



Welcome to the October 2013 edition of the Opticians Association of Canada's INTRACOM. The INTRACOM is now the official name of the monthly newsletter of the OAC. The OAC's newsletter is sent out to OAC members on a monthly basis.

As a non-member, you are receiving this newsletter because the OAC sends out a version of The INTRACOM newsletter to non-members approximately 4 times per year. The intent is to keep our lines of communication open with all Opticians across Canada.



**BECOME AN OAC MEMBER TODAY AND RECEIVE THE  
REMAINDER OF THE 2013 YEAR FREE**

**FREE INSURANCE WITH OAC MEMBERSHIP**

In response to feedback received from Employers, Insurance companies, legal advisors and the Provincial Regulatory Colleges for Opticians, the OAC is now offering as a member benefit a \$1,000,000.00 personal professional liability insurance policy to all members FREE. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

**WHY BECOME A MEMBER?**

Our #1 priority is you, the Optician. The [Opticians Association of Canada](#) (OAC) is mandated to represent the specific interests of Canadian Opticians and to promote vision care in Canada.

The OAC is built by Opticians FOR Opticians.

Besides acting as a legislative voice nationally & provincially for Canadian Opticians, membership with the OAC offers many tangible benefits, such as free Professional Liability Insurance, free online CE tokens towards CE credits, discounts on online CE, special convention rates, group discounts on health, property & auto insurance and free or discounted magazine subscription rates, to name a few. For a full list of benefits, go to [www.opticians.ca](http://www.opticians.ca)

## I'm Just Sayin'....

I wonder how many Opticians' are as confused as I am about the following topic in this month's newsletter.... The Great Glasses saga and legal case that took place in Ontario has me absolutely baffled. I don't think I need to explain all the history and the facts of the case. We all watched it unfold in painful slow motion over many years. In a nut shell, the guy broke the law and was found guilty. His fines were in the millions and he went to jail for contempt of court and refusing to comply with the judge's orders. Ok, sounds simple enough. Here is where I lose it. The guy in question then proceeds to hop to another jurisdiction ( British Columbia) and set up the same business and even violate some of the same laws without so much as a shrug of the shoulders from the Attorney General in Ontario or in British Columbia. What happened to the fines? What happened to inter-provincial collaboration or even communication? Well this does not sit well with the Opticians of Canada and thus, does not sit well with the OAC. We are taking these concerns to both Attorney Generals offices in Ontario and British Columbia. We are asking for direct answers to our questions, for example:

- Have all fines levied on Great Glasses and Mr. Bergez been paid in full to the Ontario Attorney General's Office?
- Are the Attorney General and Ontario justice system aware that Great Glasses is 'jurisdiction hopping' as a way of mocking the Ontario Justice system and Mr. Justice David Crane of Ontario Superior Court?
- Are there any repercussions for Great Glasses and Mr. Bergez for deceiving the Ontario Justice system?
- Has the Ontario Attorney General's office informed their counterparts in British Columbia of their legal battle surrounding this business?

Stay tuned for copies of the correspondence and their answers to be posted on our [Facebook page](#) and [website](#). You deserve to have these answers and to know that the **OAC is out here working for you!**

**Thank you to every Optician who supports our profession through their participation in the OAC; your membership is appreciated.**



## Humanitarian Effort Supported by OAC & OOA

Licensed Ontario Optician and member, Gayle Harrison, has been invited to the Dominican Republic on a Humanitarian Mission with the [Samaritan Foundation](#). Gayle has been invited to assist in helping build a home and with food distribution. Gayle is excited about this opportunity to help strengthen the village communities and enrich the lives of others.

Although excited about helping with the build, as an Optician, Gayle immediately started to think about eye care in the Dominican. She did some research and discovered that although eyeglasses are dropped off to be worn, the village she is going to has never had proper Eye Care provided to them.

With this discovery, Gayle immediately decided she not only wants to help with the build while in the Dominican, she wants to provide Eye Care services. When this was presented to the organization, she was asked if these services could be offered to more villages while she was there. Now there are 3 villages who have asked for her skills. Gayle's vision is a big one.... she wants to set up a small 'Eye Care Center' in one of the villages that she can run during the week she is there, and leave it set-up to be used by other Eye Care Professionals when they go. Gayle would even like to provide guidance and training to those individuals who will be going after her to run the 'Eye Care Center'.




Gayle is actively searching for sponsors to not only help alleviate some of her expenses, but also to donate items that will help in the Eye Care Center. The [Opticians Association of Canada](#) and [Ontario Opticians Association](#) have stepped up to the plate for this cause.


Gayle is going to the Dominican Republic the week of January 25 - February 1. If you would like to help or donate, please contact Gayle at 20/20 Optical Services in London, ON at 519-649-0404 or email: [gayleharrison@primus.ca](mailto:gayleharrison@primus.ca)


*"It's easy to go and do a little bit of good for a short amount of time but if possible, we should aim for long term solutions. We don't go and set up tents for shelter, we build houses. So it's great for me to go and use my skills for a few days but if I can be the start of continuing eye care for communities that have never had that before, that's a goal worth achieving." - Gayle Harrison*

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## Cosmetic Contact Lenses: CALL TO ACTION



**Attention all Opticians:** Despite the passing of Bill-C313, Cosmetic Contact Lenses are everywhere! The media has been flooded with warnings about the risks of these lenses without consultation by a professional eye care provider. The OAC has posted a CALL TO ACTION on our [Facebook page](#) asking for your feedback.

**CALL TO ACTION:** From now until November 1st, the OAC is asking you to report any instances of eye injuries surrounding Cosmetic Contact Lenses to the OAC. Post on our [Facebook Page](#), or email the OAC directly at [canada@opticians.ca](mailto:canada@opticians.ca) It's time to expose these unregulated sellers and unsafe practices.

The OAC would also like to ask that if you notice any businesses selling cosmetic contact lenses without consultation by a professional eye care provider that you let us know. The OAC would like to send a letter to each and every business to inform them about Bill C-313 and warn them of the risks they are taking by selling what are now considered 'medical devices'.

[CLICK HERE to view the OCC Press Release advising the public about the dangers of cosmetic contact lenses.](#)

## Vision Canada Photo Booth Tips

[Johnson & Johnson](#) is hosting a photo booth at Vision Canada 2013.... which can only mean 1 thing: **F-U-N!**

Seriously, after giving your brain a workout during the educational presentations, you need to unwind. What is more fun than grabbing some fellow colleagues, putting on some silly props and posing for a ridiculous photo-op? Nothing I can think of.

## FINAL Schedule & Credits posted for VC 2013

Whew! The lecture schedule for [Vision Canada 2013](#) has been finalized and posted online, including ALL information about credits. Some of the lectures have been shuffled around to accommodate for speaker travel, so please go to [www.vision-canada.ca](http://www.vision-canada.ca) to check the final schedule.

Both days of Vision Canada 2013 will be offering an ample amount of CE credits (up to 11-13 per day), but more important, learning opportunities to enhance your knowledge as an Eye Care Professional!

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FINALIZED SCHEDULE](#)

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** The COBC Opticians Forum on Utilizing Technology and Standards of Care is available for **in-person registrants only**. This is an interactive session and will be **limited to 25 participants**; so be ready to interact! The forum will be run once on Saturday and once on Sunday. **Participants must RSVP for this Forum** and indicate which day they wish to attend. Spaces are reserved for paid registrants of Vision Canada only who are attending in-person and is on a first-come-first-served basis.

**Want to receive reduced rates on your Vision Canada registration fees? [Become an OAC Member!](#)**

Visit [www.vision-canada.ca](http://www.vision-canada.ca) for more event details

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Just a few tips and reminders before you step into the booth:

1. These photos may be posted online.
2. The photo booth is not to be used to get a new passport photo.
3. The more people you can squeeze into the booth, the better.
4. Photos without props are not nearly as fun or entertaining as photos that incorporate props.
5. Don't be a party-pooper, get a photo taken!
6. Have fun!



### 'Liking Us' could mean winning \$500 cash

A cash prize of \$500 is up for grabs at [Vision Canada 2013](#)! All you need to do is ['Like Us' on Facebook](#) and your name will be entered into the draw. Winner must be in attendance at [Vision Canada 2013](#), so don't forget to [register](#)!! If you haven't 'Liked Us' yet, GO [LIKE US NOW!](#)



Johnson & Johnson

OFFICIAL HEALTHCARE SPONSOR

[Johnson & Johnson Vision Care](#) is an official sponsor of the **FIFA World Cup in 2014**! Stop by the JJVC booth at [Vision Canada 2013](#) to learn how your patients have a chance to **win a trip to Rio** to see the game. They will also be raffling off soccer balls – all you have to do is take a pic in their photo booth to get a ballot to win!



### Successful Event in Manitoba

The Manitoba Chapter of the OAC hosted an incredible Education Event on Sunday, October 20th called 'Focus On Vision'. The event was very well attended with over 110 Manitoba Opticians and Student Opticians. The day was full of educational presentations, including the topics of Blue Light, 3D Vision: Binocular Vision Problems and Management of Dry Eye.

Along with educational presentation, the day also included a Graduation Luncheon to celebrate the recent graduates of the NAIT Optical Sciences Programs in Manitoba. The luncheon consisted of great food, great company and a great celebration! Check out the photos on the [OAC Facebook page](#).