



e-Wink 

The member only online
newsletter of OV/SA

NEWS

One-day conference success

Thanks to everyone who came to our first face-to-face one-day conference in Melbourne for two years, [SRC Mini: Melbourne](#). More than 200 of you heard presentations about anterior eye conditions and systemic diseases, mingled with colleagues and met new people. [Have a look at the pictures](#) from the day to see how many people you know who were there!



Sunday 17 July 2022
MELBOURNE





IAHA training opportunity

As part of [NAIDOC Week](#) celebrations, OV/SA in partnership with our national office, OA, committed to supporting members to access [Indigenous Allied Health Australia's](#) Cultural Awareness and Cultural Responsiveness training free of charge. This is a fantastic opportunity for optometrists to learn how to work better with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities so keep your eyes peeled for more details in the coming weeks. [Have a listen to OV/SA CEO talk about the program.](#)



Changes at Optometry Australia

OA CEO Lyn Brodie has [resigned](#) after five years at the helm. OV/SA CEO Ilsa Hampton and the team wish to acknowledge the remarkable contribution Lyn has made. The strength of our members' engagement is testimony to the hard work of Lyn and her team. We wish Lyn well in her next chapter.

In June, OA President and OV/SA member [Murray Smith resigned](#) and [Dr Margaret Lam was elected](#) to replace him. Murray previously served as President of Optometry Victoria making significant changes, including the amalgamation with Optometry South Australia, and securing the bid to host the World Congress of Optometry in Melbourne in 2023 along with O=MEGA23.

Expressions of interest open to join our Board

We are inviting [EOIs](#) from members who would like to explore possible nomination to serve on the OV/SA Board. The Board is made up of Victorian and South Australian members and is a great opportunity for experienced optometrists with skills in strategy, risk and compliance who want to contribute to the future of our association and wider profession.

We currently have one vacancy that needs to be filled by a Victorian member. If this is something you're interested in, please email OV/SA CEO Ilsa Hampton on i.hampton@optometry.org.au with a one-page CV, and 200 words outlining your contribution to OV/SA, the optometry profession and optometry and key issues you see facing OV/SA. If you know someone who might be suitable for the role then please do forward this to them.

EOIs close 29 July. For more information read our [OV/SA Board Vacancy FAQs](#).

COVID-19

Victoria: changes to requirements

The new Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas recently announced changes to the COVID-19 pandemic orders.

- The period when someone is considered a recently confirmed case and exempt from testing and isolation/quarantine requirements has been revised to four weeks, down from 12 weeks.
- Mask wearing in indoor and crowded settings is strongly recommended for the public to protect themselves and vulnerable Victorians through winter. **Masks are still required to be worn by optometrists, practice staff and patients.**
- Another round of the Victorian Government's Small Business Ventilation Grant Program will open, to help businesses invest in equipment that will keep workers and customers safe in indoor settings. The program is now open and closes on 8 September - see [Business Victoria grants and programs webpage](#) for more.
- The Victorian Government [Stay Well in Winter](#) public health campaign encourages the community to take up third and fourth COVID-19 vaccination doses, flu vaccination, the benefits of wearing a mask and maximising ventilation indoors.

There were no changes in South Australia. Check out our recent email or our website for the latest updates for [Victoria](#) and [South Australia](#).

EVENTS

Diabetes inter-professional webinar

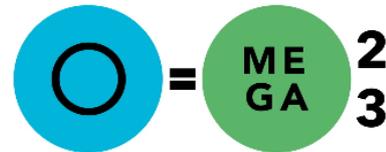
ECOV/SA, along with partners, will hold a diabetes webinar on 1 August. Eye health is an integral part of managing patients with diabetes. We believe that patient-centred care through high-level multi-disciplinary collaborative care is the best model of care.

In the webinar you'll hear how different health professionals and organisations contribute to the care of patients living with diabetes. The event is FREE and aimed at early career optometrists. The online event will run from 6:30-8:30pm AEST. [Book your place now!](#)



Add these events to your calendar

- CPR refresher courses in Victoria on [9 August](#), [12 September](#), [13 September](#), [26 September](#), [27 September](#), [3 October](#), [4 October](#) and [8 November](#)
- [Blue Sky](#) Adelaide on 11-12 November
- [O=MEGA23/ WCO4](#) registration opens 1 September



WE REMEMBER

Vale Richard Grills

We were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Richard Grills recently. Richard was a Director of the Optical Distributors and Manufacturing Association (ODMA), and Board Chair of ODMA for ten years. As our partner organisation in the O=MEGA conferences, we had a close and collaborative working relationship with Richard and the ODMA team in delivering those major events. We send our condolences to Richard's family, friends and colleagues.

