
Welcome



FIGHTING
BLINDNESS
CANADA



CANADIAN COUNCIL
OF THE BLIND

VISION 2020



Summit

Join our distinguished panellists in conversations about vision research, living with vision loss, and access to vision health care.

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Welcome to the Canadian Vision 2020 Summit

On behalf of the Canadian Council of the Blind, Fighting Blindness Canada, and our partners the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the Canadian Association of Optometrists, and the Canadian Ophthalmological Society, we'd like to welcome you to the Canadian Vision 2020 Summit.

We're living at an exciting moment in history. Research is beginning to deliver treatments for the over 5.6 million Canadians living with an eye condition that puts them at risk of losing their sight. If diagnosed early enough, three out of four can avoid blindness. It's also a time when innovative new treatments that not only prevent vision loss but also restore sight are becoming a reality.

These developments hold important implications for our vision loss community. We need to be prepared for them — we need to support Canadian researchers and vision scientists in developing Canadian-made solutions to vision loss, while also ensuring that Canada's health care system is prepared to meet the radical shift posed by the arrival of innovative treatments such as gene and stem cell therapies.

We also need to develop tangible solutions to the unique financial and social inequities faced by the vision loss community. We need to present a unified front to federal and provincial decision-makers by offering solutions to the mounting costs associated with vision health care. This is particularly important as the number of people living with vision loss, which stands at 1.5 million Canadians reporting a vision impairment, continues to grow. Most importantly, we need to continue to impress on all Canadians that they get regular eye examinations and that some vision loss is avoidable.

As a valued member of our community, your perspective is essential in developing solutions to the challenges we all face. Thank you for being here. Together, we can find ways to avoid vision loss and restore sight to those who have lost it.



LOUISE GILLIS
National President, Canadian Council of the Blind



DOUG EARLE
President & CEO, Fighting Blindness Canada

CANADIAN COUNCIL
OF THE BLIND



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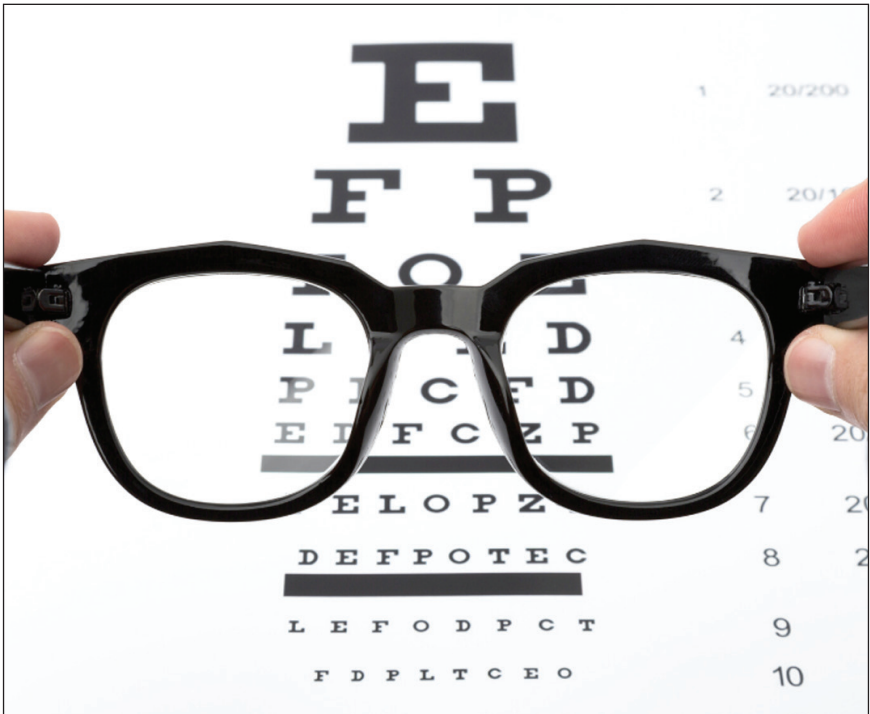
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES OPTOMÉTRISTES



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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Planning – Working Agenda

8:30 a.m. – Co-Hosts Opening Remarks – Louise Gillis, National President, Canadian Council of the Blind and Doug Earle, President and CEO, Fighting Blindness Canada

8:35 a.m. – Introduction of Speaker – Dr. Michael Nelson, President, Canadian Association of Optometrists

8:40 a.m. – Yazmine Laroche, Deputy Minister, Public Service Accessibility, Government of Canada

9:05 a.m. – Thank You to Speaker – Elisabeth Fowler, CEO, Canadian Ophthalmological Society

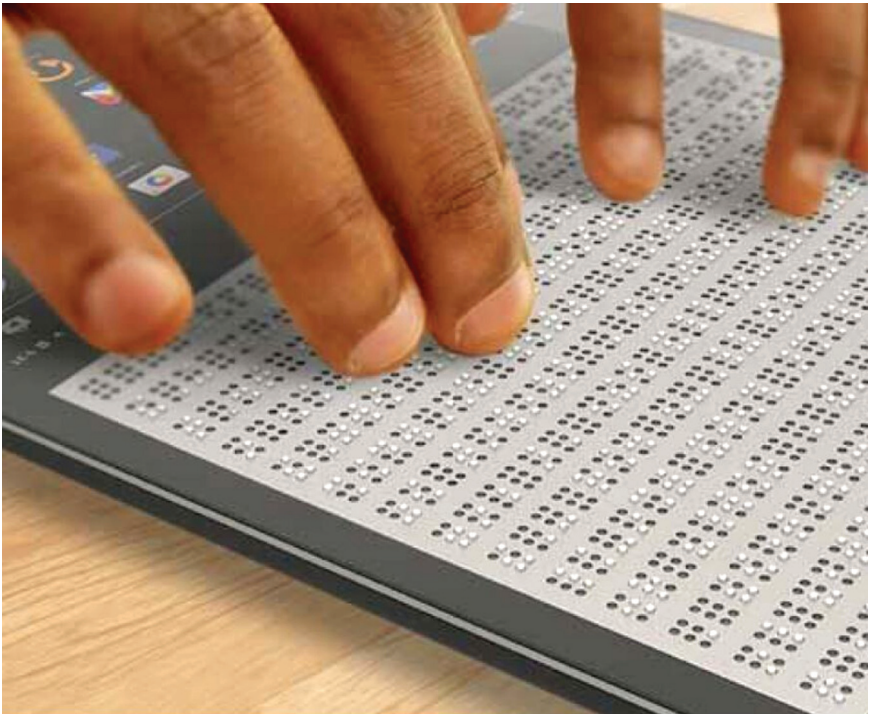


9:00 a.m. – Panel 1: Vision Research

A discussion of key advancements and hurdles in vision research, and what they mean for Canadians living with vision loss. Panellists will theorize what the next years and decades have in store for this exciting field as it continues to advance.

Panel Moderator: Doug Earle, President and CEO, Fighting Blindness Canada

Panel Members: **Dr. Michel Cayouette** | Chair, Scientific Advisor Board, Fighting Blindness Canada; Researcher and Director, Cellular Neurobiology Research Unit, Montreal Clinical Research Institute; Gaëtane and Roland Pillenière Chair in Retina Biology; Professor, University of Montreal and McGill University, **Stuart Morris** | Senior Analyst, Canadian Survey on Disability, Statistics Canada, **Dr. Catherine Tsilfidis** | Senior Scientist, Neuroscience Program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute; Don and Joy Maclaren Chair in Vision Research; Associate Professor, University of Ottawa.



10:00 a.m. – Panel 2: Living with Vision Loss

A discussion centered around the complexities of vision loss in Canada, with panellists providing perspectives on employment, accessibility, privacy, and more. Areas for progressive change in policy, technology, education, and labour will also be explored.

Panel Moderator: Louise Gillis, National President, Canadian Council of the Blind

Panel Members: **Luna Bengio** | Principal Advisor to the Deputy Minister, Office of Public Service Accessibility, Government of Canada, **Samantha Moore** | Co-Chair, 2019 National Young Leaders Program, Fighting Blindness Canada, **Albert Ruel** | Western Canada Program Coordinator, Get Together with Technology (GTT), Canadian Council of the Blind.



11:00 a.m. – Panel 3: Equity and Access to Vision Health Care

A discussion that considers issues of access and equity in Canadian vision care, with topics ranging from existing treatments and services to regulatory frameworks and pharmacare. Opportunities for collaboration and increased access will be a central consideration.

Panel Moderator: François Couillard, CEO, Canadian Association of Optometrists

Panel Members: **Connie Côté** | CEO, Health Charities Coalition of Canada, **Elisabeth Fowler** | CEO, Canadian Ophthalmological Society, **Dr. Aaron Patel** | Chair, Canadian Association of Optometrists Insurance Industry Working Group; Past President, Alberta Association of Optometrists, **Jennifer Urosevic** | Vice President Health Care Operations, Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada.

12:00 p.m. – Summit Recap and Closing Remarks

12:30 p.m. – Adjournment

How We Got Here, Where We're At, and Where We're Going: *White Paper and Event Timeline*

Oct. 01	Initial panel themes approved
Dec. 02	Final questionnaires sent to partners and key opinion leaders
Dec. 16	Deadline for responses to questionnaires
Jan. 07	White paper drafts go to partners for feedback
Jan. 09	Joint media advisory and media relations outreach
Jan. 09	Open registration for Vision 2020 Summit on Feb. 12
Jan. 13	Deadline for feedback from partners
Jan. 16	White paper drafts go live on ffb.ca-hosted Summit webpage for comment by Canadians
Jan. 16	Partner organizations email to members and supporters
Jan. 16	Joint media release calling on Canadians to comment on white paper
Jan. 31	Deadline for feedback from Canadians
Feb. 05	Summaries from feedback for panel moderator
Feb. 12	Moderator presents summary to draft white papers; panellists respond to white papers and their key points
Feb. 19	Next-to-final white papers to partners for comment
Feb. 25	Final white papers sent to production
Mar 09	Finalized, post-event white papers go live
Mar 09	Joint media release during World Glaucoma Week (March 8-14, 2020)



The Summit partners would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather, the City of Ottawa, is the traditional unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinabe People.



PRESENTING SPONSOR:

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CANADIAN VISION 2020 SUMMIT
8:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 12, 2020
At Christ Church Cathedral's Great Hall
414 Sparks Street, Ottawa, ON
