



# FOR I KNOW THE PLANS “EYE” HAVE FOR YOU

## A RETROSPECTIVE

I have always been the kind of person that likes to have a plan. So, when I was graduating from high school and had to decide what was going to come next, I made a long-term plan for my life. I was going to spend three years obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree and then study Optometry at the University of Waterloo. I have often been asked why I chose optometry since I don't wear glasses myself, but I have always been interested in science — an interest that only grew at Providence thanks to the exceptional science program. Courses I took at Prov confirmed that this was what I wanted to do with my life, as I had the opportunity to focus many of my assignments on the eyes specifically. I gave presentations and wrote papers regarding how the eyes connect to overall health, which allowed me to learn more about the intricacy of the eye and increased my excitement about the possibility of entering optometry school.

I chose to attend Providence to obtain my first degree for numerous reasons, including the opportunity to play soccer as well as to grow in my faith. I greatly enjoyed the science program at Prov, as well as the Bible courses that I had the opportunity to take. The amazing community, including the soccer team that became my family, always made me feel like I was right where I was supposed to be. While almost the entirety of my first year was online, my second and third years were amazing in-person experiences. I enjoyed my classes, met some wonderful people who have become my closest friends, and to top it all off, our soccer team won a National Championship in what was supposed to be my last season.

I applied to the University of Waterloo for entry into Optometry in the fall of 2023 and was not accepted. This allowed me the chance to return



to Providence for a fourth year, extending my degree to a Health Science major. While I was excited to have the opportunity to spend one more year at Prov, this setback also forced me to examine the plans I had made. What if this was happening because I was never meant to become an optometrist and there was another path I hadn't considered? What if this wasn't the plan that God had for me?

Optometry was what I wanted to do, so instead of giving into these doubts, I took this time to improve myself as an applicant through studying and retaking the Optometry Admissions Test, gaining experience through working at an optometry clinic, and by changing my three-year to a four-year degree. This bonus year also granted me one more chance to be a part of a soccer team that has meant so much to me, and to continue studying in an excellent academic environment. I applied again, flew out to Waterloo to interview, and in my final semester at Providence, I was accepted to the University of Waterloo for entry in fall of 2024.

My time at Providence has been absolutely incredible and has allowed me to meet some truly

amazing people. My professors and classmates, as well as my coaches and teammates, have all been very influential in my life and have made me a better person. I can't imagine my life without the people I have met here and the experiences that have shaped me. I have learned about the importance of perseverance and resilience both on the soccer field and in the classroom. Most importantly, I have learned that it is always better to trust God's plan for our lives than to rely on the plans we make for ourselves.

I believe that I came to Prov for a reason, and that I had a fourth year here instead of getting into optometry school last year for a reason as well. As I transition into this next stage of moving out to Waterloo and entering the Doctor of Optometry program, I trust that God has a plan for the next part of my academic journey. I will forever be thankful that Providence was such a significant part of this plan.



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