

# NEWSLETTER

700 – 4010 Pasqua St., Regina, SK S4S 7B9 • (306) 584-2292 • Fax (306) 584-9695 • E-mail: saskpharm@sasktel.net

Volume 23 Number 4 December 2002

## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

The holiday season is approaching and I have many activities planned for celebration with family, friends and good food. For me, the period between Christmas and New Years is a time of reflection on the past year and an opportunity to plan for the future.

Similarly, this fall Council undertook a process of planning for the year ahead. We undertook what is called a Proactive Agenda Planning Process, in which we attempted to determine what issues are on the horizon. From this we determine whom we need to consult with, and what council education has to be undertaken so that we have the information we need to make quality decisions.

Council has identified a focus on Primary Care and the work of Saskatchewan Health's Quality Council as top priorities to guide the agenda over the next year. We want to learn about these issues and discuss the impact they may have on the Association in our role to ensure quality pharmacy care for the people of Saskatchewan.



I enjoyed attending the District Meetings in Saskatoon, Swift Current, Yorkton and Weyburn.

The discussions with my colleagues were insightful, and it was gratifying to see the interest in our profession. Your input in the affairs of the Association is very important to help us continue to be a self-regulated profession.

The implementation of the Saskatchewan Pharmacists Learning Portfolio is now a reality. Pharmacists across the province will be planning and undertaking learning that meets their own needs. Please ensure that you take the time now to start your Learning Portfolio Records. This is not something that you will want to leave until you need to send your Professional Development Log to SPhA at licence renewal time.

In closing, I hope that the holiday season provides you some much needed "time out" to stop and reflect on the last year and what lies ahead. On behalf of SPhA Council and staff I wish you a wonderful holiday season and all the best for 2003.

*Brenda Schuster*



*May your Holiday Season  
be filled with everything that brings you joy!*

**Holiday Schedule**

Closed: December 25, 26  
and January 1  
Open: December 24, 27, 30, 31  
Regular Office Hours:  
8 a.m. – 12 noon  
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m

*SPhA Staff:*

*Andrea Brockmeyer, Carla Cramer,  
Jeanne Eriksen, Pat Guillemin,  
Ray Joubert, Cheryl Klein, Lori Postnikoff*

**WHAT'S INSIDE?**

- Council Highlights
- From the Desk of the Dean
- Discipline Findings and Orders
- Continuing Professional Development
- Do you know someone who should be recognized?



**SPHA COUNCIL 2002-03**

Division 1  
Janet Bradshaw, Dysart  
(term expires June 30, 2003)

Division 2  
Vacant  
(term expires June 30, 2004)

Division 3  
Randy Wiser, Prince Albert  
(term expires June 30, 2003)  
President-elect

Division 4  
Doug Spitzig, Saskatoon  
(term expires June 30, 2004)  
Past-President

Divison 5  
Bill Paterson, Regina  
(term expires June 30, 2003)  
Vice-President

Division 6  
Vacant  
(term expires June 30, 2004)

Division 7  
Debbie McCulloch  
(term expires June 30, 2003)

Division 8  
Brenda Schuster, Regina  
(term expires June 30, 2004)  
President

Ex Officio  
Dean Dennis Gorecki

Public  
May Bridgewater  
Lavonne Heck

Student Observer  
Lyndsay Gray

**COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 27-28, 2002**

On November 27, 2002 Council met at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon.

Council reviewed the evaluation feedback from the Fall District Meetings. The number of attendees was up in most locations over previous years, with lots of discussion of the topics that had been previously circulated. Some comments were that the agenda was too extensive to discuss in just one evening.

This year the members were offered the opportunity to add topics to the agenda; when those topics were requested in one district only, they were addressed at that meeting only. While the vast majority of those who filled in the evaluation forms were happy with the agenda and format, others noted that these evenings are an excellent way to meet with peers and learn what and how other members are implementing primary care and other initiatives.

The segment of the meeting devoted to the learning portfolio focused on completing the forms and how to determine CEU credit for different projects. As attendees repeatedly comment on how useful this session was, Melanie Watson from the CPDP unit has provided us with a four-page insert for this newsletter based on her presentation and some of the questions that arose during the meetings. Please review this document if you were unable to attend the 2002 Fall District Meetings.

As at each meeting, Council members are given the opportunity to report on their activities and outcomes in linking with the public. Many Councillors have presented to different groups within the province on a variety of topics. When asked, it appears that the demand is coming from the Regional Health Authorities, some from industry and some from publicly-operated health clinics. Encouraging news is that one Councillor reported that not only were the public happy with the information provided, they actually were willing to pay for the information and expertise the member shared.

NAPRA has approved the Committee report *Competency Based Standards of Practice* that describes the competencies needed to meet the minimum standards,

and the indicators to measure performance. The most recent revision of the model national standards will be released to the member provinces soon. At that time the Professional Practice Committee will begin their work on the adaptation/ adoption for Saskatchewan pharmacists. They will report back to Council for Council's approval of the new document. The Professional Practice Committee will also develop communication strategies to keep members informed as the work progresses.

Council decided that the invitation to participate in the newly formatted Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations (SAHO) Conference was in keeping with Council's Ends policy of Linkage with Other Organizations. This year is expected to be the first of an annual multidisciplinary **Partners in Health Conference** to be held at the Saskatoon Centennial Auditorium and Convention Centre **March 23-26, 2003**. The theme is naturally, Partners in Health, but the proposed agenda is: Day 1 will focus on Teamwork in Healthcare – Working Towards a Common Goal and on Day 2 – Primary Health Care – Interdisciplinary Focus. Further details will be provided to members.

Council has agreed to move the regularly scheduled February meeting to coincide with the SAHO Conference. We will continue to hold the spring Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting in partnership with the **Representative Board of Saskatchewan Pharmacists (RBSP) 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference May 2-4, 2003** in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Please mark your calendars now for both conferences as each conference will be addressing issues of concern for our members.

Council considered changes to the **communication policy** arising from the information gathered by FaxBack #14. While the majority of the respondents prefer that they receive a paper copy of the Newsletters, Annual Report and other official notices, many also requested that the information be made available via the Internet. Paper versions of these documents will continue as we



experiment with the acceptability of other formats. All **Newsletters** since June 2000 are available on the "SK" page at the NAPRA website. Also available on-line is the **Annual Report** 2000 and 2001. We expect that the **Pharmacy Reference Manual** will also be accessible on-line by January 1, 2003. Please check the NAPRA website at [www.napra.ca](http://www.napra.ca) or [www.napra.org](http://www.napra.org). Once on the NAPRA website, click on the 'SK' button; then select the 'Pharmacy Reference Manual' link. By accessing the on-line reference you will have the most up-to-the minute resource for all Council policies, standards and bylaws. If you have any comments regarding the on-line Pharmacy Reference Manual, please contact Carla Cramer at the SPhA office.

Council has confirmed the integration of the Structured Practice Experiences Program (SPEP) at the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition with our **internship requirement**. The internship requirement has been recognized

to meet the "Framework for Assessing Canadian Pharmacists Competencies at Entry to Practice Through Structured Practical Training Programs" developed by the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities. The framework is a component of the Mutual Recognition Agreement. Because we formally recognize that the SPEP meets the requirements of the framework, additional internship is no longer needed.

Therefore, when a pharmacy graduate from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition completes the SPEP and meets the requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree, that individual will be eligible for registration as a member of SPhA (upon application and payment of the prescribed fees). At that time the individual is eligible for a "conditional" practising membership (i.e. conditional licence). The conditions of this licence are:

1. The member may practise as a pharmacist under the supervision of a practising member (licensed pharmacist). This means that a licensed pharmacist

- accepts responsibility for the licensee, including whether or not to allow the licensee to practise independently;
2. The member cannot be named as a manager of a pharmacy or as a director of a corporation who holds a proprietary pharmacy permit;
  3. The member is not eligible to nominate, vote or hold office with the SPhA; and
  4. The member is not eligible to have signing authority for the purchase of Narcotics, Controlled Drugs or Targeted Substances.



These conditions will be removed when the member has been granted a Certificate of Qualification from the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (i.e. they have passed the PEBC). Upon notification of passing the PEBC, the SPhA office will remove the conditions from the licence without additional fee or application.

The bylaw amendments have been approved by Council and will now be submitted to the Minister for approval and publication in the Saskatchewan Gazette. We will inform members when the new Internship Bylaws become effective.

At the time of writing, the regulatory proposals for dispensing emergency contraception without a prescription are proceeding through the Department of Health's consultation process. So that the membership is prepared prior to the approval of this proposal, the CPDP unit has scheduled upcoming Sunday seminars to provide the required training for members. Please see the scheduled dates and topics for the January-February

Sunday Seminars on the back page of this issue.

Council met with the Board members of the RBSP on Thursday morning November 28, 2002 to discuss issues of mutual interest.

Council reaffirmed their intention to participate in the SAHO conference and to participate in the RBSP conference in May in a similar capacity as to our involvement at the 2002 Conference in Prince Albert.

When the RBSP was established as an independent operational unit within the Association, Council had developed policy to reflect that relationship. To reflect the autonomous nature of RBSP, Council amended the policy to read:

*"As of July 1, 2002, the Representative Board of Saskatchewan Pharmacists (RBSP) was established as an independent organization, legally and financially separate from SPhA, responsible for advocating or representing the interest of pharmacists in this province. While Council will comply with policy GP-12, we will strive to meet jointly at least annually with the Board of Directors of the RBSP. As long as it is feasible, we will also cooperate with the RBSP and hold a Council meeting and our annual general meeting in conjunction with their conference."*

Council shared with the Board members the issues arising from the Fall District Meetings, many of which were of an RBSP nature (i.e. advocacy). The Board was also interested in the Council priorities of the Quality Initiative and Primary Care.

### SPHA STAFF

Andrea Brockmeyer, Receptionist

Carla Cramer,  
Communications & Events Coordinator

Jeanne Eriksen, Assistant Registrar

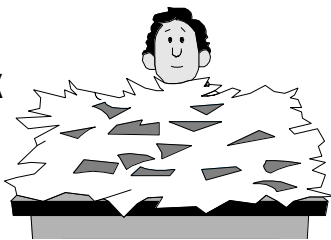
Pat Guillemain, Administrative Assistant

Ray Joubert, Registrar

Cheryl Klein,  
Senior Administrative Assistant

Lori Postnikoff, Field Officer

**FROM THE DESK OF THE DEAN ...**



**Dr. Dennis Gorecki**  
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

**Nutrition Resource and Volunteer Centre**

The Nutrition Resource and Volunteer Centre (NRVC) of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition was established in the fall of 1996. It is dedicated to supporting students, dietitians, nutritionists and other health professionals (i.e., physicians, pharmacists, nurses) and organizations in their nutrition and health education efforts. We do this by providing experiences, guidance, support, assistance and resources. Ultimately, the Centre works to contribute to the health of the Saskatchewan community.

The goals of the NRVC are 1) to support nutrition students by providing them with experiences and opportunities to develop and enhance a wide range of skills, 2) to support dietitians, nutritionists, and other health professionals and organizations in their nutrition education efforts by providing access to nutrition students and volunteers to assist on projects, and by making available for loan or purchase a wide variety of resources or services, 3) to act as a clearinghouse for nutrition resources and materials gathered from a variety of organizations, agencies and industries, and 4) to develop nutrition education resources and programs for use by nutrition students, dietitians/nutritionists, other health professionals and the general public.

The NRVC accepts requests from dietitians, nutritionists and others for assistance in resource development, projects, or presentations. Requests might be for developing a pamphlet, handout, game or other resource or in giving a presentation on healthy eating or related

topics. Requests have also been received for students to work on research projects, to prepare proposals, to provide in-services, to do literature reviews, to participate in committees, or to help plan for special events. Students work on these projects as part of their professional practice courses. They are matched to projects based on their skills, interests and desires and the learning objectives to be met. In the process they develop and enhance a wide range of skills important for professional dietitians and nutritionists. All projects are supervised by course personnel, faculty and staff. Requests are usually received in August and projects assigned to students in September. For more information on the NRVC or on how to make a request, please contact Dr. S. Berenbaum, NRVC Director, at 966-5846.

The Centre is located in G27 of the Thorvaldson Building on the University of Saskatchewan campus and is usually open Monday to Friday from 12:00 – 1:30 P.M. and at other times by appointment.

**YOU ASKED US?**

***A woman contacted the office inquiring as to why her pharmacist did not dispense a prescription for phenobarb tablets which was prescribed for her family pet (a dog) in a child safety vial?***

***The woman's toddler opened the vial, ingested the medication and had to be hospitalized.***



***A patient presents at the pharmacy with a prescription for Ritalin. Prior to the pharmacist attempting to input the prescription information into the computer, the client informs the pharmacist that he knows it is too soon to fill the prescription through the Drug Plan but that he wants the prescription filled and he will pay the full price (i.e. cash purchase). Should the pharmacist fill the prescription?***

The woman has a valid concern. Bylaw 14.8 Safety Closure Containers addresses this issue:

Every pharmacist who dispenses a drug shall package the drug in a safety closure container that is certified and designated by one of: the Canadian Standards Association, the European Standard, or the Code of Federal Regulations (United States), as defined in *The Food and Drug Regulations* C.01.001(2)(b), except when:

- a) the prescriber, the patient, or his responsible agent directs otherwise; or
- b) in the professional judgment of the pharmacist, in the particular instance, it is advisable not to use a safety closure container; or
- c) a safety closure container is not suitable because of the physical nature of the drug; or
- d) supplies of safety closure containers are not available.

All prescriptions are to be dispensed in a safety closure container (child-proof) unless one of the above exceptions applies.

The pharmacist who was approached refused the request to circumvent the Drug Plan on-line adjudication system and fill the prescription early as the patient did not offer a plausible explanation for the early request. The pharmacist was left frustrated believing that because of the client's knowledge of his options that he probably had received this medication in this manner in the past.

This will become a major issue for the profession in the months ahead. Under the provincial Health Information Protection Act (HIPA) and the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA i.e. the federal privacy legislation) the individual has the right to refuse to have his personal health information submitted to other agencies, organizations or trustees. We still await the Regulations to HIPA that will guide how trustees approach these situations.



**DISCIPLINE FINDING AND ORDERS**

On August 23, 2002 the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges of professional incompetence and professional misconduct pursuant to sections 24 and 25 of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996*, against the Respondent, Barry Partington.

The particulars of the allegations against the member were that through the period of June 4 to June 8 and June 11 through June 15, 2001, while working as a relief pharmacist at the Moosomin Union Hospital he made numerous medication errors. Also during that same time he made numerous medication errors in that he failed to provide medication that had been ordered.

In the view of the Discipline Committee, the proven conduct displays: (a) a lack of knowledge, skill and judgment; and (b) a disregard for the welfare of the members of the public served by the hospital; of a nature and extent that demonstrates that the member is unfit to continue in the practice of the profession of pharmacy.

As a result, having found the member is guilty of professional incompetence and professional misconduct, the Committee made the following orders pursuant to section 34 of the Act:

1. A formal written reprimand of the member shall be recorded on the register or record maintained by the Registrar of the Association.
2. The member's licence be suspended for one month commencing on a date designated by the member, such date to be not later than 14 days after the date of this order.
3. Upon completion of the suspension period referred to in paragraph 2, the member may thereafter continue to practise pharmacy under the following conditions only:
  - a) until the successful completion of the assessment referred to in paragraph 4, the member may only practice under the direct supervision of another pharmacist licensed to practice pharmacy in Saskatchewan; and
  - b) the member must successfully complete the assessment referred to in paragraph 4 within six months of the date of this Order or such further period of time as the Registrar of the Association may allow, such additional period of time not to exceed six months (for a total period of time not to exceed one year).
4. Within six months of the date of this Order or such further period of time as the Registrar of the Association may allow, such additional period of time not to exceed six months (for a total period of time not to exceed one year), the member must successfully complete a period of assessment of up to a maximum of two weeks (80 hours) (the precise period of time to be determined by the Assessor, as defined below), in the following terms:
  - a) The assessment will be conducted by a pharmacist (the "Assessor") selected by the Registrar of the Association, and at a location selected by the Registrar of the Association;
  - b) The assessment shall follow the normal and customary process currently in use by the office of the Registrar of the Association for the assessment of foreign trained candidates seeking licensure with the Association;
  - c) The member shall pay the normal and customary fee charged by the Association to foreign trained candidates seeking assessment for licensure with the Association;
  - d) Success in the completion of the assessment by the member shall be determined by the Assessor expressing his or her opinion that the member is competent and has displayed the ability to practise pharmacy by demonstrating the competency and standards of practice required of a pharmacist in Saskatchewan, and recommending the continued licensure of the member.
5. The member shall pay a portion of the costs of the investigation and hearing into the member's conduct and related costs, including the expenses of the Complaints Committee and the Discipline Committee and costs of legal services and witnesses in a fixed sum of \$7,000.00. The said costs shall be paid by the member at the offices of the Association within one year of the date of this Order, failing which any application for licensure presented by the member to the Association is to be held in abeyance and/or licence issued shall be suspended until such time as payment is made.
6. A summary of the Committee's Decision and Order, including the terms of this Order (and, for certainty, including the name of the member), shall be printed by the Association in its newsletter.

**REPORT OF THE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE MEETING – OCTOBER 2, 2002**

The Complaints Committee met on October 2, 2002 to address/review 26 files.

The Committee determined that: 16 files be closed (no further action to be taken); 10 files to remain active (investigation to proceed); and 0 files to be referred to the Discipline Committee (to hear and determine the formal complaint). The breakdown of the new complaints is as follows:

- Professional Incompetence: Prescription transfers (1); and Inappropriate product selection (1)
- Professional Misconduct: Bylaws/Standards/Guideline infractions (1); Communication/unprofessional Behavior (1); Record Keeping (2); Dispensing without Authority to do so (1); Breach of Confidentiality (1); and Miscellaneous/Other (5)

Note: the total exceeds the number of complaints as there may be more than one allegation per file.

**BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

Upon Council's approval the following amendment was submitted to the Minister of Health for approval and **became effective November 29, 2002**, upon publication in the Saskatchewan Gazette.

**Bylaw 14.6(g)** *A Non-Prescription medication /Therapy Guide: "Patient Self-Care – Helping Patients Make Therapeutic Choices" 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 2002 – published by the Canadian Pharmacists Association, or the most recent edition of the "Compendium of Self-Care Products (The Canadian Reference on OTCs)" – published by the Canadian Pharmacists Association.*

Bylaw 14.6(g) addresses the requirement for a non-prescription drug reference for the pharmacist's daily use. Recently the Canadian Pharmacists Association has reviewed their "Non-Prescription Drug Reference for Health Professionals"; consequently we wish to update this section of the Bylaw.

## DISTRICT MEETING SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS

This year the number of attendees at the Fall District Meetings was up from previous years in all districts except for one, with a total of 233 members gathering together to hear information and discuss the topics on the previously distributed agenda.

The breakdown of members who self declared is as follows:

Community Pharmacy	139
Hospital Pharmacy	7
Administration	2
Industry	0
Faculty	4
Other	3
Manager	77
Staff	67
Other	9

Attendees were asked to rate the following components of the District Meeting (the numbers are a percentage of those who responded):

	Satisfactory to Excellent
Date/time	97%
Format	100%
Meeting room	92%
Selection of topics on Agenda	99%
Adequacy of information	97%
Opportunity to ask questions	100%
Opportunity to express opinion	100%
Overall usefulness of meeting	99%

Members provided valuable feedback to the proposal to change our name to the "Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists". Judging from the comments received, most support the change but encourage the Association to retain some link with our history and traditions associated with our current name and logo.

The results of the Primary Care Workshop are being collated for consideration by the Pharmacy Coalition on Primary Care. We will report these results separately at another time.



## DRUG SCHEDULE AMENDMENTS

The Council of the Association, at a meeting duly convened September 18, 2002, approved the following drug schedule amendments recommended by the National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee. They became effective on November 8, 2002 upon their publication in the Saskatchewan Gazette.

### Amend Schedule III to Read:

1. Cetirizine Hydrochloride (in concentrations of 10 mg equivalent to 8.5 mg or less of cetirizine base per dosage unit) in products marketed for paediatric use (under 12 year of age).

Therefore, Council approved **UNSCHEDULED** status for the following:

Cetirizine Hydrochloride (in concentrations of 10 mg equivalent to 8.5 mg or less of cetirizine base per dosage unit) in products marketed for adult use (age 12 and over).

2. Dextromethorphan and its salts (except in oral dosage package sizes containing no more than 300mg of dextromethorphan base).

Therefore Council approved **UNSCHEDULED** status for the following:

Dextromethorphan and its salts (in oral dosage forms in package sizes containing no more than 300mg of dextromethorphan base).

## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – IMPORTANT EVENTS COMING IN EARLY 2003

### Sunday Seminars 2003

Regina – Sunday, January 19, Regina Inn  
Prince Albert – Sunday, February 2,

Marlboro Inn

Saskatoon – Sunday, February 9,  
Sheraton Cavalier

CEUs: 5.5

Topics:

Morning Session: Emergency Contraceptives – Dispensing without a Prescription – Shannan Neubauer  
Afternoon Session: Patient Counseling for Behavioural Change – Michelle Deschamps  
Evidence-based Practice – Dave Blackburn

### CSHP (Sask) Full Day Seminars

Practical Research Skills Workshop  
Saskatoon – Saturday, January 25

Regina – Saturday, February 1

CEUs: 6.0

For more information contact Brenda Schuster @ 766-3494 or email:

bschuster@sk.sympatico.ca

### CCCEP Home Study Lessons

The 2003 series of CCCEP Home Study lessons should be ready for distribution by the end of February 2003. A home study brochure which will include the new lessons and an updated order form should be mailed prior to their availability.

For the most up-to-date listing of CE programming please see the CPDP website: [www.usask.ca/pharmacy](http://www.usask.ca/pharmacy) and [nutrition/services/cpdp](http://www.usask.ca/nutrition/services/cpdp)

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**Request for Proposals for Retail Pharmacy  
Royal University Hospital  
Saskatoon**

Saskatoon Health Region is issuing a Request for Proposals to tenants interested in leasing space at the Royal University Hospital (RUH) in Saskatoon, out of which the tenant will operate a retail pharmacy.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is Friday, January 24, 2003. To obtain a copy of the Request for Proposals, please contact:

Business Development Unit  
c/o Tara Delaine  
Rm. 115, Nurses Residence  
St. Paul's Hospital  
1702 – 20<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7M 0Z9  
Ph: (306) 655-5830  
Fax: (306) 655-5555  
Email: delaine@sdh.sk.ca

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**If interested please contact:**

Gray's Pharmacy  
Box 147  
105 – Main Street  
Wawota, SK. S0G 5A0  
Pharmacy – (306) 739-2333  
Fax – (306) 739-2555  
Res. – (306) 739-2287

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to provide site leadership for automation management, including the planning and implementation of automated technology, in hospital pharmacies. You will also be responsible for coordinating clinical initiatives and for the development of staff within multiple hospital pharmacies. You possess a Baccalaureate degree in Pharmacy and are eligible for licensure with the New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society. Your background includes clinical pharmacy practice with at least two years of pharmacy management experience. Additional education and experience with pharmacy automation and robotics is preferred.

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- **Quebec: 19** including Baie-Comeau, Beloeil, Granby, Hull, Montreal, Pincourt, Point Aux Trembles, Sept-Iles, Sherbrooke, St. Therese, Valleyfield, Verdun, West Island.
- **Ontario: 67** including Acton, Ajax, Aylmer, Belleville, Brantford, Brampton, Cambridge, Cedarcroft, Chatham, Cobourg, Collingwood, Cornwall, Corunna, Dryden, Dundas, Etobicoke, Hamilton, Hanover, Kapuskasing, Kincardine, Kitchener, Leamington, Lindsay, London, Midland, Mississauga, Niagara area, Orillia, Ottawa, Owen Sound, Peterborough, Picton, Port Dover, Sarnia, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Simcoe, Stoney Creek, Stratford, Sudbury, Toronto, Uxbridge, Vanier, Waterloo, Whitby, Windsor, Woodstock.
- **Prairies: 30** including Brandon, Brooks, Calgary, Camrose, Canmore, Cold Lake, Dauphin, Edmonton, Fort MacMurray, Grande Prairie, Humboldt, Lethbridge, Portage La Prairie, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Selkirk, Steinbach, Taber, Thompson, Wetaskiwin, Winnipeg.
- **B.C.: 21** including Campbell River, Chilliwack, Courtenay, Fort Francis, Fort St. John, Kamloops, Nanaimo, Nelson, Osoyoos, Penticton, Port Albernie, Powell River, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Salmon Arm, Smithers, Terrace, Vancouver, Victoria, Williams Lake.
- **Territories: 2** including Whitehorse and Yellowknife.

**OVER 152 POSITIONS ACROSS CANADA**

- REGIONAL PHARMACY MANAGER REQUIRED – MARITIMES
- BILINGUAL OFFICE/ RETAIL POSITION – WINDSOR
- PHARMACY INTERNS (WITHIN 4 MONTHS OF VALID LICENSE)

For more information with complete confidentiality please call:  
R.H (BOB) SEIBEL, B.Sc. Phm., PROFESSIONALS IN PHARMACY INC.  
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**SPEED READING**

**THE HEALTH QUALITY COUNCIL BOARD NAMED**

We are pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk** as a member of the newly announced Health Quality Council of Saskatchewan Health.

As an independent body, the council will report on the quality of the health care system, and provide advice to government, Regional Health Authorities, and health care professionals on a wide range of quality and performance related matters. Its mandate is to:

- develop evidence-based standards in health care delivery. This will include providing advice on the use of existing treatment options and identifying outdated or ineffective treatments;
- promote effective practices to professionals across the province;

- conduct research into the effectiveness of care and quality improvement initiatives;
- monitor and assess the performance of the health system. This will include providing advice on human resource needs;
- provide advice on appropriate drug prescribing practices;
- evaluate new technology, drugs and other clinical developments; and
- inform the public about the quality of health services in Saskatchewan.

Dr. Shevchuk is Head, Division of Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan, teaching therapeutics and drug information. She is the Director of

Saskatchewan Drug Information Services and of the SaskADR Program, and sits on the Saskatchewan Formulary and Drug Quality Assessment Committees, and is a member of both the Advisory Board of RxFiles and the Pharmacy Coalition on Primary Care. She is a fellow of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and holds her Pharm.D. from the University of Minnesota. Yvonne's current research interests are in the area of optimal drug use and prescribing.

We congratulate Yvonne on her appointment and extend to her and her Council colleagues our support and best wishes for quality outcomes for the people of Saskatchewan.

**A FOND FAREWELL**

It is with both great excitement and enthusiasm (for her) and great sadness (for us) that we announce the resignation of **Melanie Watson**, Assistant Director of Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists. Melanie has been with the CPDP unit since 1995 and has been instrumental in the development and implementation of the Saskatchewan Learning Portfolio for Pharmacists. For those fortunate enough to have attended the District Meetings over the past few years, you will remember her cheerful, carefree nature and her ability to make not the most stimulating of topics, humorous and dare we say almost enjoyable!

Melanie and her husband Don plan to teach English in a foreign land, enabling them to pursue their love of travel while accomplishing something worthwhile. When their wanderlust is satisfied they plan to retire to Kelowna in the sunny Okanagan.

Please join with us in thanking Melanie for her many years of dedication to the pharmacists of Saskatchewan. We wish her and Don safe travels, and all the best in their new home.



**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED?**

Each year during the Annual Conference, we take the opportunity to recognize those members who have contributed to the profession and their communities. The joint SPhA and RBSP Awards and Honours Committee invite you to nominate a colleague(s) who you know has made significant contributions to his/her profession and community.

**SPhA Awards for Members**

- **Presidential Citation** – recognition of a pharmacist who has provided exemplary service through the practice of pharmacy, to the profession or to society, which is beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary duty.
- **Certificate of Recognition** – outstanding service to the SPhA.
- **Honorary Life Member** – to recognize a pharmacist for outstanding contributions to the profession or the Association.

**SPhA Awards for Non-Members**

- **Honorary Member** – to recognize any person for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or the Association beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.
- **Award of Merit** – to recognize any person, who through their active participation has promoted the Association, and/or the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan

**RBSP Awards**

- **Pharmacist of the Year** – in recognition of a pharmacist who performs a single act or a long-term service to bring credit and prestige to the profession.
- **Bowl of Hygeia** is sponsored by Whitehall Robins Canada, to recognize a pharmacist for outstanding service to the community beyond the provision of professional services.
- **RBSP Award of Merit** – to recognize any person, who through their active participation has promoted the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan.

Nomination forms and/or terms of reference for these awards are available upon request from the SPhA/RBSP office.

**Deadline for receipt of nominations is February 15, 2003.**