair, International Society to Improve Use of Medicines

Ms Katrina Yap	
Qualifications	Bachelor of Optometry <i>Melb</i>
Experience	Registered optometrist, Optometry Board of Australia; Member, Optometry Australia; Optometrist, Vision at Mill Park and Vision at Broadway; Clinical Teaching Instructor, University of Melbourne; Committee Member, Cornea and Contact Lens Society Australia; Associate Member, Provision; Member, Australian College of Behavioural Optometrists

## Meetings of Directors

The number of meetings of the company's Board of Directors ('the Board') and each Board committee held during the year ended 30 June 2022, and the number of meetings attended by each Director were:

	Directors' Meetings		Committee/Taskforce Meetings	
	Attended	Held	Attended	Held
Emeritus Professor Leo Carney	5	5	3	3
Dr Andrew Collins	5	5	3	3
Professor Jennifer Craig	4	5	-	-
Mrs Shannon Davies	3	5	3	3
Professor Alex Gentle	5	5	-	-
Associate Professor Isabelle Jalbert	5	5	6	6
Mr Tony Lund	5	5	4	4
Dr Linda Turner	5	5	7	7
Dr Lynn Weekes	5	5	-	-
Ms Katrina Yap	5	5	-	-

'Held' represents the number of meetings held during the time the Director was in office or was a member of the relevant committee.

## Contributions on Winding Up

In the event of the company being wound up, ordinary members are required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each towards any outstanding obligations of the company.


At 30 June 2022 the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute to outstanding obligations were the company to be wound up is \$50, based on 5 current ordinary members.

## Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* is set out immediately after this Directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Signed on behalf of the Directors

  
Director  
Dated this 14th day of October 2022

## 8.2 Auditor's Independence Declaration



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AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER DIVISION 60 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012 TO THE DIRECTORS OF OPTOMETRY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2022 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Hung'.

Matthew Hung, CA  
rdl.accountants

9 August 2022  
Blackburn, Victoria

### 8.3 Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Revenue	4	796,285	787,939
		<u>796,285</u>	<u>787,939</u>
Assessment panels		(45,053)	(10,115)
Office expenses		(65,372)	(55,645)
Employee benefits expense		(413,804)	(372,412)
Examination costs		(96,872)	(71,084)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(16,627)	(14,239)
Major projects		(107,959)	(163,000)
Meeting costs		(49,312)	(39,717)
Rent and occupancy expense		(48,035)	(46,093)
Professional fees		(18,409)	(20,687)
Miscellaneous		(5,502)	(2,588)
Finance expense		(3,926)	(3,278)
		<u>(870,871)</u>	<u>(798,858)</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) before income tax expense</b>		<b>(74,586)</b>	<b>(10,919)</b>
Income tax expense		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Optometry Council of Australia &amp; New Zealand</b>		<b>(74,586)</b>	<b>(10,919)</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Optometry Council of Australia &amp; New Zealand</b>		<b>(74,586)</b>	<b>(10,919)</b>

## 8.4 Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		97,482	102,767
Trade and other receivables	5	(29,443)	(6,774)
Term deposits		750,000	855,126
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>818,039</b>	<b>951,119</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Bank guarantee		22,825	22,825
Property, plant and equipment	6	17,827	33,518
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>40,652</b>	<b>56,343</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>858,691</b>	<b>1,007,462</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	135,785	196,110
Annual and long service leave		62,404	78,433
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>198,189</b>	<b>274,543</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Long service leave		5,355	3,186
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>5,355</b>	<b>3,186</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>203,544</b>	<b>277,729</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>655,147</b>	<b>729,733</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		655,147	729,733
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>655,147</b>	<b>729,733</b>



## 8.5 Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2022

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	729,733	729,733
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year	(74,586)	(74,586)
Balance at 30 June 2022	655,147	655,147

2021

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2020	740,652	740,652
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year	(10,919)	(10,919)
Balance at 30 June 2021	729,733	729,733

## 8.6 Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Receipts from AHPRA		377,009	366,027
Payments to suppliers and employees		(939,627)	(804,519)
Receipts from New Zealand Board		38,683	37,556
Receipts from Examination Candidates		235,284	170,802
Interest received		8,609	9,499
Finance expense		(3,926)	(3,274)
Receipts from Accreditations		159,293	104,295
Other income		15,200	18,682
Government assistance received		-	112,873
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	10	<u>(109,475)</u>	<u>11,941</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(936)	(19,494)
Proceeds from / (payments for) investments		<u>105,126</u>	<u>(3,600)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>104,190</u>	<u>(23,094)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		(5,285)	(11,153)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>102,767</u>	<u>113,920</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year		<u>97,482</u>	<u>102,767</u>

## 8.7 Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

The financial report covers Optometry Council of Australia & New Zealand as an individual entity. Optometry Council of Australia & New Zealand is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Optometry Council of Australia & New Zealand is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

### 1 Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of those charged with Governance the company is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*, AASB 1048 *Interpretation of Standards* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

#### *Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards*

These financial statements do not comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in the Australian Accounting Standards. The material accounting policies adopted in the special purpose financial statements are set out in Note 2.

The entity has not assessed how its significant accounting policies differ from the recognition and measurement requirements contained in Australian Accounting Standards that do not apply to it.

### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Income Tax

The company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

#### (b) Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the company and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

##### **Interest revenue**

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

##### **Rendering of services**

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

## 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### (b) Revenue and other income

#### Rendering of services

##### Rendering of services

If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

##### Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the company is entitled to it.

### (c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

### (d) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

#### Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a reducing balance basis over the assets useful life to the company, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The estimated useful lives used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Useful life
Office Furniture & Equipment	5-10 years
Computer Equipment	2-3 years

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

### (e) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially using trade date accounting, i.e. on the date that the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

## 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### (e) Financial instruments

#### *Held-to-maturity investments*

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity. Investments are classified as held-to-maturity if it is the intention of the company's management to hold them until maturity.

### (f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

### (g) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements.

### (h) New Accounting Standards and Interpretations

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The company has decided not to early adopt these Standards and their impact on the company where the standard is relevant has not yet been assessed.

## 3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Those charged with governance make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

#### **Key estimates - receivables**

The receivables at reporting date have been reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that any of the receivables are impaired. The impairment provision is based on the best information at the reporting date.

#### **Key estimates - useful lives of assets**

The company determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

#### 4 Revenue and Other Income

##### Revenue from continuing operations

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
- Interest	5,415	6,305
- Examination fees	237,238	172,756
- AHPRA contribution	342,735	332,752
- Accreditation	157,014	107,015
- New Zealand board	38,683	37,556
- Other revenue	15,200	18,682
- Government assistance	-	112,873
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>796,285</b>	<b>787,939</b>

Income from government assistance relates to funds received from both the Federal and Victorian Governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds have been recognised upon receipt.

#### 5 Trade and Other Receivables

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	(32,847)	(12,096)
BAS receivable	172	2,605
Other receivables	3,232	2,717
	<b>(29,443)</b>	<b>(6,774)</b>

#### 6 Property, plant and equipment

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Office furniture		
At cost	4,518	4,518
Accumulated depreciation	(3,836)	(3,686)
<b>Total office furniture</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>832</b>
Office equipment		
At cost	16,745	15,810
Accumulated depreciation	(9,441)	(8,591)
<b>Total office equipment</b>	<b>7,304</b>	<b>7,219</b>
Computer equipment		
At cost	51,145	69,425
Accumulated depreciation	(41,304)	(43,958)
<b>Total computer equipment</b>	<b>9,841</b>	<b>25,467</b>
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>17,827</b>	<b>33,518</b>

## 7 Trade and Other Payables

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Trade payables	23,364	19,313
Exam fees in advance	12,690	16,640
Credit card	4,602	4,418
Accreditation fees	95,129	155,739
	<u>135,785</u>	<u>196,110</u>

## 8 Auditors' Remuneration

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by RDL Accountants, the auditors of the company:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
- audit of the financial statements	6,000	5,900
- other services	7,630	7,860
Total	<u>13,630</u>	<u>13,760</u>

## 9 Contingencies

### Contingent Liabilities

Optometry Council of Australia & New Zealand had the following contingent liabilities at the end of the reporting period:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Contingent Liabilities		
Bank guarantee	18,150	18,150
	<u>18,150</u>	<u>18,150</u>

## 10 Cash Flow Information

### (a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year	(74,586)	(10,919)
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- depreciation	16,627	14,239
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	22,669	(1,365)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(60,325)	(8,646)
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	(13,860)	18,632
Cashflows from operations	<u>(109,475)</u>	<u>11,941</u>

## 11 Events Occurring After the Reporting Date

The financial report was authorised for issue on 14 October 2022 by the board of directors.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

## 12 COVID-19 Event

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in reduced examination revenue due to limitations on international travel. With the Australian borders reopening, examination revenue has increased but is not yet at the levels pre COVID-19. The directors of the company consider that the company has sufficient financial resources to enable it to continue to operate for the coming year, and as a result, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

## 13 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business is:

Optometry Council of Australia & New Zealand  
Level 10, Suite 1003  
167 Queen Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000



## 9.0 DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that these special purpose financial statements should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 of the financial statements.

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 8 to 17, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
  - (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards as stated in Note 1; and
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of is in accordance with the accounting policy described in Note 2 of the financial statements.
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director 

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022

## 10.0 INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF OPTOMETRY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

#### Report on the Financial Report

##### *Opinion*

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and complying with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act Regulation 2013*.

##### *Basis for Opinion*

We have conducted our audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the directors of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

##### *Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting*

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

##### *Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report*

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

*Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Matthew Hung, CA  
rdl.accountants

14 October 2022  
Blackburn, Victoria