



ORILLIA OPTOMETRY

EYE CARE & GALLERY

TEAMWORK VISION THERAPY

There is a crisis in eye care. And I need your help.

Optometry services in Ontario are underfunded, with the clinics performing OHIP services at loss as OHIP only covers 55% of the overhead cost of the service (including rent, staffing, utilities, and equipment and before any doctor fees).

This is unfair, irresponsible, and unsustainable.

Ontario's optometrists are involved in job action as a result of government neglect and **we are no longer seeing patients covered by OHIP** (children, seniors, and adults with specific conditions).

The government refuses to negotiate with the intent of covering the cost to deliver the eye exam. **Ontario optometrists are the lowest compensated in all of Canada.** And even with a 70% increase in fees we would still be the lowest in Canada. **This shows the contempt of government towards optometry in Ontario.**

And now the government is content to wait us out, to not negotiate, waiting for the financial pressure to crack the profession. **They do not wish to govern, they wish to continue to bully a profession that has neglected for over 30 years.** The offer of \$39M for the last 10 years of neglect (amounting to \$1 per eye exam over 10 years) and an 8.48% increase in fees moving forward is proof of their arrogance and ignorance to the issue.

Without change from OHIP there will most certainly be change in the delivery of eye care as clinics can no longer provide health care at such a significant loss.

Currently we are not booking any OHIP eye exams, and we are no longer creating a wait list for appointments, as the government has not indicated any willingness to be fair, responsible, or to create a sustainable system.

We will be redirecting care to family physicians, walk in clinics, or for urgent cases to the hospital emergency department. After assessment they can refer to ophthalmology if needed.

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**If your patients want access to
high quality and accessible eye care
then we need you to speak up now.**

**WITHOUT HEARING FROM YOU
THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ACT.**

I have personally requested a meeting with our MPP, but have been met with silence. Just another way that the government has proven that optometric services are not important to them. But, if they are important to you then please reach out to the following government officials and let them know.

Simcoe North MPP

Jill Dunlop
Email: jill.dunlopco@pc.ola.org
Phone: 705-326-3246

Premier of Ontario

Doug Ford
Email: premier@ontario.ca
Phone: 416-325-1941

Minister of Health

Christine Elliott
Email: christine.elliott@pc.ola.org
Phone: 416-327-4300

Assistant Deputy Minister of Health

Patrick Dicerni
Email: patrick.dicerni@ontario.ca
Phone: 416-327-8929

I want to thank all of our great patient care partners for your support, and I look forward to the day that we are able to see patients back again in the office to provide what they deserve: the highest level of care.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Shawn Moore
Optometrist
Orillia Optometry**

For information visit: orilliaoptometry.ca/job-action/ and SaveEyeCare.ca

Website: orilliaoptometry.ca. Instagram: [@orillia_optometry](https://www.instagram.com/orillia_optometry)

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