



Incoming President's Address – George Furneaux

It is with great honor that I accept the responsibilities of President of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists. Assuming the role of president to serve our profession and the public is truly a great opportunity. Our province is not only blessed with great resources and an invigorated economy, but with many great leaders and professionals in pharmacy. These professionals on a daily basis provide exceptional quality pharmacy care for their patients in all communities of Saskatchewan. I look forward to representing the province, the profession, and the public.



I must recognize our previous president Bev Allen. Bev is a man of many hats. He simultaneously helps develop our students into the pharmacists of tomorrow, yet provides great leadership as president of the SCP. Bev and another past president, Bill Paterson, are mentors of mine, and I have been privileged to work with both on Council over the last several years. I must commend Bev on his past year, and his expertise in guiding our profession. He has faced many challenges, bringing the profession closer to a collaborative health care setting. The groundwork will undoubtedly provide successes for future presidents and myself for years to come. I look forward to working with Bev, whose advice and guidance will be welcome in my term as president.

The terms "collaborative health care" and this year's conference theme, "Rx evolution" are both indicators of a changing landscape in today's pharmacy practice. These

indicators of change still require many further dramatic changes for this optimistic future to take place. Changes: such as primary health care pharmacists, prescriptive or enhanced authority for pharmacists, strategic governance to change legal barriers, technician regulation, and finally, public education. All these changes will lead to the collaborative health care of the future. The future may not be tomorrow, but many corners have been turned and the profession of today has taken several steps down a road that will forever change the look of our profession.

The future steps of our profession require a new process to move issues forward. Council has developed a new process to list "mega issues" effecting today's pharmacy. One such mega issue is – "What can SCP do to position pharmacists as effective members of primary health care teams". This issue will require teamwork from a variety of health care professional organiza-

tions, the PAS and the government. Last fall's Interdisciplinary Conference had the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association, and the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists hold their first collaborative meeting incorporating pharmacists into the health care team. The collaboration led to the development of an Interdisciplinary Advisory Committee. The Interdisciplinary Advisory Committee consisting of the above organizations also brought in members from the government, the Drug Plan, the CSHP, and the PAS. Presently this committee is reviewing the document "Enhanced Authority for the Pharmacist to Prescribe Drugs". A line by line evaluation of this document will lead to one of this country's most effective tools for a collaborative health care team. This final document, along with teamwork between the various parties, and with Council review, will lead to resolutions, motions and direction. The

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SCP Council 2008-09

Division 1

Jodie Simes, Fort Qu'Appelle
(term expires June 30, 2009)

Division 2

Vacant

Division 3

Randy Wiser, Prince Albert
(term expires June 30, 2009)
President-Elect

Division 4

Chris Hrudka, Saskatoon
(term expires June 30, 2010)

Division 5

George Furneaux, Regina
(term expires June 30, 2009)
President

Division 6

Joe Carroll, Moose Jaw
(term expires June 30, 2010)

Division 7

Debbie McCulloch, Rosetown
(term expires June 30, 2009)

Division 8

Janet Harding, Saskatoon
(term expires June 30, 2010)

Past President

Bev Allen, Saskatoon

Ex Officio

Dean Dennis Gorecki
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition,
Saskatoon

Public

Ken Hutchinson, Fort Qu'Appelle
Joseph Jeerakathil, Saskatoon

Student Observer

Haley Gill

SCP Staff

Jeanne Eriksen,
Assistant Registrar

Pat Guillemin,
Administrative Assistant

Ray Joubert,
Registrar

Cheryl Klein,
Senior Administrative Assistant

Reola Mathieu,
Receptionist

Heather Neirinck,
Administrative Assistant

Lori Postnikoff,
Field Officer

Audrey Solie,
Administrative Assistant

Council Highlights – April 25, 2008 and May 28, 2008

Council met in Regina, April 25, 2008. Due to a lengthy agenda the meeting was adjourned for the Annual PAS Conference and reconvened in Saskatoon on May 28, 2008 to coincide with the Convocation luncheon for the Class of '08.

- Council received a report on a proposed **Public Education Campaign**. A key element of the College's Strategic Plan is "Educate the Public". The results of our public opinion research indicated the need for continued public education about the role of the pharmacist. The public education campaign proposed to address the following findings:

- expanding the perceived role from only that of dispensing and counselling on medication;
- focusing on the pharmacist's medication expertise and the extent of training involved;
- educating about the potential benefits of specialized pharmacists; and
- explaining the concept of primary health care and a pharmacist's role within a team.

Recognizing that our public protection mandate includes promoting public safety, Council established the following goals for a public education initiative:

- 1) Promote public safety and the pharmacist as a patient advocate for public safety; and
- 2) Promote the services that patients can expect from their pharmacist.

A request for proposals for the development of the campaign has been extended with the work to begin in early fall. More information will be shared as this initiative progresses.

- Council met with the **CSHP Sask. Branch Executive** on April 25, 2008. Discussions focused on joint meetings/conferences to increase education opportunities and provide stronger networking opportunities for our members. There have been discussions around the formation of a joint Professional Practice Committee (including PAS) should items of mutual interest arise.

Collaborative practice success stories were reviewed as were the plans for the 2nd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference to be held September 19 and 20, 2008.

CSHP Sask. Branch Executive members raised the issue of standards of practice, especially for small hospitals. Due to the shortage of pharmacists in rural areas this has become an important issue. The College's Professional Practice Committee has begun investigating the capabilities of telepharmacy and other technological options.

Regulations of technicians is an issue that faces both community and hospital practice. The Branch will be involved in SCP initiatives to regulate technicians.

- Council met with representatives from the Ministry of Health, **pharmacy technicians** and educational programs: Bonnie Meier, SIAST Training program; Sandra Cripps, Saskatchewan Health and Rhonda Zalewski, pharmacy technician.

Components of technician regulation are being developed: national examination (PEBC), national accreditation of educational programs (CCAPP), national entrance to practice competencies (NAPRA), and the individual educational programs are developing their curricula with educational outcomes that meet the entry to practice competencies. Regulatory options include: register with SCP, regulated by SCP and self-regulation (new profession). Will registration or regulation be mandatory or voluntary? Our Professional Practice Committee will be addressing technician regulation/registration in the coming months.

- Council received **correspondence** from a member who raised two issues:
 1. That pharmacy technicians/assistants working in a dispensary be identified as such on a required name tab; and
 2. That the College open for review the policy regarding the pharmacist to technician ratio permissible and reasonable in a pharmacy at which the main function is to fill prescriptions for the public at large.

Council agreed that often members of the public cannot identify the pharmacist and the assistant or clerk. Council moved that the office staff research the appropriate steps to ensure all staff in the dispensary are properly identified (pharmacist, intern, technician, assistant, and clerk). Further guidance is forthcoming.

Council agreed to clarify the circumstances under which members may delegate more responsibility to technicians. Further guidance is forthcoming.

- Council received the **election report**: notices of election were mailed according to the bylaws to eligible members in Divisions 2, 4, 6 and 8. No nominations were received and therefore no elections were held.

Our bylaws allow Council to appoint eligible members to fill vacancies and our policy is to ask for volunteers.

As a result, Council appointed: Chris Hrudka – Division 4, Joe Carroll – Division 6 and Janet Harding – Division 8. A vacancy continues in Division 2.

Elected to the Executive are:

President – George Furneaux, Regina, Division 5

President-Elect – Randy Wiser, Prince Albert, Division 3

Vice-President – Vacant

- Council heard the latest report on the progress of the **Strategic Plan**. One strategy is **optimize use of technology**. We have been informed that as of May 28, 2008 every pharmacy in Saskatchewan is now connected to PIP.

The SCP office has implemented the on-line membership renewal system that will be integrated with the electronic workflow and document management system currently under development. The next phases of the project consist of: registration of new members, proprietary pharmacy permit applications and renewals, and lastly, the addition of the entire office operation to be retained electronically.

Build Interdisciplinary Teams – This is the theme for the 2nd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference to be held in Saskatoon, September 19 and 20, 2008. Registration forms have been sent out under separate cover. Please contact our office for further information.

- Council discussed the decision of the National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) to reschedule levonorgestrel when sold in concentrations of 0.75 mg per oral dosage unit to be taken as a single dose of 1.5 mg, packaged and labelled for emergency contraception, in package sizes containing no more than 1.5 mg of levonorgestrel from Schedule II to Schedule III status. Council has requested more information to be presented at the September 2008 meeting. Until a final decision has been made, nothing has changed regarding the scheduling of this product in Saskatchewan. By this we mean that in Saskatchewan this drug continues to be a Schedule II product – no public access to be sold by a pharmacist who has met the certification requirement.

- As a result of a more dynamic planning process, Council regularly examines strategic issues. In response to what can SCP do to position pharmacists as members of primary health care teams, Council agreed to:

- 1) Place priority on current initiatives such as our role on the Pharmacy Coalition on Primary Care;
- 2) Expedite enhanced authority for the pharmacist to prescribe drugs and the enhanced role and regulation of pharmacy technicians; and
- 3) Promote regulatory opportunities and reduce regulatory barriers to primary care teamwork.

- Council approved release to stakeholders of a consultation paper that proposes to amend our policy on the acceptance of electronic prescriptions. We will report our decisions to members once the consultation process is completed.

Bylaw Amendment: Malpractice Insurance – Department of National Defense

The Department of National Defense (DND) has requested an exemption to the mandatory insurance requirements prescribed in the bylaws of the College. This request has been made on the basis that the Treasury Board Policy on the Indemnification of the Legal Assistance for Crown Servants (the “Policy”) provides sufficient protection to the public, with the result that it is unnecessary for staff DND pharmacists, when performing their public duties, to procure additional public liability insurance.

These amendments were approved by Council and submitted to the Minister of Health for approval. These bylaws came into effect June 6, 2008 upon publication in the Saskatchewan Gazette.

2008-2009 Membership Renewal

While there have been some implementation issues with the first phase of the workflow system at the SCP office, we are happy to announce that the annual renewal was successful. We apologize for any disruption in service caused by priorities shifting to implementation of the new system. However, we anticipate that for future years the online process will run smoothly and efficiently allowing office staff to better serve our members during this busy time of year.

Spring 2007 was our first year with an online renewal system and at that time we had 330 members renewing online, a successful first time. Members offered comments and suggestion for change and we heard you! Based on the feed back we received and the opportunities presented through the new workflow system we are implementing in the office we are happy to report a huge increase in the number of members opting to renew online.

Feedback offered by members positively reflects the success of the new system: members have commented that the on-line process was quick and easy.

From a membership of 1458:

- 874 renewed on-line
- 513 renewed by submitting paper (Canada Post or facsimile)
- 71 terminated (due to non-payment of fees or by request)

Membership Summary 2008-2009 Membership Year

As of July 1, 2008, there were a total of 1458 members on the register, compared to 1397 last July 1. The total consists of 1240 Practising members, 21 Conditional Practising members, 60 Non Practising members, 75 Associate members and 62 Retired members.

We wish to welcome our newest members, and encourage them to become active in their profession within their communities and provincially by working with the regulatory and advocacy bodies.

Membership Renewal Summary – As of July 1, 2008

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Practising Members	1116	1134	1158	1158	1185	1261
Community	860	843	864	862	842	928
Hospital	171	174	175	179	185	200
Out of Province	33	34	37	33	37	36
Other	52	83	56	52	68	76
Conditional Practising			26	32	53	21
Non Practising Members	66	58	60	65	61	60
Associate Members	105	98	89	79	85	75
Retired Members	80	81	82	70	66	62
TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS	1367	1371	1389	1372	1397	1458
Membership Terminations	75	65	63	77	67	71

From January 1, 2008, to June 30, 2008, 46 graduates of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan, registered with our College. Between May 28 and June 30, a total of 44 of those graduates held a Conditional Practising membership prior to receiving their Certificate of Qualification from the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada.

Between July 1, 2007, and July 1, 2008, 23 candidates from outside of Saskatchewan registered under the Mutual Recognition Agreement requirements. There were 3 foreign-trained candidates registered during that period.

Late Payment Penalty

As the College staff worked through the new workflow system for online membership renewal, priorities had to be set and processing applications for all members who were eligible for renewal was the priority. Many members did not submit their renewals until the final days of May, making it impossible for staff to review all applications prior to May 30, 2008. As the process was new for everyone, Council amended the bylaws to waive the late payment penalty for this year and this year only!

In future, as in the past, "the applicant for a practising membership who does not deliver the prescribed fee to the Office of the

Registrar-Treasurer on or before June 1 in each year, or who is not otherwise eligible for practising membership renewal, shall be assessed, in addition to the fee otherwise payable, a surcharge in the amount of \$190.00." [Bylaw 3.1.2(e)].

To ensure security for you the member, the online renewal website has been closed until it is time for the 2009-10 membership renewal period, and all fee payment information (i.e. credit card numbers) submitted to PSI Gate (the electronic direct payment system) allowed members to pay membership renewal fees online without exposing their credit card number.

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new process will truly be one of a collaborative team approach 'made in Saskatchewan'.

Prescriptive authority is probably one of the key regulatory changes effecting the direction of our profession. Some provinces have asked for prescriptive authority without really defining what they want. The old proverb asking for the moon has come true. No disrespect intended, but like the dog that caught the car, now they are trying to figure out exactly what they want to do with it. Fortunately, our paper on enhanced authority for the pharmacist, presented in last fall's regional meetings, has laid out a step by step direction the Saskatchewan pharmacy profession would like to take. The direction is mostly a collaborative approach facilitating day to day pharmacy practice already being practised by the membership. Present day practices face regulations not in place, and a lot of backward authorization processes taking place. The goal here is not to create "super pharmacists", but to facilitate a more collaborative health care between the pharmacist, the practitioner and the public. This allows pharmacists to use our present knowledge and skill sets to the utmost, within our existing competencies. The natural extension of enhanced authority will not only help day to day community

practice but also allow prescriptive authority and training to influence areas like warfarin level maintenance, diabetes control and asthma management. The development of this authority will lead to necessary legal changes, technician regulation, and options for community pharmacy primary care settings.

I became interested in the council primarily to become involved with a changing direction in the pharmacy profession. Upon graduating, great expectations of utilizing skills to help my patients ran into a myriad of professional and regulatory barriers. Some 21 years later, the opportunity for collaborative health care is on our doorstep. As president, I am privileged by the appointment to provide direction to our profession. Second, make the direction pharmacist friendly, so all levels of pharmacists will benefit their patient care using their present capabilities. Third, due to years of turning the dispensing fee into a commodity, actually value the pharmacists' time and reimbursement. Finally a balance or even separation from the dispensary may be part of the future. I look forward to these opportunities to facilitate our profession's direction.

In closing, I would like to thank Ray for his leadership in support of the Council. His patience with enthusiastic, brash members like

myself, plus a diverse membership is truly a test for any leadership. A special thanks to Jeanne, Lori and all the SCP support staff who make working with the College a real pleasure. Thanks as well to both the SCP and PAS retiring members, and welcome to all upcoming new Council or Board members.

To my co-workers, a special thanks for their support and understanding. To take on added responsibilities doesn't come without lots of shift trading, drop of the hat conference calls, and many thought provoking questions. I truly have been blessed with great staff that allows me to take on such a large venture.

Thanks to my family, and especially my wife Jackie. She has always been my strength and support. She commonly is shorted time due to many an important project and it does not go without notice. My appreciation of her support goes beyond description. Thank you.

Lastly, thanks again for the opportunity to serve as your President of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists. I look forward to the challenges of the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,
George Furneaux, BSP
April 27, 2008



National Association
of Pharmacy
Regulatory Authorities

Association nationale
des organismes de réglementation
de la pharmacie

NAPRA Announces New Executive Director

The National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) is pleased to announce that Carole Bouchard will be joining the association as its Executive Director effective July 7, 2008.

"Having Ms. Bouchard as our new Executive Director is a significant step forward for our organization," said NAPRA President Sandra Carey. "She brings to the position her experience as a

pharmacist and as an administrator in the regulatory field."

Ms. Bouchard trained as a pharmacist at Laval University and later obtained a Masters in Public Administration. She worked as a community pharmacist and a pharmaceutical sales representative before leaving the private sector to begin a career with Health Canada. She brings over 20 years of experience with the department in

successive positions including the Health Protection Branch, the Therapeutics Product Directorate and most recently the Office of Controlled Substances.

Ms. Carey adds: "Our organization has gained a lot of momentum on key projects in the last year. I'm looking forward to Carole's strong leadership and management skills to guide us towards their successful completion."

Discipline Committee Decision and Order

On March 31, 2008, the Discipline Committee (the "Committee") was constituted to consider charges that the Respondent, Don Heshka, was guilty of professional misconduct/professional incompetence within the meaning of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* (the "Act"). The summary of the charges were that Mr. Heshka through the period of August 2001 to December 2003:

Unauthorized Dispensing and Refilling

1. On diverse occasions, dispensed and refilled prescriptions to numerous NIHB clients for drugs and medical supplies and equipment without the authorization of the prescriber contrary to: *The Benzodiazepines and Other Targeted Substances Regulations*; section C.01.042 of Part C., Division I of *The Food and Drug Regulations*; terms and conditions of the Pharmacy-Medical Supplies and Equipment Provider Agreement ("the Provider Agreement"); and section 31(2)(b), section 40(1) and section 40(2) of *The Narcotic Control Regulations*;

Records

2. Failed to retain prescriptions for a period of at least two years contrary to: section 40(2) of *The Narcotic Control Regulations*; section C.01.041 of Part C., Division I of *The Food and Drug Regulations*; section 14.13.2 of *The College Bylaws* and *The Standards of Practice*; *The Benzodiazepines and Other Targeted Substances Regulations*;

Verbal Prescriptions

3. On numerous and diverse occasions, failed to perform or adequately perform professional functions required by *The Standards of Practice* and more particularly, filled prescriptions and dispensed:

- a. Without communicating with the prescriber; or
 - b. If the prescriber was contacted, the communication was not documented.
4. On numerous and diverse occasions, dispense drugs to NIHB clients allegedly under the authority of a verbal prescription provided by the practitioner without reducing to writing all of the requirements.

New Prescription Number

5. Fail to adhere to an appropriate standard of practice by failing to assign a new prescription number to each new prescription dispensed.

The matter proceeded by way of an Agreed Statement of Facts. The Agreed Statement of Facts included the following admission:

Don Heshka admits the allegations in the charges and admits that the conduct described in those charges constitutes professional incompetence and professional misconduct as those terms are defined in the Act, and amount to a breach of the federal Regulations, College Bylaws and Standards of Practice as particularized in Appendix "A" to the Notice of Discipline Hearing.

Mr. Heshka confirmed his plea of guilty at the hearing. The Discipline Committee accepted this plea and found Mr. Heshka guilty of professional incompetence and professional misconduct, within the meaning of section 25 of the Act.

The charges stemmed from irregularities associated with the filling of prescriptions to numerous clients of the Non-Insured Health Benefits ("NIHB") program. The charges arose after the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (the "College") received a written complaint from First Canadian Health Management Corporation

Inc. ("First Canadian Health"), which provides benefit administration services for the NIHB program. First Canadian Health conducted a random audit of claims submitted by the pharmacy (which Mr. Heshka managed) covering the period August 2001 through December 2003.

The College's investigation revealed systemic problems with the manner in which Mr. Heshka administered the NIHB program. Mr. Heshka did not receive a financial benefit from these. For example, there is no evidence that either Mr. Heshka, or the pharmacy, billed for prescriptions that were not filled.

The Discipline Committee made the following orders pursuant to section 34 of the Act:

1. Mr. Heshka's licence shall be suspended for a period of four consecutive weeks (28 consecutive days), commencing on a date to be selected by Mr. Heshka on prior notice to the College, but commencing no later than May 1, 2008;
2. Mr. Heshka shall pay a fine in the amount of \$2,000.00, with such fine to be paid on or before September 1, 2008;
3. Mr. Heshka shall pay the costs of the investigation and hearing which costs are fixed in the amount of \$6,000.00 with such costs to be payable on or before September 1, 2008;
4. In the event that Mr. Heshka fails to pay the fine and/or costs on or before September 1, 2008, his licence shall be suspended pursuant to section 34(2)(b) of the Act;
5. The Registrar shall send a copy of this Decision and Order to First Canadian Health; and
6. A summary of this Decision and Order shall be printed in the College's newsletter (and, for greater certainty, the summary shall identify Mr. Heshka by name).

From the Desk of the Dean



Dr. Dennis Gorecki, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

The College is currently undergoing a period of significant faculty expansion, and also transition, and we are pleased to bring you an update on developments.

On July 1, 2008, we welcomed Drs. Derek Jorgenson and Kerry Mansell. They will be part of a new Clinical Pharmacology Team to deliver interprofessional education in clinical pharmacology to medical, pharmacy and dental students; provide direct support to clinical services in the Saskatoon Health Region (SHR); and enhance research in priority areas. Derek's clinical practice will focus on Primary Care, and Kerry will specialize in Endocrinology. The Team includes Drs. David Blackburn (Cardiovascular Medicine), Shannan Neubauer (Women's Health), Fred Rémillard (Psychiatry) and Yvonne Shevchuk (Infectious Disease). Recruitment is underway for the seventh member of the team, which will be in the area of Pediatrics. We are excited to be leading this innovative program, in partnership with the College of Medicine and the SHR.

This past year, we were delighted to recruit Drs. Ildiko Badea

and Anas El-Aneed into faculty vacancies. Dr. Badea is teaching in the Pharmaceutics area and pursuing research on the development of non-invasive gene delivery systems. Dr. El-Aneed's expertise ranges from the development of targeted liposomal drug delivery systems to biomedical analysis by mass spectrometric spectrometry. He will be coordinating the Year 1 foundation course in physico-chemical principles of drugs and contributing to a number of senior classes.

The College is collaborating with the new School of Public Health, and to that end, a shared faculty position in Community Nutrition has been created. We will be interviewing the short-listed candidates soon and hope to have the successful applicant in place in the new year.

Three of our faculty – Drs. Roy Dobson, Carol Henry and Yvonne Shevchuk are on Sabbatical Leaves this year. We are fortunate to have Darcy Lamb with us in a term faculty position to teach in Dr. Shevchuk's areas of specialization, and are currently arranging for sessional lecturers to bring their

expertise to other courses during the leaves.

As a result of generous support from industry partners, the province and the university, we will begin recruitment soon for two Research Chairs – one in Rational Drug Design and one in the area of Patient Adherence. We will be also recruiting for a "Designated Dean" position, co-funded by the University and the College, to provide for a designated position related to future Dean's searches.

With respect to the Dean, the search is well underway for my successor, whom we hope to have in place by July 1, 2009. Terri Bromm represents the SCP on the Search Committee. There have been other administrative changes at the College. Dr. Gord McKay, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Affairs and Dr. John Hubbard retired as of June 30, and we wish them all the best. I am pleased to report that Dr. Fred Rémillard has agreed to serve as Acting Associate Dean for the coming year. Dr. Gord Zello is the new Head of the Division of Nutrition and Dietetics. We look forward to keeping you posted.

NAPRA welcomes Ontario and Quebec

In December 2007 the Council of the Ontario College of Pharmacists (OCP) unanimously agreed to join NAPRA in the New Year.

In April 2008, the Quebec Order of Pharmacists (*l'Ordre des pharmaciens du Québec – OPQ*) confirmed their membership in NAPRA.

OCP and the OPQ both accepted NAPRA's invitation to participate in a strategic planning session in 2007 during which NAPRA developed its new vision and mission statements. In addition, NAPRA adopted two key foundational changes: an equitable funding model for all association members and a consensus-based governance model.

NAPRA's Vision:

NAPRA facilitates the adoption and implementation of best regulatory practices in all pharmacy regulatory authorities in Canada.

NAPRA's Mission Statements:

NAPRA enhances the activities of the pharmacy regulatory authorities by:

1. Being a forum to discuss regulatory issues
2. Serving as a national voice
3. Serving as a national centre for knowledge and awareness
4. Facilitating the adoption and implementation of its core programs and best regulatory practices

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP) welcomes Ontario and Quebec back to the NAPRA table and is very excited about the opportunities for collaboration across the country.

SCP Annual General Meeting and PAS Conference 2008

The 2008 PAS Conference began April 25, 2008 at the Regina Inn with the Friday evening Welcome Reception. Following the buffet dinner, SCP President Bev Allen presided over the SCP Awards program to recognize the 25 year and 50 year graduates.

Hugh Sutherland and Dean Ast were asked to say a few words on behalf of the Class of '83, and to introduce the class members in attendance. Bev Allen presented 25 year SCP pins to each class member.

Registrar Ray Joubert read the citations and introduced the members from the Class of '58 in attendance. Bev Allen presented the 50 year Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists' pins and 50 year Anniversary Certificates to the members of the Class of 1958.

Rea Knowles, accompanied on the piano by his wife Faith, surprised everyone with a song he had written for the occasion. This is sung to the tune of "My Favourite Things":

*Fifty years gone, I can hardly
believe it
This is an honour indeed to
receive it
All those prescriptions still tied up
with string
They are just one of my favourite
things
Crash the computer, it's back to the
old days
Don the white jacket and climb up
the stairway
Don't forget cigarettes, booze, the
whole bit
Kill'em then cure 'em, that used
to be it
When the doc writes, when the
phone rings, when I'm in the
store
I simply remember my favourite
things
And then I don't feel so (pause)
OLD!*

Following the formal program attendees were invited to remain to reconnect with old friends and perhaps make some new ones.

25 Year Grads



From left to right – Back row: Jan Broberg, Sherry Hodgins, Joanne Brown, Hugh Sutherland, Richard Ruston, Gary von Holwede, Dean Ast, Al Dresser. Middle row: Ullana Kopystansky, Martha Nystrom, Lisa Ruston, Andrea Mattiussi, Bev Brooks, Laurie Dyck, Anne Proudlove, Janice Burgess, Andrea Judge, Monica Lawrence. Front row: Margot Lang, Janette Kelly, Tenley Dubois, Gina Kwan, Joy Cherwak

50 Year Grads



From left to right – Back row: Ray Bannister, Bob Forrest, Rea Knowles, Bob Hickie. Front row: Bill Gryba and Joan Langman.

SCP Annual General Meeting and PAS Conference 2008

97th Annual General Meeting of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists – Saturday, April 26

Saturday morning, April 26, 2008 President Allen chaired the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists' 97th Annual General Meeting. President Allen introduced the members of Council and extended a special thank you to the Council members retiring from Council: Terri Bromm from Division 2, Jeannette Sandiford (Past President) and Justin Kosar (Senior Stick) who represented the students on Council. Members stood for a moment of silent tribute to the members who passed away over the past year:

Martha Blum
John Joseph Cook
Bernard Valentine (Bernie)
Fedorowich
William (Bill) Rodney Hill
Warren Parker Lee
Trent Raymond Paul
Deirdre Frances Ruane
Dr. Philp Alexander Sheridan
William Coulter Stewart
Anne Melvina Mary Turbitt
(Mallard)
Harry Whittaker

Following the reports from the President, the Registrar, the Auditor, and the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition Report from Dean Dennis

Gorecki, members had the opportunity to ask questions arising from the reports.

Registrar Joubert read the names of the retired members who have been confirmed Members Emeriti into the records of the College:

Sylvin Agnew
Earl Ingram
Wayne Kells
Thomas Palyga
Bruce Schnell
Sujata Sethi

These retired members have been granted the designation 'MESCP' (Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists).

President's Luncheon – Sunday, April 27



President Bev Allen welcomed everyone to the President's Luncheon on Sunday afternoon. The President hosts a gathering of the College members to reflect on the year just passed and offer guidance for the year ahead.

President-Elect George Furneaux introduced the 2008 Award recipients as President Allen congratulated those being honoured.

A **Certificate of Recognition** is presented to pharmacists for their outstanding service to the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists:

- Upon retirement from the Professional Practice Committee: Harold Just, Cheryl Lalonde, Susan Poulin and John Stanzeleit;
- Upon retirement from the Registration and Licensing Policies Committee: Donna Herbert and Lyn Rhode

- Upon retirement from the Complaints Committee: Lyn Rhode
- Upon retirement from the Special Care Home Task Force: Darryl Leshko, Rick Gaertner, Sandy Knezacek, Curtis Loucks, Jack Mullock and Jane Richardson
- Upon retirement from Council: Terri Bromm and Jeannette Sandiford.

Presidential Citations are presented to recognize an SCP member who has made special contributions to pharmacy. This year's recipient is Shona Elder.

Shona has been recognized for her role with the Pharmacist Intervention Risk Reduction project. She is a Certified Respiratory Educator having taken the Asthma TREC and COPD TREC courses. She has assisted with the implementation of a Smoking Cessation Group at the Regina General Hospital which continues to meet today.



Shona Elder

In his **Farewell Address**, President Allen not only spoke of this past current year that he served as President but also on how the College has progressed since his year as SPhA President some twenty years ago.

President Allen then called upon Registrar Joubert to proceed with the installation ceremony for the incoming president, George Furneaux. Following the swearing in ceremony, President-Elect Furneaux was presented with a personalized gavel from the College. Please see the President's Address on the cover of this issue.

Class of 2008 Convocation Luncheon – May 28, 2008

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists is proud to have hosted the 52nd Annual Convocation Luncheon to welcome the members of the graduating class into the profession.

Traditionally the crowd is a blend of graduates, the members of the SCP Council and staff, faculty and staff from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, pharmacist preceptors who assisted with the SPEP rotations during the four year program, representatives from the Pharmacists' Association of Saskatchewan and the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists, Sask. Branch, family and friends of the graduates.

President Bev Allen had the honour of hosting the luncheon. As both president of the College of Pharmacists and a faculty member, he has had the opportunity to be acquainted with each member of the graduating class. He welcomed the graduates to the profession and offered congratulations from SCP.

President-Elect George Furneaux presented the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists **Gold Medal** as the most distinguished graduate to Ms. Jenifer Baldo of Saskatoon. Jenifer will be pursuing a career in community pharmacy in Saskatchewan.

The **Campbell Prize** (as the second most distinguished graduate) was presented to Mr. Kyle Wilby of Saskatoon. Kyle has accepted a hospital pharmacy resident position in British Columbia.

Congratulations to Jenifer and Kyle and all of the award winners on their achievements.

We welcome the Class of 2008 into the profession and encourage them to become involved in the profession and their communities. Congratulations on completing your academic studies and best wishes for a fulfilling career!



Jenifer Baldo and George Furneaux



Kyle Wilby and George Furneaux

Diclofenac Diethylamine in Topical Preparations

The amendment of Part 1 of Schedule F to remove diclofenac diethylamine in preparations for topical use on the skin to non-prescription status has now come into force with the publication in the Canada Gazette. Upon prior notification that this drug was to be deregulated, the Minister of Health had pre-approved this Regulatory Bylaw Amendment to become effective when deregulated by Health Canada.

What this means is that the following Schedule III listing is now in effect:

Diclofenac Diethylamine in preparations for topical use on the skin in concentrations of not more than the equivalent of 1% diclofenac – Schedule III.

Schedule III products are pharmacy only "Non-Prescription Drugs" — which can be sold by a pharmacist to the public without a prescription. These drugs may be located in the area of the pharmacy that is accessible to the public and which provides an opportunity for self-selection of the drug by the public. The pharmacist must be available, accessible and approachable to assist the public with selecting the drug.

Bruce Lang – SHEA Awards: Client Centred/Client Satisfaction

We wish to congratulate Bruce Lang for receiving the 2008 SHEA Award in the Client Centred/Client Satisfaction category during the gala and award ceremony held on March 1, 2008 at the Queensbury Convention Centre.

Client Centred/Client Satisfaction Award criteria:

Fully understands, meets and strives to exceed the needs of clients. The individual exceeds normal expectations and has gone above and beyond the call of duty in addressing the needs of the client.

From his nomination: "Bruce Lang delivers a gold standard of pharmaceutical care, translating needs into action. His approach is welcoming. Bruce is respectful and courteous to patients, their families and to all others he meets. Characteristically empathetic, non-judgmental and understanding, he takes the time to know his clients, treating each individual as an individual. Bruce is dedicated to ongoing education. Through his numerous presentations, he emphasizes critical thinking and awareness of community responsibilities. His

innate ability to inspire, nurture and empower others makes him a true asset to the healthcare community."

The Saskatchewan Health Care Excellence Awards (SHEA) promotes success in Saskatchewan healthcare and profiles those individuals demonstrating excellence in their field. Any person, team, department or organization, paid or unpaid, involved in the healthcare sector of the province of



Saskatchewan where process, method, program or act demonstrates extraordinary achievement is eligible for nomination.

Award recipients are selected on demonstrated excellence and impact in two of the following areas of excellence: client centred/client satisfaction; innovative treatment or technology; loyalty to organization or institution – attitudes that make a difference; quality of work; leadership and community leadership.

The SHEA awards are hosted by AIDS Programs South Saskatchewan – the voice and resource for HIV/AIDS in South Saskatchewan. APSS provides prevention and education programs, harm reduction programs, and direct services to persons living with HIV/AIDS and to those at risk of contracting the virus.

Nominations for the 2009 Awards open on August 17, 2008.

The awards ceremony will take place on March 14, 2009. For more information please contact Mary Arpin:

Phone 1-877-210-7623

Fax: 306-525-0904

Email: info@sheawards.ca

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Please submit resume to:

Keith Sapara

Sapara's Drug Mart Ltd.

P.O. Box 250, Esterhazy, SK S0A 0X0

(306)745-6662 / (306)745-2450

Fax: (306)745-6654

Email: rksapara@sasktel.net



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If you are ready to join our health care team, we want to hear from you. Please send your resume, in confidence, on or before **September 15, 2008** to:

Chris Perentes, BSP

2255 – 14th Avenue

Regina, SK S4P 0X9

Fax: 306-569-2316

cperentes@sasktel.net

We look forward to discussing this exciting career opportunity with you.

**Any Interest in a Project
That Would Have Low Impact
on Your Day?**

The Idea

Preventative use of ASA 81mg in patients at risk of cardiovascular events is widely accepted. Most have been told by a doctor to start therapy. In spite of this, uptake in those who would benefit remains below the desired goal.

On the other hand, due to considerable advertising, some patients *not at risk* for cv problems may decide to use it without proper medical assessment. While done with good intentions, use in such patients is over-shadowed by concerns it could cause bleeding.

The Plan

We need feedback from people currently taking ASA 81mg. We propose to ask purchasers/users in Saskatchewan pharmacies to complete a take-home survey to *assess the percentage that are self-medicating*.

The Survey

Question-wording was carefully chosen – this will NOT embarrass those who are self-medicating, nor suggest they are doing something wrong. And, it is clearly identified as a College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

project and that we are pharmacists. The document is ONE side of a single page (with three questions). The other side of the page is for the return address and postage (supplied). Once done, a person just mails it back to us.

Your Responsibility

You would have all your pharmacy staff (pharmacists, technicians, cashiers) watch for purchases of ASA 81mg. A small number of surveys (folded to reduce space) would be placed at cash registers. Upon seeing the product in a basket of goods, staff would place a copy into their shopping bag and mention why it is being put there. The survey is light blue in colour (as are most products) to help remember.

Survey Period

We hope to do this in September and October 2008. Even if your pharmacy would only sell 10 packages in that time, you would still be welcome. It all adds up!

For More Information

Jeff Taylor
306-966-5328
jeff.taylor@usask.ca

**Canadian Patient
Safety Week**

As announced in the insert to this Newsletter, the fourth Canadian Patient Safety Week will occur September 29 to October 4, 2008. Sponsored by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, this year's theme will focus on medication reconciliation. The evidence supporting the benefits of this patient safety intervention is undisputed.

The week will raise awareness of medication reconciliation initiatives. We ask members to learn more about and participate in these initiatives. The PIP profile is an excellent tool. A MedRec report has been available and in use since April 2007. Adoption and support of this report has been increasing steadily since then. It is available to all existing PIP users and is not limited to a specific role (i.e. institutional or community). We encourage members to use the report as much as possible.

We also encourage members to do whatever you can to encourage patients to know what they are taking. Again, the PIP profile can be an excellent tool to assist.

For further information, consult the web site at the end of the insert.

**Mark Your Calendars –
Event Not to Be Missed**

**2008 2nd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference
“Ensuring Patient Safety With Citizen Engagement”**

Sponsors:

Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP)
Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA)
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS)

Keynote Speakers:

Andre Picard – public health reporter, *The Globe and Mail*
Dr. Saul N. Weingart – Vice President for Patient Safety
and the Director of the Center for Patient Safety
at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

**Radisson Hotel – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
September 19 and 20, 2008**

**National Oncology
Pharmacy
Symposium**

**October 17-19, 2008
Hyatt Regency – Calgary, AB**

The annual National Oncology Pharmacy Symposium – NOPS 2008 will be held October 17-19 in Calgary. This year's theme is “New Frontiers in Oncology Pharmacy”.

For complete program details, to register, submit a poster, book accommodation and for other information, visit the website at www.capho.org/nops/2008