



Dear colleague,

The Vision Institute of Canada is holding its 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conference and Trade Show on **November 2-4, 2018** at the **Hilton Suites Hotel and Conference Centre** in **Markham, Ontario**. This year we have a 20 hour Category "A" Continuing Education Program featuring **Brad Sutton OD, Sheldon Herzig MD, Lisa Prokopich OD, Sarah MacIver OD, Valerie Kattouf OD, John D. Tassinari OD, Diana Shechtman OD, Jeffrey Gerson OD** and **Keynote Speakers: Professor William Ayliffe FRCS PhD** and **Cindy Blackstock PhD**. We invite you to register early and join us for our 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conference and Trade Show.

Our long tradition of providing high quality educational programs continues this year and, as a charitable organization, the funds we raise from this event support our mandate of providing clinical services to underserved communities and at-risk patient populations.

The Vision Institute was established in 1981 with funding from the Ontario Association of Optometrists, the College of Optometrists of Ontario and the University of Waterloo, School of Optometry. For 37 years the clinical staff and board of directors of the Vision Institute have worked to promote quality comprehensive vision care to Canadians across the country. **We are an independent voice for optometry-delivered quality vision care services and the only charitable optometry clinic in North America.** Your support is vital and we encourage you to come to Markham in November for another superb educational event.

As always, we will have one of the largest and best ophthalmic trade shows in Canada, along with a Vision and Eye Health Book Store, Silent Auction, a 6 hour CAO Approved Optometric Assistants Program, and the Annual General Meeting of the College of Optometrists of Ontario.

We look forward to seeing you in November.

Yours sincerely,

*Mira Acs*

Mira Acs, OD, FAAO  
President

*Catherine Chiarelli*

Catherine Chiarelli, OD, FAAO  
Director of Clinical Services

*Paul Chris*

Paul Chris, OD  
Executive Director

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***The Vision Institute of Canada is a vision care charity providing clinical services to underserved communities and at-risk patient populations.***

**JOIN US FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2018  
FOR OUR KEYNOTE LECTURE PRESENTATION**

**THE EVOLUTION OF VISION**  
**BRITISH MUSEUM LECTURE SERIES**

*presented by*

**Professor William Ayliffe FRCS PhD**

**Did the eye evolve and, if so, how? Creationists and evolutionary biologists have argued over this controversy since Darwin published *On the Origin of Species* in 1859. About 830 million years ago, in the Cambrian period, an explosion of the number of species occurred, and the possession of vision was a major survival advantage. Did these diverse eyes evolve separately many different times? Recent genetic research on eyes in insects and mammals reveals that they are more closely related than suspected.**

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**Professor William Ayliffe** is Emeritus Professor of Physic (Medicine) at Gresham College, London, England and a Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Lister Hospital in London. As well as being a practicing clinician and teacher, he also continues to carry out clinical research into the prevention of blindness.

After taking a first in Immunology at Imperial College, Professor Ayliffe qualified in Medicine in St. Bartholomew's Hospital London. Specializing in inflammatory eye diseases and corneal and cataract surgery he held a research registrar post at Oxford, before training in clinical .....

ophthalmology in Bristol, Manchester and Harvard USA. His PhD was on mechanisms of corneal transplant failure. He has worked in developing countries and also with ORBIS, the international flying eye hospital.

In addition to general ophthalmology, Professor Ayliffe has developed a local and tertiary referral service for cornea, uveitis and inflammatory eye disease. Professor Ayliffe is a winner of the prestigious Wix Prize for the History of Medicine and the Kabi-Pharmacia Prize for immunological mechanisms of corneal transplant rejection. He is a Reviewer for a number of professional journals including *Eye*, *British Journal of Ophthalmology*, *Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery*; he is an Examiner for the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and an Advisor to the UK Transplant Service. He has undertaken wide media and TV work for the national press, the BBC and Channel 4, has an extensive range of publications and has delivered prestigious lectures all over the world.

Professor Ayliffe took up his Gresham Professorship in 2009, the 200th anniversary of Louis Braille's birth. His lectures offered a cultural and scientific survey of the eye and vision, centering on the biological and cultural aspects of the human eye and vision, covering the overlapping medical, philosophical and humanitarian concerns of this area.

**JOIN US FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2018  
FOR A SPECIAL LECTURE PRESENTATION**

**FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN: HOW  
DISCRIMINATION UNDERMINES ACCESS  
TO HEALTH CARE**

*presented by*

**Cindy Blackstock, PhD  
Executive Director**

**First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada  
Professor, School of Social Work, McGill University**

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A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Cindy Blackstock has 25 years of social work experience in child protection and Indigenous children's rights. Her promotion of culturally based and evidence informed solutions has been recognized by the Nobel Women's Initiative, Indspire (formerly the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation,) Frontline Defenders and many others. An author of over 50 publications and a widely sought after public speaker, Cindy has collaborated with other Indigenous leaders to assist the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in the development and adoption of a General Comment on the Rights of Indigenous children. Cindy recently completed a Master of Jurisprudence degree and currently serves as a Commissioner for the Pan American Health Organization Commission on Health Equity and Inequity.