

CODE OF ETHICS FOR CANADIAN ORTHOPTISTS (June 2005)

The Code of Ethics for Canadian Orthoptists follows the tenet that, as health care professionals, orthoptists certified in Canada must pursue the highest possible ethical standards, both on an individual and collective basis. The purpose of this Code is to acknowledge our acceptance of responsibility and trust accorded to us by both the public and our health care colleagues, and to recognize the accountability which is integral to that trust.

This code, as approved by the Canadian Orthoptic Council, establishes the standards of professional ethical conduct which each Canadian Certified Orthoptist is expected to observe.

**A Canadian Certified Orthoptist shall recognize and be accountable to the Canadian Orthoptic Council and its professional practice guidelines as they pertain to the practice of Orthoptics.*

** A Certified Orthoptist shall abide by a pledge of confidentiality to protect the patient's privacy, unless otherwise required by law.*

** A Certified Orthoptist shall deliver services in a professional manner, without misrepresentation, within the accepted Scope of Practice, and within the national/provincial laws applicable to the practice of the profession.*

** A Certified Orthoptist shall do no harm to patients, by act or omission.*

** A Certified Orthoptist shall treat patients, their families, and other supporting individuals with dignity and respect, providing care without regard to culture, religion, race, gender, age, language, sexual orientation or social profile.*

** A Certified Orthoptist shall maintain required levels of professional development and participate in career long self-directed learning.*

** A Certified Orthoptist shall work in partnership with ophthalmologists, patients, and their families and caregivers to provide the highest quality of care.*

I release the Canadian Orthoptic Council; its officers, directors and members, from liability for disciplinary or other actions taken in good faith pursuant to its bylaws, guidelines and policies.