

Ontario Pharmacists Association (OPA)
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2025

Date: June 12, 2025

Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Chair: Hitesh Pandya, Chair of the Board

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Hitesh Pandya at 6:00 p.m. Quorum was confirmed, with 25 voting members present. No proxies were received. The meeting was duly constituted in accordance with the bylaws.

2. Opening Remarks

Chair Hitesh Pandya welcomed members and outlined the meeting agenda and voting procedures. Members were advised that the AGM would be followed by an Open Forum with OPA's leadership team. The Chair noted that only voting members were permitted to speak on matters before the AGM and confirmed that the meeting would proceed in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

3. Introduction of Board, Staff and Auditors

The Chair introduced the 2024–2025 OPA Board of Directors.

Key staff and advisors in attendance included:

- Justin Bates, CEO and Secretary to the Board
- Amedeo Zottola, CFO & Senior Vice President
- Angeline Ng, Vice President, Professional Affairs
- Allan Wadsworth and Amna Tariq, McCarney Group LLP

4. CEO Report

Justin Bates delivered the CEO Report, highlighting:

- OPA's continued advocacy to strengthen the financial sustainability of the pharmacy profession.
- Efforts to expand pharmacists' scope of practice and improve access to care for Ontarians.
- Ongoing advocacy regarding Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs), Preferred Provider Networks (PPNs), and patient autonomy.
- Work with government and stakeholders to secure sustainable funding for pharmacy services and support pharmacy's role in primary care.
- Continued investment in innovation, including MAPflow and Box Labs.
- Revenue diversification initiatives and the creation of new business opportunities to support member services and advocacy efforts.

5. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of OPA members who passed away in the past year.

6. Motions and Voting Results

Motion 1: Waive the reading of the auditor's report and accept it as read

- **Mover:** Kristen Watt
- **Second:** Janet McCutcheon
- **Result:** Carried

Motion 2: Approve the 2024 Audited Financial Statements

- **Mover:** Kristen Watt
- **Second:** Tim Langford
- **Result:** Carried

Motion 3: Reappoint McCarney Group LLP as auditors for fiscal year 2025

- **Mover:** Kristen Watt
- **Second:** Allan Braid
- **Result:** Carried

Motion 4: Approve amendments to By-Law No. 1 to adopt changes related to ONCA compliance and governance modernization

- **Mover:** Rachel Laurion
- **Second:** Marwah Younis
- **Result:** Carried

Motion 5: Approve the extension of Hitesh Pandya's term as Chair of the Board until the 2026 Annual General Meeting

- **Mover:** Janet McCutcheon
- **Second:** Tim Langford
- **Result:** Carried

Motion 6: Approve the 2025–2026 OPA Board of Directors

- **Mover:** Donnie Edwards
- **Second:** Andrew Hamilton
- **Result:** Carried

Motion 7: Adjourn the 2025 AGM

- **Mover:** Marwah Younis
- **Second:** George Daskalakis
- **Result:** Carried

7. Committee Reports

Audit & Finance Committee:

- Reported a lower-than-budgeted deficit of ~\$144,000 for 2023.
- Operating revenue decreased by 5%, expenses by 2%.
- Increased investment in advocacy and government relations.
- Approved continued investment strategy for 2024.

Economics Committee:

- Supported successful funding and regulatory approvals for new services.
- Advocated for ending pharmacy reconciliation adjustments.
- Supported long-term care capitation continuation and new biosimilar support fees.
- Initiated workforce planning studies.

Governance and Nominating Committee (GNC):

- Improved governance processes and board evaluations.
- Appointed new pharmacy technician board representative.
- Updated Vice Chair transition protocols.
- Reviewed director attendance and added new board terms.
- Selected 2024 OPA Award recipients.
- Initiated plans for membership model modernization and board election reform.

8. Board Member Departures

Farewell and acknowledgements were made for outgoing board members:

- Jaspreet Chager
- Michael Cheung
- Candace Chartier
- Tim Brady

9. Welcome to New Board Members

The following individuals were welcomed:

- **District Representatives:**
 - Allan Braidon (Northern Ontario)
 - George Daskalakis (Central Ontario)
 - Marwah Younis (Metro Toronto)
 - Andrew Hamilton (Eastern Ontario – returning)
- **Directors at Large:**
 - Rose Bodnar Kooter
 - Janet McCutcheon

10. Adjournment



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With no further business, the AGM was officially adjourned following the carried motion.

Approved by: Hitesh Pandya, Chair