

## **Derek MacDonald, OD '92**

Dr. Derek MacDonald was born in Manitoba and grew up (high school and undergrad study) in Saskatchewan, moving to Ontario to attend graduate from the University of Waterloo School of Optometry in 1992, and began full-scope private practice in Waterloo with special interest in ocular and systemic disease.

As a new graduate, Derek was a Clinical instructor at the University of Waterloo in the Ocular Health Clinic from 1993-1999. In 1999, he was elected to the Ontario Association of Optometrists (OAO) Board of Directors, and from 2005-2007 served as OAO President. Following his term, he stayed on as a Policy Consultant until 2009, acting primarily as an advocate for intra- and inter-professional and -organizational collaboration. He was elected to the Council of the College of Optometrists of Ontario in 2010 and served in this role until 2016, sitting on the Clinical Practice Panel of the Quality Assurance Committee, and chairing the Discipline, and Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee.

Dr. MacDonald is also a founding member of the Eye Health Council of Ontario (EHCO), a group of eye care professionals seeking ways to collaborate in order to improve access and delivery of patient care. He acted as advocate for optometry on this council from 2006-2015. This role was complimented through his involvement with the Waterloo-Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN). From 2007-2009 he was a member of the Health Human Resources Committee and from 2014-2016 was a member of the Vision Care Planning Group.

Dr. MacDonald is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), where he sits on the AAO International Admittance Committee. He is also on a member and on the Executive Committee of the Optometric Glaucoma Society and is a Fellow of the Optometric Retina Society. Derek is currently a Co-Chair of the Canadian Association of Optometrists Glaucoma Section and sits on the Glaucoma Quality Standard Clinical Expert Advisory Panel for Health Quality Ontario.

In addition to his involvement in clinical and political optometry, Derek has developed a keen interest in research, lecturing, and writing, primarily focused on glaucoma and retinal vascular disease. Since 2013, he has given 29 invited lectures, with some future lectures scheduled in partnership with faculty at the School of Optometry & Vision Science.

Dr. MacDonald also has 4 peer-reviewed publications, and as a member of the EHCO Writing Committee authored guidelines for the collaborative management of patients with diabetes, macular degeneration and glaucoma. Derek has also created COPE-approved written and online education focused on glaucoma and imaging, and has several new projects under development. He has contributed an online case report to

the Optometric Retina Society, and makes ongoing contributions to the Canadian Optometry Group and the Optometric Glaucoma Society.

With such extensive involvement in the profession, it is no wonder that Dr. MacDonald has already been acknowledged for his many accomplishments. It started with the University of Waterloo where during his graduation year he received the College of Optometrists of Ontario General Proficiency Award, the Beta Sigma Kappa Award, the Attridge Award in Pathology, and the CIBA Award for Clinical Excellence. In 1994, he received Clinical Instructor of the Year from the students.

The Ontario Association of Optometrists (OAO) then went on to recognize his leadership by presenting him with the President's Award in 2008, the Distinguished Service Award in 2009 and a Certificate of Appreciation in 2015. In acknowledgement of his dedication to patient care, he was named the Kitchener-Waterloo Optometrist of the Year in 2012.

Within the community, Derek has been on the Building Committee at Creekside Church and several committees at Westmount Golf and Country Club. He is married to and practices with University of Waterloo classmate Dr. Karen MacDonald. He enjoys cycling, traveling, and golfing.