

SCOPE *newsletter*

QUALITY PHARMACY CARE IN SASKATCHEWAN

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SCP President's Inaugural Address



**BARRY LYONS, BSP
SCP PRESIDENT
2013-2104**

There has already been a lot of discussion so far this weekend about the challenges and changes that are affecting our profession. There is an old Chinese curse, I think, that goes "May you live in interesting times." And these are indeed interesting times.

At times like this, what our profession needs is strong, strong ... citizenship. Not leadership, citizenship.

If you were here last night, you will have seen that my classmates and I were honoured as 25-year graduates. And as with any important anniversary, it has been a time of reflection for me, as I have looked back over my career and what has changed. As well, I have tried to look ahead and have wondered as to what the next 25 years will bring.

Jim Boxall spoke last night on behalf of the 50-year graduates. I was so impressed to hear the stories of their lives and careers, be it the dedication of serving the needs of a community, to having a prominent role in the province, country or indeed around the world. One of the things that

Jim said, that they had dispensed thalidomide, really made me stop and think "Wow, how things have changed." I couldn't really imagine that, and then about half an hour later I thought "Hold it – we dispense thalidomide right now" at the cancer centre where I currently work. (It is used in some hematological malignancies.)

Last year, Kim (Borschowa) reflected on presidents' inaugural addresses from the past, and said that she hoped that some of the things we are dealing with right now won't still be an issue in 30 years. We have been through interesting times in the past, and what has gotten us through those challenging times has been citizenship, not leadership.

As Kim was reading through the roll call for the deceased members over the last year, there were three names that stood out for me. Bev Allen was probably known by every pharmacist in the province. In fact, Bev called me before Kim came to Nipawin for a rotation in her final year of school, telling me that "One day she will be president of SPhA."

Susan Poulin, who coincidentally finished her career in community pharmacy in my home town of Kipling, was a role model, leader, educator, mentor and a terrific clinician.

But it isn't about those two leaders that I want to focus. Rea Knowles was a community pharmacist in

SCP COUNCIL 2012-2013

PRESIDENT & DIVISION 1

Kim Borschowa, Radville

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Barry Lyons, Saskatoon

PAST PRESIDENT

Joan Bobyn, Saskatoon

DIVISION 2

Lori Friesen, Melfort

DIVISION 3

Sheldon Ryma, Prince Albert

DIVISION 4

Doug MacNeill, Saskatoon

DIVISION 5

Spiro Kolitsas, Regina

DIVISION 6

Leah Perrault, Swift Current

DIVISION 7

Bill Gerla, Humboldt

DIVISION 8

Justin Kosar, Saskatoon

EX OFFICIO

Dr. Dean David Hill, Saskatoon

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Barbara deHaan, Biggar

Pamela Anderson, Regina

STUDENT OBSERVER

Amanda Stevens

SCP STAFF

Jeanne Eriksen

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Pat Guillemain

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE

ASSISTANT

Ray Joubert

REGISTRAR

Darlene King

RECEPTIONIST

Heather Neirinck

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Lori Postnikoff

FIELD OFFICER

Ginger Ritshie

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Jeannette Sandiford

FIELD OFFICER

Audrey Solie

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Amanda Stewart

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Andrea Wieler

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Continued from SCP President's Inaugural Address

Kipling, and I worked with him the summer of 1986, after my second year of university. One day I looked at the CPS, when it was (not very thick), and asked him if he knew everything in that book. He paused a moment, and then said, "Yep."

Rea was a terrific singer, and a dedicated pharmacist. He had polio as a child – I feel comfortable sharing that information as he had shared it with me – and had post-polio syndrome. He had days where it was not easy to move, and he had chronic pain. Regardless of how he felt, he always provided dedicated and diligent care to the people of his community. And it is people like Rea who are the face of pharmacy to the people we serve. It is citizenship that is most important for our profession, and the sense of responsibility to serve that comes with that.

The need for responsibility and citizenship won't change for our profession, nor will the focus on providing safe, effective and patient-centred care. What we do, how we do it, and where we do it all may change. But why we do it won't.

I don't mean why with a question mark. I mean Why as a statement. And it is often hard to find the words

to describe Why we do things. Simon Sinek is an author and speaker who introduced me to Why in the last couple of years. The what we do is easily seen by the public; the how we do things is what we spend a lot of time discussing at conferences such as this. I hope that we don't lose sight of why we do things, and that we reflect on that and remember that as we face the challenges of today.

It is a time for citizenship, not leadership. The SCP council and office staff is committed to enabling citizenship for our members, and improving our communication with you. We need your input on committees and through our surveys, as we work together to meet the needs of the people that we serve.

Regardless of where we practice, what we do, or how we do it, I do know that some things will not change. We will be empathetic when empathy is needed; we will be advocates when advocacy is needed; we will be caregivers when care is needed.

I look forward to our interesting times!

Thank you.

Barry Lyons, BSP
SCP President 2013-2104



VISION

Quality Pharmacy Care in Saskatchewan.

VALUES

Visionary Leadership

Professionalism

“Patient First” care

Accountability

Effective Communications

Collaboration, Education

KEY ACTION AREAS

Increased Public Involvement

Organizational Structure Review

Practice Re-design and Regulatory Reform

Citizenship in the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP)

Council Highlights – Elk Ridge May 3, 2013

The Registrar’s Report on the Strategic Plan - Quarterly Progress: Environmental Scan, May 3, 2013

- Internal Scan – Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists
- Increased Public Involvement
 - We have hired a PR consultant who will be working with the College to improve our Communications strategies to improve connections with the public and the membership
 - Organizational Structure Review
 - Administrative reorganization underway
 - Participate in joint fall PAS/SCP regional meetings (successful fall 2012)
 - Practice Re-design & Regulatory Reform
 - PIP CeRX integration ahead of schedule
 - Work continues on Pharmacist Services Framework within Saskatchewan Primary Health Care
 - Medication Safety pilot project planning underway
 - Prescription Review Program (PRP) revisions nearing completion
 - Pharmacy Practice Clinical Working Group (PPCWG) indicators drafted
 - Citizenship of SCP
 - Planning communications strategies underway
 - Committee retreat being considered (re Budget)
- External Environmental Scan - Ministry of Health
- Practice re-design focus on chronic disease management
 - Soft launch of EHR Viewer functionality phase in for integrated pharmacies – 79 pharmacies are now connected
 - Practice re-design shift focus to innovation sites versus more universal change

- External Environmental Scan – “9000 Points of Care: Improving Access to Affordable Health Care”
- Treating minor ailments and administering vaccines
 - Helping Canadians afford medications they need
 - Managing chronic diseases more effectively in low-cost, accessible environments
 - Making the most of Canada’s pharmaceutical distribution model
 - Preventing ADRs

- External Environmental Scan – “First Do NO Harm: Responding to Canada’s Prescription Drug Crisis” (National Advisory Council on Prescription Drug Misuse)
- Aligns with SCP’s key action “Leadership role in preventing prescription drug abuse”
 - 22/54 recommendations aimed at regulatory bodies and professional associations

Council Election 2013

For the 2013-2014 Membership Year effective July 1, 2013, Council consists of:

- President:** Barry Lyons, Saskatoon
President-Elect: Spiro Kolitsas, Regina
Vice-President: Bill Gerla, Humboldt
Division 1: Shannon Clarke, Estevan
Division 2: Lori Friesen, Melfort
Division 3: Geoff Barton, Meadow Lake
Division 4: Doug MacNeill, Saskatoon
Division 5: Jarron Yee, Regina
Division 6: Leah Perrault, Swift Current
Division 7: Bill Gerla, Humboldt
Division 8: Justin Kosar, Saskatoon
Past-President: Kim Borschowa, Radville
Ex-Officio: Dave Hill, Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, Saskatoon
Public Members: Barbara-Ann deHaan and Pamela Anderson

Continued from Council Highlights...

As reported in the May 2013 issue of SCOPe there will be the two sessions available to the membership regarding the **Quality Assurance Program** that we will be piloting with the assistance of ISMP Canada. At the end of the sessions we will be looking for volunteers to assist with the piloting of this project.

- September 15, 2013, 8:15 am, Saskatoon, TCU Place, Salon ABC

Proposed Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations (MMPR)

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health, announced on December 16, 2012 that the Government of Canada is proposing significant changes to the way Canadians obtain marihuana for medical purposes. It is proposed that the new Regulations would strengthen the safety of Canadian communities, while making sure patients can access what they need to treat serious illnesses. Council has begun discussions as to the possible involvement of the profession in providing marihuana to patients as contemplated in the draft Regulations as published in the Canada Gazette I at <http://hc-sc.gc.ca/hdp-mps/marihuana/future-avenir/index-eng.php>

Amendments to *The Pharmacy Act, 1996*

- Regulation of Pharmacy Technicians – we continue to promote the regulation of pharmacy technicians in the province. Through recent meetings with the Ministry of Health we anticipate that we will know by September 30, 2013 whether or not the opening of the Act will be placed upon the Ministry's legislative agenda.
 - Options being developed:
 - a) If *The Act* is amended and we have the authority to register qualified pharmacy

technicians as members in a defined scope of practice with title protection; or

- b) *The Act* is not amended and we implement bylaws allowing pharmacies to certify qualified pharmacy technicians to perform advanced functions according to the advanced scope of practice as contemplated in a) above.
- In anticipation of the day when pharmacy technicians become recognized to work at their full scope of practice, we are moving forward so that individuals are prepared once the legislation is in place to authorize such practice:
 - a) The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) will be holding a sitting of the **Pharmacy Technician Evaluating Exam in Saskatoon on Saturday, October 19, 2013. Deadline for registration for this exam is Tuesday, July 2, 2013.** Contact the PEBC office at www.pebc.ca for information.
- Scope of Practice
 - Administration of Drugs via injections and other routes
 - Immunizations
 - Injections and inhalations
 - Laboratory Tests
 - Ordering, interpreting and utilization of results for prescribing and dispensing decision making.
 - Ownership and Proprietorship
 - Clarify the delegation of powers to the Registrar, to amongst other things, issue permits;
 - Provide specific minimum information requirements that must be provided in support of all applications for a pharmacy permit, with the authority granted to the Registrar to request additional information, in order to evaluate whether the statutory requirements for the granting of a pharmacy permit have been met;
 - Provide a mechanism to appeal decisions of the Registrar to Council.

PIP Access as a Mandatory Standard

Progress Report. PIP CeRx integration is proceeding on or perhaps ahead of schedule. As of April 26, 2013 there are 214 of 346 pharmacies integrated: the expectation is that all should be integrated by the end of 2013 or early in 2014.

Council approved amendments to three documents in the Pharmacy Reference Manual:

- Supplementary Standards for Pharmacists: Care for Residents of Long Term Care Facilities
- Additions to SHIRP now complete the library requirements for proprietary pharmacies
- Guidelines for Customized Patient Medication Packaging / Compliance Packaging

The College will be distributing the **2013 Volunteer Recruitment/ Member Skills Inventory** survey this fall. Every 3 years the College surveys the membership to determine interest in the various Committees and Working Groups that support the work of the College. If you are interested in participating on a specific Committee please complete and submit the survey.

Conference 2013: Encompass: Navigating a New Direction



2013 PAS Annual Conference – Elk Ridge Resort – May 3-5, 2013

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists joined the Pharmacists' Association of Saskatchewan for their 2013 Annual Conference in Waskesiu the weekend of May 3-5, 2013.

A beautiful May weekend unfolded and the elk did not disappoint: they made their appearance on the adjacent fairway just as conference participants were heading over to the Pavilion for the Chair's Banquet on Saturday evening. It was a picture perfect setting as many took the opportunity to capture the moment.

The Conference began with the SCP Opening Awards Banquet. The evening honored the College of Pharmacy Class of 1963 and 1987 and the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition Class of 2003. As the evening was warm and pleasant the graduates gathered on the Lodge deck for their class photos.

50 Year Graduates - The Class of 1963



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BACK ROW: DICK WOO, JIM BOXALL, JOHN DUNCAN, & JIM MCNABB
FRONT ROW: LYLE BRADLEY, ZONIA POCHEREWNY, SHIRLEY COZENS, & BOB MILLER

The highlight of the evening was the introduction of the Class of '63 members in attendance, the sharing of their biographies, and the heartwarming words of wisdom from the Class President, Jim Boxall. Members of the class have worked in hospital pharmacy, community practice, and in pharmacy ownership, in the province and beyond. Some combined pharmacy and other careers (farming and ranching) while others moved to other disciplines and later returned to pharmacy. The one thing that comes through each of the biographies is their commitment to their communities through their active participation on town council, recreational boards and charitable organizations. Reflecting upon the passage of the years and the constantly changing environment in which they had practised, Jim reminded those in attendance of a message to this class from Dean MacAulay: "There is the letter of the law and there is the spirit of the law. The letter of the law is never enough." He encouraged younger pharmacists to face their daily work as informed and approachable pharmacists and to nurture relationship of respect and trust with their colleagues, other health professionals and their patients.

25 Year Graduates – The Class of 1987

Jeannette Sandiford introduced her classmates who were able to join us in Elk Ridge and offered her reflections of their days spent together in the Thorvaldson Building on campus.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BACK ROW: SHARON LYONS, ERIN BERRY, BRENDA YUZDEPSKI, JEANNETTE SANDIFORD, KIMBERLY SMITH & CAROLYN GRAY. FRONT ROW: MARK LANZ, BRIAN GRAY & BARRY LYONS.

10 Year Graduates – The Class of 2003



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BACK ROW: CHARITY EVANS, LINDSAY GRAY, JADE ROSIN, JODI BURCHILL, & JENNIFER DAWES
FRONT ROW: BRAD COOPER, CHRIS FEDOROWICH, & RYAN SILVER

Class President Brad Cooper spoke on behalf of the Class of 2003, and introduced his classmates who were presented SCP 10 year pins by President Kim Borschowa.

The College held their 102nd Annual General Meeting on Saturday, May 4, 2013. Both the President and the Registrar referred to their reports in the printed Annual Report and answered questions arising from it. David Hill, Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, gave his annual report on the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and the College's plans for the coming years.

Those in attendance rose for a moment of silent tribute to those members who had deceased over the past year:

- Bev Allen
- Priscilla Cook
- James Doerksen
- Warren Domres
- Eileen Hilsden
- Edna Hulth
- Rea Knowles
- Davis McHarg
- Don McIntyre
- May McKendry
- Duncan McPherson
- Susan Poulin
- Linda Wurm

During the Meeting Brian Henderson's name was entered into the records of the College as receiving the honorary designation "Member Emeritus".

The President's Luncheon was held on Saturday afternoon with President Kim Borschowa as Master of Ceremonies. Certificates of Recognition were presented to members for their outstanding service to the College:

- Upon their retirement from the Discipline Committee:
 - Joe Carroll
 - Bev Allen – this was awarded posthumously and accepted by Pat Allen on Bev's behalf.
- Upon their retirement from the Audit Committee:
 - Joan Bobyn
 - Paul Melnyk
- Upon his retirement from the Professional Practice Committee:
 - Zack Dumont
- Upon their retirement from Council:
 - Joan Bobyn – Joan sat on Council since July 1, 2010 and has fulfilled the role of Past-President during the current year.
 - Sheldon Ryma – Sheldon joined Council on July 1, 2011



REGISTRAR RAY JOUBERT CONDUCTED THE INSTALLATION OF THE INCOMING PRESIDENT MR. BARRY LYONS OF SASKATOON.

PHARMACY REFERENCE MANUAL UPDATES

Please check the Pharmacy Reference Manual on the College website for updates to the following documents:

1. New “Customized Patient Medication Packaging/ Compliance Packaging” document to **replace** the current “Customized Patient Medication Packages”. The revised guidelines provide more direction for pharmacists who are doing compliance packaging.
2. Revised “Supplementary Long Term Care Standards” document to replace the current document in the Reference Manual. The amendment addresses return and reuse of full cards for either the same patient or a different patient.
3. Revised “Recommended Resources for Reference Library Requirements” document to include the new CPhA resources: “Therapeutic Choices for Minor Ailments” and “Products for Minor Ailments” formerly titled Patient Self-Care” and “Compendium of Self-Care Products”.



2012-2013 OFFICERS: BARRY LYONS, PRESIDENT-ELECT; KIM BORSCHOWA-PRESIDENT; AND SPIRO KOLITSAS-VICE-PRESIDENT

This year the Canadian Foundation of Pharmacy presented the Past President's Award to the outgoing President in recognition of her commitment to the College and to the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan.



PAST PRESIDENT AWARD PRESENTED TO KIM BORSCHOWA.

THE MEANING OF CQA

By Ray Joubert, Registrar

As reported in this and the May 2013 issue of SCOPE and at our recent annual meeting, we are piloting a Continuous Quality Assurance Program modeled after the successful Safety-NET Rx program in Nova Scotia. Members are asking:

Q: Why?

A: Because it:

- Aligns with Saskatchewan health system planning. All in the system are expected to focus on a culture of safe patients and workplaces. Some goals focus on medication safety;
- Will replace our pharmacy practice review rating system with more meaningful and credible measures of the quality of our services;
- Supports our standards of practice by emphasizing medication safety for patients and safe medication practices within the pharmacy.

Q: My practice is safe. Why will I be expected to participate?

A: Because it:

- Will help you stay that way;
- Will identify improvements so that your practice can become that much better;
- Is measurable so that your performance can be used as a benchmark for lower performing practices to reach.

As we acknowledge the hard work and diligence members follow to ensure safety, we are optimistic that the Program will give us reason to **Celebrate Quality Assurance!**

“From the Desk of the Dean,”

May/June 2013

Dr. David Hill

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

A Pharmacy Curriculum Renewal Steering Committee has been struck in the College and began its work in March 2013 to develop a vision, curriculum implementation and resource plan to deliver a redesigned Pharmacy program. It is expected that the first class of the redesigned degree will begin studies in 2016, such that the College can meet the 2020 Association of Deans of Pharmacy of Canada/Association of Faculties of Pharmacy in Canada timeline to establish the PharmD as the first professional degree in Pharmacy throughout the country.

The steering committee membership includes:

- **Chair** – Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk, Associate Dean Academic
- **Division of Pharmacy faculty members** – Jane Alcorn, David Blackburn, Charity Evans, Derek Jorgenson and Kerry Mansell
- **Division of Nutrition and Dietetics representative** – Shawna Berenbaum
- **Pharmacy practitioners** – Kim Borschowa, Barb Evans, Paul Melnyk and Bill Semchuk
- **Pharmacy student representative** – Kelsey Zulyniak
- **Health Sciences representative** – Liz Harrison, Associate Dean Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Medicine
- **Ex officio members** – Dean David Hill, Division of Pharmacy Head Roy Dobson and Project Manager Linda Suveges, with College staff support

This project will be one of the most critical and ambitious undertakings for the College in the past 25 years and is necessary to ensure our pharmacy graduates continue to have the essential skills to care for patients in an era of scope of practice enhancements, increasing complexity of pharmacotherapy and health care system changes. As the College moves forward with the steering committee's work, we will seek advice and counsel from our pharmacy colleagues in the Province and beyond.

The College is also considering the development of a Doctor of Pharmacy program, offered in a non-traditional format (i.e., combination of distance education and placements) for BSP graduates, who are interested in bridging to a PharmD.

If you have questions or comments on the above, please get in touch with me at david.hill@usask.ca. We welcome your feedback.



Attention all Pharmacy Assistants: PEBC Pharmacy Technician Evaluating Exam

Saturday, October 19, 2013 in Saskatoon
(Information provided by PEBC)

The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) will be holding a sitting of the Pharmacy Technician Evaluating Exam in **Saskatoon on Saturday, October 19, 2013**. For all pharmacy assistants working in Saskatchewan who are interested in becoming Certified with PEBC this exam is the first step. **The Registration deadline for this exam is Tuesday, July 2, 2013.**

The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada is the national certification body for the profession of pharmacy in Canada. The www.pebc.ca website is the official source for information regarding the PEBC certification process for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

The purpose of the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada is to assess qualifications for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians on behalf of participating provincial regulatory authorities. To that end, the Board awards Certificates of Qualification to those applicants who pass a Qualifying Examination. A major responsibility of the Board is to assure the achievement of a minimal level of competence to practicing at an entry-level. The rigorous certification process administered by PEBC ensures the quality of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians entering practice and is a vital component in the delivery of safe and effective health care to Canadians.

Provincial legislation restricts the practice of pharmacy to qualified persons. The PEBC Certificate of Qualification for pharmacy technicians is one entry-to-practice licensing requirement in all provinces that have regulated pharmacy technicians.

Although pharmacy technicians are not currently recognized as a regulated health profession in Saskatchewan there is some urgency for pharmacy assistants who are interested in regulation to begin the process for Certification through PEBC. PEBC has approved a request from the Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada to extend the deadline for successfully passing the Evaluating Exam to December 31, 2018 which allows those currently working in the field an opportunity to make arrangements for completing the necessary steps leading to Certification with PEBC and ultimately registration as a Regulated Pharmacy Technician in the future.

Steps to Certification with PEBC for candidates who have not graduated from a Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) accredited program:

1. Document Evaluation
2. PEBC Evaluating Examination
3. PEBC Qualifying Examination

Steps to Certification with PEBC for candidates who have graduated from a CCAPP accredited program:

1. CCAPP accredited program diploma/certificate
2. PEBC Qualifying Examination

To become registered for the evaluating exam you must have your qualifications evaluated. The Evaluating Exam is a two-step process:

1. **Document Evaluation** – is the evaluation of applications and accompanying documents to

ensure that applicants possess the qualifications that are acceptable for admission to the Evaluating Examination. The minimum qualification is the provision of acceptable evidence of completion of at least 2,000 hours of work and/or teaching in the past 36 months in the field of pharmacy.

2. Evaluating Examination – The Evaluating Examination is designed to determine if the applicant has the knowledge and skills comparable to that of a graduate of a program of study accredited by the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP). It will evaluate the applicant's knowledge in all areas of current pharmacy technician education curricula that are accredited by CCAPP. The Evaluating Examination is a multiple choice question (MCQ) examination. It is written in a three hour sitting.

All questions regarding Certification with PEBC must be directed to the PEBC office. The PEBC website (www.pebc.ca) has detailed information about application procedures, examination locations, examination costs and what to expect when taking the examinations. As well, there is detailed information on the examination blueprints and resources that may be helpful in preparing for an examination, such as sample questions, sample OSPE stations, and listings of references and learning resources. Additional information may be obtained by emailing the PEBC office at pebcinfo@pebc.ca or by contacting the office by telephone at 416-979-2431 or by fax at 416-599-9244. PEBC is not available for in-person candidate visits.



ALERT

Converting Pounds to Kilograms

Issues:

A 3 year old child was admitted to hospital to undergo a surgical procedure. The anesthetist ordered Acetaminophen 30 mg/kg and Midazolam 0.5mg/kg to be given orally to the patient pre-operatively. The child was weighed on a scale that shows a patient's weight in both pounds and kilograms, with pounds being the more dominant number. There was a sign on the scale reminding that weights should be taken in kilograms, however the patient was weighed in pounds.

On the patient chart, the patient weight was mistakenly recorded as 38 kg (when in fact the child weighed 38 lb or approximately 17 kg). The child was given an overdose of both medications which was discovered in the operating room when the anesthetist verified the amount of medication given pre-operatively. The surgical procedure continued, and the anesthesiologist performed a gastric aspiration to remove some of the stomach contents, as well the child was given activated charcoal post-operatively through a naso-gastric tube to decrease absorption of the medications. The overdose put the child at increased risk for respiratory depression and liver toxicity.

Recommendations:

The Ministry of Health would like to advise of the following recommendations for action based upon the report of these critical incidents:

- **Modify or replace all scales such that they provide weight in metric measure (kilogram) only. An example of modification would be to use opaque tape to cover the pounds measured on the scale display.**

Alerts are released by Saskatchewan Health following the review of at least one critical incident of this type reported to the ministry. The intent of an Alert is to recommend initiatives that will improve the safety of patients who may be cared for under similar circumstances.

A critical incident is defined as a serious adverse health event including, but not limited to, the actual or potential loss of life, limb, or function related to a health service provided by, or a program operated by, a regional health authority or health care organization.

Recommendations are intended to support the development of best practices and to act as a basic framework for modification so that the end result is a good fit within your Regional Health Authority and Health Care Organization. To assist you, when able, we will share RHA policies or initiatives that have been developed.

57th Annual Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists Convocation Luncheon

On June 6, 2013 the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists held the 57th Annual Convocation Luncheon for the pharmacy graduates of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at TCU Place in Saskatoon. 48 graduates, their families and guests joined with faculty and staff from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, SPEP-preceptors and SCP staff and guests to celebrate their achievement of earning the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy.

Councillor Doug MacNeill from Division 4 (Saskatoon) welcomed the graduates and guests and offered his words of congratulations and best wishes to the grads. Greetings were brought from: the Pharmacists' Association of Saskatchewan (PAS) by Past-Chair Paul Melnyk, and the Canadian Association of Hospital Pharmacists – Sask. Branch (CSHP) by President Darcy Lamb.

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists Awards were presented by Councillor Lori Friesen, Division 2 (Melfort) to:

- The Most Distinguished Graduate of 2013 and recipient of the SCP Gold Medal to Derek Gatz from Bow Island, Alberta. Derek's career path is in community practice.
- The 2nd Most Distinguished Graduate of 2013 and the recipient of the Campbell Prize was presented to Jaelee Guenther from Shaunavon, Saskatchewan. Jaelee will be pursuing a career in community practice in Shaunavon at Jae's Pharmacy where she is a co-owner.

Dean David Hill spoke one final time to the graduating class of 2013 and their guests before sending them off to follow their chosen paths. Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk, Associate Dean Academic, presented the College Awards.

We extend our best wishes and congratulations to the Class of 2013!



**SCP GOLD MEDAL AWARD
WINNER: AWARD PRESENTED BY
LORI FRIESEN TO DEREK GATZ.**



**CAMPBELL PRIZE WINNER: AWARD
PRESENTED BY LORI FRIESEN TO
JAELEE GUENTHER.**



**OATH OF MAIMONIDES LEAD BY AMANDA STEVENS, SENIOR STICK,
WITH THE CLASS OF 2013.**

Disciplinary Matters

On November 7, 2012, the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges that the Respondent, Robin Sander, was guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of Section 25 of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* (the "Act").

The conduct underlying these charges occurred between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2010. The formal charges against the Respondent alleged that between these dates:

(a) Without the approval and proper authority of the prescriber he dispensed on numerous and several occasions, Mylan brand of Amlodipine 5 mg when that brand was not designated as the Standing Offer Contract (SOC) product as required under the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health Drug Plan Formulary.

(b) On numerous and several occasions, he submitted to the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch, the Drug Identification Number (DIN) information for GD-Amlodipine product (the SOC drug) when the patient was dispensed the Mylan products.

(c) Further to paragraph (b), he compromised the integrity of the Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) by dissemination of incorrect information which has the potential risk of harm to patients and causes confusion to other health care professionals relying on PIP.

(d) He engaged in this conduct and these practices after all members had been warned in the October, 2009 College newsletter in an article entitled "Spinning DINs" that such practices were unacceptable and must cease immediately.

This matter proceeded pursuant to an Agreed Statement of Facts which included the admission that Mr. Sander's actions constitute professional misconduct as that term is defined in the Act and amount to a breach of the Act, *The Prescription Drugs Act*, the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (the "College"), as well as the NAPRA Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists.

The Discipline Committee accepted the admissions and found Mr. Sander guilty of professional misconduct, within the meaning of Section 25 of the Act.

The Complaints Committee and Mr. Sander made a joint submission as to penalty, which was accepted by the Discipline Committee, which determined that it is appropriate that (a) Mr. Sander should pay a fine in the amount of \$3,500.00 and should pay costs to be fixed in the amount of \$5,600.00, (b) a summary of the Discipline Committee's decision should be published, and the complainants be provided with a copy of Discipline Committee's decision and its Order.

Mr. Sander is a licensed pharmacist and was a director of Pinehouse Plaza Pharmacy Ltd. (the "Pharmacy") and the designated pharmacy manager at Pharmasave #422 at all material times. The Pharmacy was charged jointly with Mr. Sander, but that charge was severed from the complaint against Mr. Sander for the purposes of hearing and disposition.

The fundamental underlying facts involved participation by Mr. Sander in a practice sometimes referred to as "DIN spinning". DIN Spinning involves the practice of replacement of Standing Offer Contract (SOC) drugs with drugs with a different Drug Identification Number, or "DINs".

Mr. Sander's misconduct occurred at the direction of the Pharmacy owner and Mr. Sander realized no personal financial benefit from his misconduct. However, Mr. Sander was aware of, and participated in, the misconduct. To his credit, Mr. Sander attempted to convince the Pharmacy owner to stop the conduct and, after these efforts were unsuccessful, he resigned from his employment. To his further credit, he did not take the position that this absolved him from responsibility for his professional misconduct.

On November 7, 2012, the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges that the Respondent, Lori Unrau, was guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of Section 25 of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* (the "Act").

The conduct underlying these charges occurred between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2010. The formal charges against the Respondent alleged that between these dates:

(a) Without the approval and proper authority of the prescriber she dispensed on numerous and several occasions, Mylan brand of Amlodipine 5 mg when that brand was not designated as the Standing Offer Contract (SOC) product as required under the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health Drug Plan Formulary. As such, she breached the Proprietor Agreement with the Minister of Health and particularly the provisions regarding the purchase and dispensing of SOC drugs.

(b) On numerous and several occasions, she submitted to the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch, the Drug Identification Number (DIN) information for GD-Amlodipine product (the SOC drug) when the patient was dispensed the Mylan products.

(c) Further to paragraph (b), she compromised the integrity of the Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) by dissemination of incorrect information which has the potential risk of harm to patients and causes confusion to other health care professionals relying on PIP.

(d) She engaged in this conduct and these practices after all members had been warned in the October, 2009 College newsletter in an article entitled "Spinning DINs" that such practices were unacceptable and must cease immediately.

This matter proceeded pursuant to an Agreed Statement of Facts which included the admission that Ms. Unrau's actions constitute professional misconduct as that term is defined in the Act and amount to a breach of the Act, *The Prescription Drugs Act*, the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (the "College"), as well as the NAPRA Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists.

Ms. Unrau stated at the hearing that she had not previously seen or read the October, 2009 College newsletter referred to in paragraph (d). However she reiterated that she had participated in all of the conduct forming the substance of paragraphs (a) to (c), and the Agreed Statement of Facts included an admission as to the publication of the College newsletter referred to in paragraph (d). In the circumstances the Discipline Committee had no difficulty in accepting the admission of Ms. Unrau that the facts she has agreed to constitute professional misconduct.

The Discipline Committee accepted the admissions and found Ms. Unrau guilty of professional misconduct, within the meaning of Section 25 of the Act.

The Discipline Committee determined that it is appropriate that (a) Ms. Unrau should pay a fine in the amount of \$2,500.00 and should pay costs to be fixed in the amount of \$5,625.00, (b) a summary of the Discipline Committee's decision should be published, and the complainants be provided with a copy of Discipline Committee's decision and its Order. The Discipline Committee decision allowed Ms. Unrau time to make payment, but provided that the applicable licence would be suspended if payment was not made.

Ms. Unrau is a licensed pharmacist and was a director of Pinehouse Plaza Pharmacy Ltd. (the "Pharmacy") and the designated pharmacy manager at Pharmasave #444 at all material times. The Pharmacy was charged jointly with Ms. Unrau, but that charge was severed from the complaint against Ms. Unrau for the purposes of hearing and disposition.

The fundamental underlying facts involved participation by Ms. Unrau in a practice sometimes referred to as "DIN spinning". DIN Spinning involves the practice of replacement of Standing Offer Contract (SOC) drugs with drugs with a different Drug Identification Number, or "DINs". This is not to say that Ms. Unrau's conduct is exactly the same as has come before Discipline Committees in other cases.

The Discipline committee was particularly influenced by the fact that Ms. Unrau's conduct occurred only as a consequence of pressure from the Pharmacy owner, and that Ms. Unrau realized no personal financial benefit as a consequence of the conduct. The Discipline Committee further recognized that Ms. Unrau took steps to mitigate the risk of harm to the public, by providing accurate information on the drug bottles, once she became aware that the conduct was contrary to the College's expectations.

The Discipline Committee determined that a fine is appropriate to emphasize to Ms. Unrau, and other pharmacists, that the practice called into question in this case involves not just the provision of incorrect and dishonest information to the drug plan, but conduct that does, at some level at least, create a risk to the public. In this regard, even with accurate information on the bottles which Ms. Unrau provided at later dates, there was a mismatch in the DIN information provided to the drug plan and maintained on pharmacy records, which could cause difficulties in tracing drugs into patient hands in the event (for example) of a drug recall.

In connection with submissions made by Ms. Unrau that her appointment as a pharmacy manager was just signing "a piece of paper", the Discipline Committee stated that Ms. Unrau "evidences a significant misapprehension on her part as to the important and fundamental responsibilities assumed by a pharmacist when she or he agrees to be the pharmacy manager. Contrary to Ms. Unrau's submissions, her position as pharmacy manager makes her position and responsibilities different that the other pharmacists working at the location who were not pharmacy manager."

The costs are appropriately born by Ms. Unrau, not because they are in the nature of penalty, but because it has been her conduct that has invited the investigation and resulting disciplinary proceedings.

On November 7, 2012, the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges that the Respondent, Ryan Bruck, was guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of Sections 25 of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* (the "Act").

The conduct underlying these charges occurred between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2010. The formal charges against the Respondent alleged that between these dates:

(a) Without the approval and proper authority of the prescriber he dispensed on numerous and several occasions, Mylan brand of Amlodipine 5 mg when that brand were not designated as the Standing Offer Contract (SOC) product as required under the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health Drug Plan Formulary. As such, he breached the Proprietor Agreement with the Minister of Health and particularly the provisions regarding the purchase and dispensing of SOC drugs.

(b) On numerous and several occasions, he submitted to the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch, the Drug Identification Number (DIN) information for GD-Amlodipine product (the SOC drug) when the patient was dispensed the Mylan products.

(c) Further to paragraph (b), he compromised the integrity of the Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) by dissemination of incorrect information which has the potential risk of harm to patients and causes confusion to other health care professionals relying on PIP.

(d) He engaged in this conduct and these practices after all members had been warned in the October, 2009 College newsletter in an article entitled "Spinning DINs" that such practices were unacceptable and must cease immediately.

This matter proceeded pursuant to an Agreed Statement of Facts which included the admission that Mr. Bruck's actions constitute professional misconduct as that term is defined in the Act and amount to a breach of the Act, *The Prescription Drugs Act*, the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (the "College"), as well as the NAPRA Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists.

The Discipline Committee accepted the admissions and found Mr. Bruck guilty of professional misconduct, within the meaning of Section 25 of the Act.

The Discipline Committee determined that it is appropriate that (a) Mr. Bruck should pay a fine in the amount of \$2,000.00 and should pay costs to be fixed in the amount of \$5,625.00, (b) a summary of the Discipline Committee's decision should be published, and the complainants be provided with a copy of Discipline Committee's decision and its Order. The Discipline Committee decision allowed Mr. Bruck time to make payment, but provided that the applicable licence would be suspended if payment was not made.

Mr. Bruck is a licensed pharmacist and was a director of Bear Drugs Ltd. (the "Pharmacy") and the designated pharmacy manager at Pharmasave #401 at all material times. The Pharmacy was charged jointly with Mr. Bruck, but that charge was severed from the complaint against Mr. Bruck for the purposes of hearing and disposition.

The fundamental underlying facts involved participation by Mr. Bruck in a practice sometimes referred to as "DIN spinning". DIN Spinning involves the practice of replacement of Standing Offer Contract (SOC) drugs with drugs with a different Drug Identification Number, or "DINs". There are, however, important differences between Mr. Bruck's conduct and the conduct in several of the other cases that have come before Discipline Committees in other cases.

Evidence disclosed that the decision to "spin" was made by the Pharmacy owner. Mr. Bruck was not only uncomfortable with the decision, but attempted to dissuade the Pharmacy owner from carrying it out, and in

point of fact went further by ordering only SOC stock. Mr. Bruck also took other steps to mitigate the risk to patients. Specifically, although incorrect information was provided to the Drug Plan, he ensured that the labels that appeared on the bottles given to the patient showed the actual brand of drug dispensed to reduce the confusion and associated risk of harm to show the drug actually dispensed to each patient, although the DIN was not changed.

It is also important to note there is no evidence that Mr. Bruck personally profited from the DIN spinning.

As pharmacy manager, and pharmacist, Mr. Bruck was in a position to stop the impugned activity. While Mr. Bruck, and perhaps the Pharmacy owner, may have failed to appreciate the fact, Mr. Bruck's position as pharmacy manager is more than a title. The Act specifically requires that the majority of directors of a proprietary pharmacy be members of the College, and that one of those directors who are members of the College be the pharmacy manager. The College imposes specific responsibilities on pharmacy managers. The reason for all of this is that the fundamental responsibility for the operation of the pharmacy rests with members of the College pursuant to the strictures that that membership brings with it.

The costs are appropriately born by Mr. Bruck, not because they are in the nature of penalty, but because it has been his conduct that has invited the investigation and resulting disciplinary proceedings.

On November 8, 2012, the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges that the Respondents, Pinehouse Plaza Pharmacy Ltd. (the "Pinehouse Plaza") and Bear Drugs Ltd. ("Bear Drugs"), were guilty of proprietary misconduct with-

Continued from Discipline Matters...

in the meaning of Sections 26 of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* (the "Act").

Pinehouse Plaza is the holder of a proprietary pharmacy permit pursuant to section 20 of the Act in respect to three pharmacies. Bear Drugs is the holder of a proprietary pharmacy permit pursuant to section 20 of the Act in respect to one pharmacy. Pinehouse Plaza and Bear Drugs have a common president. This matter relates to conduct that occurred in relation to each of these pharmacies, which lead to four different Notices of Discipline Proceedings, three of which involved Pinehouse Plaza, and one of which involved Bear Drugs.

The fundamental underlying facts involved actions by both Respondents in a deliberate scheme of "DIN spinning" in all four of the involved pharmacies. "DIN spinning" has been described in previous decisions of the Discipline Committee. In this case, the total volume of drugs involved in the "DIN spinning" were significant and part of not just a pattern of misconduct, but a deliberate scheme on the part of the Respondents under the direction of their president. The specific circumstances of the charges, so far as they involved the individual pharmacy-managers, differed slightly in each case and were severed from the proceedings against Pinehouse Plaza and Bear Drugs.

In the case of Pinehouse Plaza and Bear Drugs, the specific charges in each of the four Notices of Discipline Proceedings were the same, in each case alleging:

1. Between January 1, 2010 and March 31, 2010 and on numerous and several occasions, you instructed and directed the pharmacy manager and pharmacists under your direction and control to:

(a) Dispense, without the approval and proper authority of the prescriber Mylan brand of Amlodipine

5 mg when that brand were not designated as the Standing Offer Contract (SOC) product as required under the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health Drug Plan Formulary. As such, you have breached the Proprietor Agreement with the Minister of Health and particularly the provisions regarding the purchase and dispensing of SOC drugs.

(b) Submit to the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch the Drug Identification Number (DIN) information for GD-Amlodipine product (the SOC drug) when the patient was dispensed the Mylan products.

(c) Further to paragraph (b), the integrity of the Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) was compromised by dissemination of incorrect information which has the potential risk of harm to patients and causes confusion to other health care professionals relying on PIP.

(d) Engaged in this conduct and these practices after all members had been warned in the October, 2009 College newsletter in an article entitled "Spinning DINs" that such practices were unacceptable and must cease immediately.

2. Further to paragraph 1, you instructed and directed the pharmacy manager and pharmacist to engage in the practices described in paragraphs 1(a) and (b), knowing that these practices were improper and contrary to the Proprietor Agreement.

This matter proceeded pursuant to an Agreed Statement of Facts which included the admissions of both Pinehouse Plaza and Bear Drugs that the facts each has admitted constitute proprietary misconduct of a most serious kind.

The Discipline Committee accepted the admissions and found Pinehouse Plaza and Bear Drugs guilty of proprietary misconduct, within the meaning

of Section 26 of the Act. The Complaints Committee and Respondents made a joint submission as to penalty and ancillary orders, which the Discipline Committee found to be consistent with previous orders in similar matters. In the result, the Discipline Committee ordered as follows:

1. Pinehouse Plaza shall pay:

(a) a fine in the amount of \$25,000.00 which amount relates to the conduct in relation to the following sole proprietorships owned and operated by Pinehouse Plaza:

- a. Pharmasave #422 – 1215 Central Avenue, Saskatoon
- b. Pharmasave #433 – 202 – 2nd Avenue North, Saskatoon
- c. Pharmasave #444 – 1201 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon

(b) the costs of the investigation and hearing which costs shall be fixed in the amount of \$7,000.00.

2. Bear Drugs shall pay:

(a) a fine in the amount of \$15,000.00.

(b) the costs of the investigation and hearing which costs shall be fixed in the amount of \$7,000.00.

The Discipline Committee further ordered that a summary of the decision should be published, and the complainants be provided with a copy of the Discipline Committee's decision. Finally, its Order allowed the Respondents for a defined period of time to make the ordered payment, but provided that the applicable permits would be suspended if payment was not made in a timely fashion.

Safe and Effective Use of Opioids for Chronic Non-cancer Pain

This course is offered jointly with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute - University Health Network and the Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

Delivery method

Online course with modules released weekly, and a two-hour webinar at the end of the course. Facilitators will guide you along the course.

Faculty:

Dr. ANDREA FURLAN, MD, Scientist, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute – UHN and Assistant Professor, Dept. of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

BETH SPROULE, Pharm.D. Advanced Practice Pharmacist / Clinician Scientist Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy and Dept. of Psychiatry, University of Toronto.

Fee

\$275.00

Dates

August 12 - 30, 2013

Site: At any location with a computer and an internet connection.

Course Description

This online course provides health care professionals with evidence-based tools and recommendations from the *Canadian Guideline for Safe and Effective Use of Opioids for Chronic Non-cancer Pain*. This course will guide you through the Opioid Manager, a point-of-care tool that condenses key elements of the *Canadian Guideline* and which you can use with your inter-professional team in clinical practice or primary care settings.

Learning objectives

After successfully completing the course, participants will be able to:

- collaborate routinely with other health care professionals addressing a patient's chronic non-cancer pain
- identify patients who may be suitable candidates for opioid therapy by following *Canadian Guideline* recommendations
- identify patients at risk for opioid addiction and misuse
- discuss with patients and their treatment team the effectiveness of opioids in treating chronic non-cancer pain
- safely conduct an opioid trial by following *Canadian Guideline* recommendations
- safely monitor patients on long-term opioid therapy by following *Canadian Guideline* recommendations.

Target audience

This course is open to health care providers (physicians, pain specialists, addiction specialists, mental health clinicians, pharmacists, nurses, dentists, social workers, occupational therapists and physiotherapists) involved in the treatment of patients with chronic non-cancer pain.

To register, please visit our website:

http://www.camh.ca/en/education/about/AZCourses/Pages/safer_odt.aspx

For more information about the course call 1 800 661-1111 or at 416 535-8501, ext. 6640

NAPRA President – Debbie McCulloch



National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities
Association nationale des organismes de réglementation de la pharmacie

Ms. Debbie McCulloch, BSP, from Rosetown, was acclaimed as President for the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities' (NAPRA) during the recent Board of Directors meeting held in Ottawa, April 13-14, 2013.

As the representative for the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP) since 2008, Debbie has served as a member of NAPRA's Executive Committee and was the association's representative on the National Advisory Council on Prescription Drug Misuse (led by the Coalition on Prescription Drug Misuse, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness and the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse).

Debbie was a member of the SCP Council from 2001-2009 and served as President of SCP in 2005-2006. She was recognized by the Pharmacists' Association of Saskatchewan in 2011 as the Pharmacist of the Year and was awarded the 2012 Saskatchewan Healthcare Excellence Award (SHEA) in the category of Health of the Population.

We thank Debbie for her years of service to the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists and the profession, and congratulate her on her selection as President of NAPRA for the coming year.

CSHP – SES 2013 Info



CSHP's 66th Summer Educational Sessions (SES) will be held at the Hyatt Regency Calgary from August 10 to 13, 2013. Please visit http://www.cshp.ca/events/ses/2013/index_e.asp for further information regarding SES.