

## **DR. KRISTEN BENTLEY**

After owning and operating a successful Optometry business, for 16 years, Kristen became an International Facilitator/Trainer for the largest in-person coach training school in the world, The Coaches Training Institute, and owner of her own boutique Coaching and Leadership company - Coaching Resource. She has shifted her focus from helping patients clinically with their vision and sight to helping clients understand how their vision and legacy gets reflected in their day to day actions and interactions which contributes to one's quality of work-life experience. She is passionate about coaching and training Optometrists and other professionals that decide that it is their responsibility to create thriving futures for their businesses, families and lives, in the midst of today's complex, competitive and dynamic business environments.



## **DR. SHERIF EL-DEFRAWY**

Dr. El-Defrawy is Professor and Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences at the University of Toronto and the Ophthalmologist-in-Chief at Kensington Eye Institute. He is a Past President of the Canadian Ophthalmological Society and the Association of Canadian University Professors of Ophthalmology; and most recently was co-Chair of the Eye Health Council of Ontario. Dr. El-Defrawy received his Medical Degree from the University of Calgary in 1989 and residency in Ophthalmology at the University of Ottawa. He joined the University of Ottawa Eye Institute in 1995 and was Residency Program Director there from 1999 until 2004. He was Professor and Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at Queen's University, and Ophthalmologist-in-Chief at the University Hospitals in Kingston, Ontario from 2004 to 2012.

Dr. El-Defrawy has volunteered many times, travelling with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind's "Eye Van" providing eye health care in remote northern Canadian communities; and also on the ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital to, among other countries, underserved areas of Mongolia, Syria and Ethiopia.



## **DR. ANNE-MARIE LAHR**

Dr. Anne-Marie Lahr is responsible for technical and medical education. Most recently Dr. Lahr held the position of Assistant Professor at Salus University and she has more than 18 years experience as an instructor in the field of optics. Dr. Lahr is engaged in new product development and technical education. Her instruction is primarily with doctors to help them understand the impact of HOYA technology on the improvement in optics of our lens designs, materials and treatments. She is also responsible for conducting and managing all of HOYA's patient case studies and white papers.



## **IRV HANDLER, SCOTIABANK**

Irv Handler is Small Business Development Manager at the Bank of Nova Scotia where he coordinates the Bank's marketing and business development for small businesses and accredited
professionals in the Greater Toronto Area. With over 30 years of banking experience, Irv has
helped Canadian professionals and business owners, both large and small, develop financial
solutions for all of their business and practice needs. He understands the unique needs of both
the business and its owner and can offer simple, practical solutions to help keep you in control.
In addition to his duties at the Bank, Irv is a Mentor at the Rotman School of Management and is
a Volunteer Marshall annually at the Toronto Santa Claus Parade. Irv is a Fellow with Institute of
Canadian Bankers and has a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Toronto's
Rotman School of Management. He was born and bred in Toronto where he continues to live
with his wife and two daughters and granddaughter. Scotiabank is one of North America's
premier financial institutions and Canada's most international bank. Founded in Halifax in 1832,
Scotiabank has enjoyed continuing success by building on five core strengths – customer service,
productivity, risk management, diversification and a dedicated team of employees – and by
executing exceptionally well in its core business.



**DR. ANGELA PEDDLE** 

Dr. Angela Peddle received her Doctor of Optometry degree from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. While in optometry school, she was accepted into the Advanced Pediatric Tract where she learned to manage and treat pediatric patients with strabismus, amblyopia, oculomotor dysfunction, and other learning-related vision problems.\_Upon graduation, she completed a 1-year Residency in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation from SUNY State College of Optometry. Upon completion, she received the distinguished Dr. Martin Birnbaum Memorial Award for outstanding knowledge and skill in Behavioral Optometry. \_Dr. Peddle returned to Toronto where she opened her current practice, Vaughan Family Vision Care, with a focus on vision therapy, neuro-rehabilitation, pediatric eye care and special needs examinations. She is an associate clinical supervisor and lecturer at the University of Waterloo School of Optometry in both the Binocular Vision and Special Needs Clinics. Dr. Peddle is a Board Certified Fellow in developmental vision and vision therapy by the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (FCOVD) and is the founding president of COVT&R, Canadian Optometrists in Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation.



**LISA SPIEGEL** 

Lisa Spiegel is a Partner in the Toronto office of Miller Thomson's Health Industry Group with a special interest in health advocacy. Lisa assists health industry clients on a broad range of matters, with emphasis on medico-legal defence, professional regulatory issues and privileging matters. Lisa advises both public and private sector health industry clients. She also advises professionals both in the health industry and in other disciplines on professional regulation matters. Lisa has extensive experience in health litigation, having spent more than 10 years prosecuting at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario as Senior Counsel. While there, she conducted complex hearings relating to allegations of professional misconduct, including sexual abuse, incompetence and incapacity. She also routinely advised the College's Council and its Executives, Inquiries, Complaints and Reports, and Quality Assurance Committees. She was involved in legislative and regulatory amendments to health professional legislation and has expertise in out-of-hospital premises and health policy issues. Lisa has represented clients before the Superior Court of Justice, the Divisional Court and the Ontario Court of Appeal. With extensive experience in the specialized area of health law, Lisa provides clients with expert legal counsel, which is responsive, pragmatic and risk managed.



DR. VISHAKHA THAKRAR

Dr. Vishakha Thakrar currently has specialty contact lens practices at Vaughan Family Vision Care in Vaughan, Ontario and the Therapeutic Contact Lens Clinic at the Kensington Eye Institute in Toronto. Dr. Thakrar primarily sees patients with corneal and ocular surface disease who require specialty contact lens fits. She previously held the role of Director of the Contact Lens Service at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, and has spoken and written numerous articles on contact lenses.