



Canadian Orthoptic Council

Conseil Canadien d'Orthoptique

To all Canadian Certified Orthoptists.

You are probably already aware of the fact that the Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS) has cancelled the physical portion of this year's Annual Meeting scheduled for June 25th to the 28th 2020 in Vancouver. Please consult their website for details (www.cos-sco.ca)

The Continuing Education Committee (CE) of the COC is currently considering making some changes to the CE credit requirements during these uncertain times. In particular, we will wait to see how the online transfer of the COS meeting (and possibly also the TCOS program) will pan out, as we appreciate that many orthoptists rely on these meetings for their continuing education.

COC appreciates the potential difficulties that these changes pose for our continuing education, especially for those of you who are due to submit their CE report this year. COC is committed to creating fair and equitable solutions, as well as supporting members who may need special consideration regarding their CE credits.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind members that there are numerous self-study activities that can be completed at home that allow us all to accumulate credits. There are in fact many more of these online educational opportunities than existed even a month ago, as the restrictions that have been placed on physical meetings country-wide are affecting the entire medical community. Members are encouraged seek out and take full advantage of these opportunities to maintain the high professional standards of our profession.

Please remember to reach out and support colleagues and friends, particularly those of us who work in a more isolated setting. The nature of our work is by necessity up close and personal with our patients, and this places us all at a higher risk. Please be sure to follow your local infection control guidelines regarding personal protective equipment and indeed whether patients should be seen in clinic at all. These guidelines are constantly changing.

Yours sincerely,

The COC Board.