



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF
PHARMACISTS

Newsletter

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President's Holiday Message

THIS CHRISTMAS. Mend a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten friend. Dismiss suspicion, and replace it with trust. Write a love letter. Share some treasure. Give a soft answer. Encourage youth. Manifest your loyalty in word and deed. Keep a promise. Find the time. Forgo a grudge. Forgive an enemy. Listen. Apologize if you were wrong. Try to understand. Flout envy. Examine your demands on others. Think first of someone else. Appreciate. Be kind; be gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh a little more. Deserve confidence. Take up arms against malice. Decry complacency. Express your gratitude. Go to church. Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak your love. Speak it again. Speak it still once again. (from Christmas Thoughts for all the Year by the Editors of McCall's, December, 1959).

Even though this message was presented 47 years ago, it is still applicable to our lives today. During this holiday time our lives can get very hectic, as we try to find just the right gift, decorate the Christmas tree, get all those Christmas cards written and sent out, attend the Christmas parties, take in the Christmas concerts and still have enough energy to help our patients during their times of illness. Perhaps, more importantly this holiday season, what we need to put on our list of things to do is: to simplify our lives in whatever way we can, mend some broken fences where possible



and truly enjoy all the wonder and happiness that can come from this time of year.

As the old year is coming to an end and the new year approaches, this time can also be an opportunity to look to the future and contemplate what our goals are for the next year. As part of the planning for the new year, SCP takes the information gained from the fall district meetings and uses it for our future planning; and therefore, I would like to thank everyone for taking the time to attend those meetings and contribute the way you did. The more our membership gets involved, the better we all are. Some of the issues that were very well received at the district meetings were the upcoming additions to the PIP program and prescriptive authority. It is exciting to think of the possibilities for pharmacists when prescriptive authority is implemented. Not to mention the decrease in time wasted making unnecessary phone

calls. The information presented on the public opinion survey was also very well received. It is always interesting to see how we as pharmacists are perceived by the public and what they feel our role is on the health care team. The survey also provided the foundation for the development of the SCP Strategic Plan for the next five years.

The vision of SCP is "Quality Pharmacy Care in Saskatchewan", so during this time when our lives are busier than we want them to be, take some time to reflect on all the good things you provided to your patients this year. All the times you provided quality pharmacy care and were able to help someone, whether it was a newly diagnosed diabetic nervous about starting on the medication and the thought of having to test their blood sugars; helping the young mom feel less anxious about caring for her newborn; or making a recommendation to a physician that improved someone's life. There are so many benefits that we provide to our patients and to other health care professionals that we should be truly proud. So, instead of stressing over what you have not yet gotten done, take a few minutes to reflect on all that you have accomplished.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow SCP councilors and SCP staff for a very productive and enjoyable year, and wish everyone a very merry holiday season and hope for all the best to you and your families in 2007!

Jeannette Sandiford



SCP Council 2006-07

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Jeannette Sandiford, Weyburn
(term expires June 30, 2007)
President

Division 2

Terri Bromm, Tisdale
(term expires June 30, 2008)
Vice-President

Division 3

Randy Wisner, Prince Albert
(term expires June 30, 2007)

Division 4

Bev Allen, Saskatoon
(term expires June 30, 2008)
President-Elect

Division 5

Bill Paterson, Regina
(term expires June 30, 2007)

Division 6

George Furneaux, Regina
(term expires June 30, 2008)

Division 7

Debbie McCulloch, Rosetown
(term expires June 30, 2007)
Past-President

Division 8

Janet Harding, Saskatoon
(term expires June 30, 2008)

Ex Officio

Dean Dennis Gorecki
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition,
Saskatoon

Public

Ken Hutchinson, Fort Qu'Appelle
Joseph Jeerakathil, Saskatoon

Student Observer

Kim Sparrowhawk

Council Highlights – November 29-30, 2006

From the meetings held in Regina November 29 and 30, 2006:

- Confirmed the role of the Linkage Committee to recommend opportunities to link with the public beyond conducting public opinion research every three to five years. Such opportunities provide Council with insight into issues from the public's perspective and guide College goals;
- Tabled reconsideration of a previous motion to reduce the quorum at annual and special general meetings from 50 to 30 eligible members subject to researching methods such as technology to facilitate member participation;
- Reviewed the member evaluations of the recent district meetings and agreed that they should be continued for 2007;
- Agreed to participate in a joint conference with the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association September 14, and 15, 2007. The conference will feature joint Council business and education sessions, along with educational and networking opportunities for our respective members. For 2007, we will continue to convene our annual general meeting in conjunction with the RBSP conference and thereafter will evaluate the benefits of moving it to future joint conferences with the CPSS and the SRNA;
- Held a joint meeting with the RBSP Board. Topics discussed included:
 - Prescriptive authority for pharmacists – we expect RBSP to provide formal feedback and to examine compensation models for pharmacists;
 - Alternative reimbursement fund – discussed the status of the fund;
 - Public opinion research – asked RBSP to consider the results when designing public education and relations strategies;
 - Strategic plan – discussed the areas from the strategic plan for which we are asking for cooperation from RBSP (i.e. economic models for pharmacists on health care teams and pharmacists in prescribing roles, collaboration with public education strategies on the role of the pharmacist);
- Approved the final draft of the Strategic and Operational Plan 2007-11 (for further details refer to the plan posted on our home page at the NAPRA web site http://www.napra.ca/pdfs/provinces/sk/SK_College_Strategic_Plan_v2-3_Nov2006.pdf);
- Received an update on the consultation process regarding enhanced authority for the pharmacist to prescribe drugs (for further details, refer to separate article in this Newsletter);
- After consultations with pharmacists in the area according to our policies, approved an exemption to the residency requirement for a dispensing physician in Dinsmore.

Drug Bylaw Amendments

The following Drug Bylaw Amendments have been published in *The Saskatchewan Gazette* and are now in effect:

Schedule II:

Diphenhydramine and its salts and preparations (for parenteral use)

Diphenhydramine and its salts and preparations (for topical use in concentrations of greater than 2%)

Lidocaine and its salts (for ophthalmic or parenteral use, or topical use on mucous membranes, except lozenges)

Schedule III:

Bacitracin and its salts and derivatives (for ophthalmic use)

Diphenhydramine and its salts and preparations (except for parenteral or topical use)

Diphenhydramine and its salts and preparations (for topical use in concentrations of 2% or less)

Gramicidin and its salts and derivatives (for ophthalmic use)

Lidocaine and its salts (for otic use)

Polymyxin B and its salts and derivatives (for ophthalmic use)

Enhanced Authority for Pharmacists to Prescribe

Beginning with members at the recent district meetings, we began consultations with all interested parties on strategies to optimize the role of the pharmacist in the prescribing process. We are proposing **interdependent** prescriptive authority for the pharmacist in collaborative practice environments where pharmacists maximize the use of their current competencies. We are not proposing dependant prescriptive authority where the pharmacist relies on some form of delegation from a legally authorized prescriber. Nor are we proposing independent authority where the pharmacist accepts sole responsibility for prescribing decisions.

Rather we are proposing interdependent authority where the members of the health care team rely upon one another and their respective skills to optimally manage the pharmacotherapy of their patients. In particular, the pharmacist relies upon the diagnostic skills of the physician and the nursing assessment skills of the nurse, while physicians and nurses rely upon the drug therapy knowledge and management skills of the pharmacist. Collaboratively, their common goal is to achieve optimal pharmacotherapy health outcomes.

We are not proposing that pharmacists expand their scope of practice, but are proposing that pharmacists be allowed to practice to their maximum scope within existing competencies. Furthermore, our proposals attempt to recognize both the realities of the current health care system, and impending reforms. Our proposals do not require broad systemic changes, but require an enabling legislative framework. They are intended to be compatible with enhanced interdisciplinary collaboration in primary care. To summarize, our proposals are intended to achieve the following goals:

- 1) Expand the authority of the pharmacist to prescribe drugs;
- 2) Optimize the role of the pharmacist;

- 3) Avoid expanding the pharmacist's scope of practice;
- 4) Allow pharmacists to prescribe drugs within current competencies;
- 5) Assist physicians and other health care providers in managing the pharmacotherapy of patients; and,
- 6) Legalize activities that the pharmacist is currently, or is capable of performing.

Some common practices of pharmacists are not expressly permitted under the law, but yet are in the best interests of the patient. They are usually safe and result in positive patient outcomes. For example:

- selecting drugs or adjusting dosages for therapy under collaborative practice agreements;
- extending refills of prescriptions when refills have expired; or,
- providing emergency supplies of prescription drugs.

Our proposals attempt to recognize both the realities of the current health care system, and impending reforms ...

Following consultations, we will be proposing changes to the regulations and bylaws under *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* to expand the pharmacist's authority to prescribe drugs. Effective September 1, 2003, prescriptive authority was granted to pharmacists in Saskatchewan. Consequential legislation authorized the pharmacist to prescribe emergency contraception, while other proposals were rejected. Council has since determined that these proposals be reconsidered and expanded. Therefore, we are proposing that the pharmacist be allowed to prescribe:

- 1) Under collaborative prescribing agreements;
- 2) In continuing care situations;
- 3) When prescriptions may be in-

- complete, but the intent of the prescriber is clear; and,
- 4) In patient self-care circumstances.

These situations contemplate prescribing in collaborative environments between the patient, physician and pharmacist. The physician and patient rely upon the pharmacist to safely extend or initiate therapy within the pharmacist's existing knowledge, skills and training.

Pharmacist-to-physician communication is an important component of collaboration. We will thus explore requiring pharmacists to use the PIP Medication Profile Viewer to record prescribing decisions as the key, but not necessarily the only communications vehicle.

We will consult with our medical colleagues and establish a credible process to establish prescribing guidelines, protocols and formal collaborative practice agreements. We will also undertake the appropriate training of members.

Such authority to prescribe does not extend to Narcotics, Controlled Drugs or Targeted Substances until the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, and corresponding regulations are amended to recognize pharmacists as prescribers.

We will develop rules of conduct to address accountability and the conflicts of interest that may arise from fulfilling both prescribing and dispensing roles. However, we believe that accountability will primarily manifest itself through the pharmacist being transparent when collaborating with the patient and other members of the health care team. With proper communications protocols, all should be aware of the decisions of the pharmacist. This is where recording prescribing and dispensing decisions in the PIP Medication Profile Viewer will be critical.

Member feedback is invited and welcome. For further details, members are invited to view our consultation paper at: http://www.napra.ca/pdfs/provinces/sk/Pharmacist_Prescribing_Discussion_Paper_Oct2006.pdf

From the Desk of the Dean



Dr. Dennis Gorecki
College of Pharmacy
and Nutrition

In July 2003, the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition completed its first **College Plan 2003/04 to 2006/07**, as part of a new integrated planning process at the U of S. Our College previously had a strategic plan and a planning process in place. However, this new initiative involved "the drawing together of university-wide and unit-specific planning efforts to permit strategic decision-making and ... to act as a focal point for institutional initiatives and resource allocation" (Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic). College and administrative unit plans were forged into the University's **First Integrated Plan**.

College and unit plans were reviewed by University bodies, and each of us was given a set of "planning parameters" or expectations to achieve during the first planning

cycle, based on the University-wide strategic directions. Our College's **planning parameters** focused on: increasing undergraduate and graduate enrolment; sustaining the quality of our programs; pursuing interprofessional activities; adding to the faculty and staff complement to achieve goals; expanding research initiatives; leveraging resources; and measuring performance. We are pleased to report that we have made good progress in these key areas.

This fall, colleges and units received a request from Provost Michael Atkinson to begin work on their strategic plans for the **second integrated planning cycle**, the period 2008/09 to 2011/12. For this cycle, a set of themes or areas of strategic focus have been drafted, with input from Deans, unit heads and the Planning Committee of Council (the body that governs academic affairs). All members of the University community have been asked to contribute to a broader discussion of the themes to gain consensus on moving forward collectively. The themes are con-

sidered a work in progress and a natural progression from the first integrated plan, and its strategic directions and foundational documents. They are:

- Enhance Student Life
- Practice Effective Enrolment Management
- Accelerate Research Momentum
- Foster an Engaged University (i.e., partnership of university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors)
- Enhance Aboriginal Programming and Scholarship
- Champion Faculty Recruitment and Retention
- Build a High-Performance Organization
- Innovate and Focus

Our second College Plan is due October 15, 2007; we have developed a timeline for the in-depth planning which will begin early in the New Year. We welcome your comments on this important process, and look forward to working with our stakeholders on the development of our **Second Integrated Plan**.

SPEED READING

Prescriber # vs. Licence

We have received a concern that prescribers have received prescription renewal forms by facsimile from pharmacies that print the prescriber's name, 'licence #' and address at the bottom of the form.

The issue is that the 'licence #' bears no resemblance to the practitioner's actual licence number. We imagine that the number is the 'prescriber #' assigned by Saskatchewan Health for billing purposes but this is not the practitioner's 'licence #'.

One physician is quite concerned because a prescription is a permanent record and the information is not correct – she must cross off this incorrect number on each document. Since there is no requirement for the 'licence #' or 'prescriber #' to appear on the prescriptions,

perhaps this could be deleted from the practice management program. Or alternatively the wording could be changed to 'prescriber #' or 'billing #'. We thank you for your assistance in rectifying this matter.

Primidone and the Prescription Review Program

Primidone is a barbiturate and as such, some may consider it to fall under the auspices of the Prescription Review Program. Primidone is a Schedule F drug and not a Controlled drug. Since the purpose of the Prescription Review Program is to deal with drugs of abuse and primidone is not seen to be abused, it **is not included** in the program.

Therefore, prescriptions for primidone do not have to meet the requirements of the Prescription Review Program.



NAPRA Notes

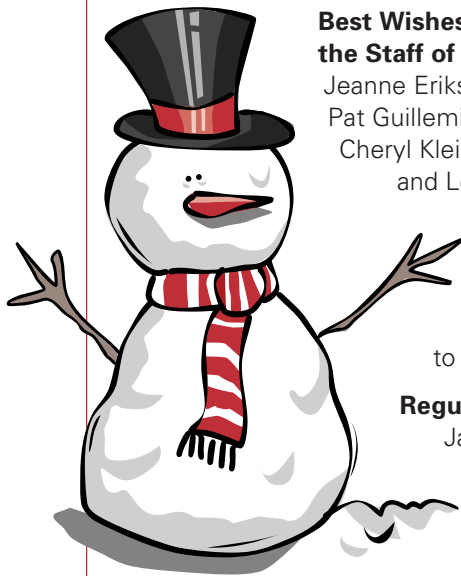
The December 2006 issue of *NAPRA Notes* is posted on the NAPRA website: www.napra.ca then click on "News and Events".

Or use the URL http://www.napra.ca/pdfs/news/NAPRA_Notes_December_2006_final.pdf

It includes a brief summary of the issues that NAPRA is addressing as well as opportunities for members interested in working with the Canadian Council for Continuing Education in Pharmacy (CCCEP) as a program reviewer.

Past issues of NAPRA Notes are also available on-line.

*Wishing You a
Peaceful Holiday Season*



**Best Wishes from
the Staff of SCP:**

Jeanne Eriksen, Paulette Francis,
Pat Guillemain, Ray Joubert,
Cheryl Klein, Heather Neirnick
and Lori Postnikoff

**Holiday Office
Schedule:**

Closed from
December 25
to January 1

Regular Office Hours:

January 2
8:00 am – 12 noon;
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm

**Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists
96th Annual General Meeting**

Saturday, April 28, 2007

9:30 – 10:30 am

25th & 50th Anniversary Recognition

Welcome Reception (Dinner Buffet)

Friday, April 27, 2007

7:00 pm

To be held in conjunction with the

**RBSP 6th Annual Conference
and General Meeting**

April 27 to April 29, 2007

Sheraton Cavalier

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Mark your calendars now!

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Awards and Honours Committee Member Recognition



Deadline for SCP Award Nominations

Each year during the RBSP Annual Conference, members are recognized for contributions to the profession and to their communities. The joint SCP and RBSP Awards and Honours Committee invites you to nominate a colleague(s) who has made significant contributions to his/her profession and community, and is justly deserving of a College award.

Nomination forms may be requested from the SCP office, and are also available on the SK homepage of the NAPRA website – www.napra.org. The **deadline** for receipt of nomination of a colleague(s) for an SCP Award is **January 31, 2007**. The following criteria will assist you in contemplating your nominations. In all cases, the selections will be approved by the SCP Council, following recommendation from the Awards and Honours Committee.

Honorary Life Member Award

Recognizes a member of the SCP for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or the SCP beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.

May be granted in recognition of:

- Outstanding contribution to the SCP; and/or
- A distinguished record of service to the SCP; and/or
- Specific achievements that enhanced the profession; and/or
- Long-term service to the profession with a distinguished record; and/or
- A distinguished record of professional service to the community.
- Nominee must have made a special contribution to the SCP either on a local, provincial or national level.
- Nominee(s) must be a member(s) in good standing of the SCP.
- Nomination papers must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications of the nominee, consistent with the terms of reference.

*Honorary Life Members will have their annual personal membership fees waived, but are responsible for all other conditions of membership.

Presidential Citation

Recognizes an SCP member who has made special contributions to pharmacy, but who does not qualify for any other SCP Awards.

SCP Certificate of Recognition

Presented to the retiring Presidents, Councillors, and committee members of the SCP for their dedication and contributions to the SCP Council.

- Nominee(s) must have made a special contribution to the SCP either on a local, provincial, or national level.
- Nominee(s) must be a member in good standing of the SCP.

- Nomination papers must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications of the nominee consistent with the terms of reference.

Honorary Member Award

Recognizes any person who is not a member of the SCP for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or the SCP beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.

May be granted in recognition of:

- An outstanding single contribution to the SCP; and/or
- A distinguished record of service to the SCP; and/or
- A single specific achievement that enhanced the profession; and/or
- Long-term service to the profession with a distinguished record; and/or
- A distinguished record of professional service to the community.
- Nominee must have made a special contribution to the SCP either on a local, provincial, or national level.
- **Any person who is not a member of the SCP may be nominated.**
- Nomination papers must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications of the nominee consistent with the terms of reference.

SCP Award of Merit

Recognizes any person, who is not a member of the College, who through their active participation has promoted the SCP and/or the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan.

- Nominee must have contributed to the active promotion of the SCP or to the profession of pharmacy either on a local, provincial or national level.
- **Nominee may not be a member of SCP**
- Nomination papers must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications consistent with the terms of reference.