

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**William F. Astle, MD, to Serve as IJCAHPO President**

ST. PAUL, Minn.—Jan. 11, 2018—The International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO) is pleased to announce that William F. Astle, MD, FRCSC, Dipl. ABO, recently began his leadership role as President of IJCAHPO's Board of Directors for a two-year term (2017-2019).

"With the recent change in our name to the International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO) from JCAHPO, I am very pleased to expand IJCAHPO's *new mission to promote global equitable comprehensive eye health through program accreditation and the education, certification and support of Allied Ophthalmic Personnel (AOP) for the eye care team.* This transition to include the global AOP workforce has been one of our organization's strategic goals for several years, and we are uniquely positioned to develop the education and certification of AOP globally," Dr. Astle said.

Dr. Astle is a pediatric ophthalmologist at the Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary, Alberta. He is also a professor at the University of Calgary in the surgery department and a consulting ophthalmologist at Foothills Medical Centre and Peter Lougheed Centre, which are both located in Calgary. His research interests include laser refractive surgery in children, pediatric cataracts and implantation of intraocular lenses in children, and amblyopia research.

Dr. Astle has an extensive history of service to IJCAHPO. He joined the organization in 1995 as the Canadian Ophthalmological Society representative. In 1999, he was elected to the IJCAHPO Board of Directors and has served in many roles, including chairing the International Relations Committee, the Education Committee and Certification Committee, and then President of the Board of Directors during his first term from 2007 to 2009. He started his second two-year term in August and was installed during the organization's Annual Meeting on November 10, 2017, in New Orleans.

About IJCAHPO®

The International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO), formally the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), was established as a not-for-profit organization in 1969 to offer certification and continuing education opportunities to ophthalmic allied health personnel. Since then more than 26,000 people in the U.S., Canada, and around the world have earned IJCAHPO® Certification. For more information visit: www.jcahpo.org.

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