



## SCP COUNCIL 2015-2016

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Bill Gerla, Humboldt

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Justin Kosar, Saskatoon

### VICE PRESIDENT

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### EX OFFICIO

Dean Kishor Wasan, Saskatoon

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

### PUBLIC MEMBERS

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Mark Hawkins, Regina

### PHARMACY ASSISTANT

### OBSERVERS

Jonina Code, Foam Lake

Lyndsay Ratzlaff, Tisdale

### STUDENT OBSERVER

Darren Boyle

## SCP STAFF

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Administrative Assistant

### ANDREA CRAIN

Administrative Assistant

### JEANNE ERIKSEN

Assistant Registrar

### KRISTJANA GUDMUNDSON

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### PAT GUILLEMIN

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### RAY JOUBERT

Registrar

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### CHRISTINA MCPHERSON (on leave)

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### HEATHER NEIRINCK

Administrative Assistant

### LORI POSTNIKOFF

Field Officer

### JEANNETTE SANDIFORD

Field Officer

### AUDREY SOLIE

Administrative Assistant

### AMANDA STEWART

Administrative Assistant

### CHERYL WYATT

Administrative Assistant

## Council Highlights September 23 & 24, 2015

### COUNCIL ORIENTATION

Council met on September 23, 2015 for an orientation session that included welcoming new Council members Chet Mack (Division 5), Mark Hawkins (New Public Member) and Darren Bogle (Senior Stick).

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

As each Councillor shared feedback received from the public or colleagues within their Division, common themes emerged throughout the province:

- Pharmacists are anxious and excited to be able to give injections, specifically flu vaccine shots
- Pharmacy Assistants who are enrolled in the bridging program and who have written their PEBC Qualifying exams are waiting on results and the passing of Bill 151
- Pharmacists are hearing from other health care professionals (nurses, physicians, etc.) that they are unfamiliar with pharmacists' prescribing rights (i.e. minor ailments)
- College of Pharmacy and Nutrition students are concerned about finding jobs

### REGISTRAR'S REPORT

The Registrar gave an update on our Strategic Goals:

1. Citizenship in SCPP (member engagement)
  - a. COMPASS™ (Pilot Phase 2 – 80+ pharmacies) integration with PIP QIP
2. Regulatory Reform
  - a. Bill 151 – Awaiting Proclamation
    - i. Bylaws awaiting approval and standards pending bylaw approval
      1. Administration of Drugs by injection and other routes
      2. Medical Laboratory Tests
      3. Pharmacy Technicians Regulation
3. Increased Public Involvement
  - a. Bill 151 – +2 Public Members on Council
4. Organizational Structure Review
  - a. Prospective Pharmacy Technician Observers on Council
  - b. Post Bill 151 Council Structure
  - c. Communications Reviewed and Includes Social Media Strategy

### REGISTRATION & LICENSING POLICIES COMMITTEE

Assistant Registrar, Jeanne Eriksen, reported on the meeting on September 16, 2015. Highlights from the report:

- International Pharmacy Graduates continue to show interest in coming to Saskatchewan. Dialogue continues with stakeholders, but to date no resolution has been found. The Committee recommended suspending the program until a resolution is found as it is unfair to allow candidates to begin appraisal training if there is no likelihood that the College will be able to see them through to the end.

Update: along with representatives from the Ministry of the Economy, we met with Dean Kish Wasan at the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, and Lisa Bagonluri, Manager at the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists (CPDP) to explore option for this program. Discussions will continue with the Ministries of Economy and Labour Relations and Workplace Safety.



## VISION

Quality Pharmacy Care in  
Saskatchewan

## VALUES

Visionary Leadership  
Professionalism  
“Patient First” Care  
Accountability  
Effective Communications  
Collaboration  
Education

## KEY ACTION AREAS

Increased Public Involvement  
Organizational Structure Review  
Practice Re-design and  
Regulatory Reform  
Citizenship in the Saskatchewan  
College of Pharmacy Professionals  
(SCPP)

## COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Council received the **Report from the Complaints Committee** dated June 17 & September 16. From the complaints heard on June 17, 2015, there were 10 new files:

- 6 Communication/Unprofessional Behavior
- 3 Medication Error
- 1 Record Keeping
- 3 Bylaws/Standard/Guideline/Ethical infractions
- 1 Patient’s Right to Choose their Pharmacy
- 2 Privacy/Confidentiality
- 2 Miscellaneous/Other

*\* Note: one complaint may have more than one allegation*

At the September 16, 2015 meeting, there were zero new complaints.

## BILL 151

Bill 151 introduces a number of changes to the composition and structure of Council and our Complaints and Discipline Committees:

### Council

- Continues to allow for 7 to 10 elected Councillors from the membership, but does not prescribe the mix of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians nor limits to serving as officers, other than what is prescribed in the bylaws
- Increases our Public Members from 2 to 4. Mark Hawkins has been appointed to replace Barbara deHaan and Pamela Anderson’s second term is confirmed

### Complaints Committee

- Elected Councillors will no longer be able to serve on the Complaints Committee
- Minimum of three persons appointed by Council
- Public Member service continues to be optional

### Discipline Committee

- Elected Councillors will no longer be able to serve on the Discipline Committee
- Minimum of three persons appointed by Council
- Public Member of Council is no longer required to serve and becomes optional
- No member of the Complaints Committee may serve on the Discipline Committee and vice versa

### Other pressing issues:

- Council has rescheduled their Strategic Planning Session for February 23, 24 & 25, 2016

**Council’s next meeting will be held December 16th & 17th, 2015 in Regina.**

## PRESCRIPTION REVIEW PROGRAM

Council received a report from a meeting held with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan in late August to discuss the growing illicit use of **fantanyl** in the province and to explore the role of health care providers in combatting drug abuse and misuse. A meeting is to be convened by the partners in the Prescription Review Program to explore some of the initiatives being rolled out in other jurisdictions.

For example the “patch-for-patch” system is being reviewed. This would require that before a new prescription for fantanyl patches would be released the patient would need to return to the pharmacy, the used patches from a previous prescription.

## TIME DELAYED SAFES

Council is aware that The College of Pharmacists of British Columbia has initiated a policy that all pharmacies must install and maintain in good working order a metal safe (for storage of narcotic and controlled drugs) that must:

1. Have a time-delay lock(s) set at a minimum of 5 minutes
2. Be securely anchored in place

The safe must be locked at all times except when items are being

removed from or placed into the safe. Further examination of the research into this type of initiative is ongoing and a report will be returned to Council.

Council is consulting with the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) who has expressed a keen interest in collaborating to resolve **EMR integration issues**. We are currently reviewing a research report out of Newfoundland and Labrador with a view to perhaps incorporating a project into our COMPASS™ program.

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## Membership Statistics

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### Membership Renewal Summary as of July 1, 2015

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>Practising Members</b>	1297	1310	1317	1373	1418	1479	1521
Community	913	975	n/a	976	965	969	1030
Hospital	215	213	n/a	231	245	250	268
Out of Province	41	32	n/a	84	35	21	39
Other	102	80	n/a	38	119	176	129
Conditional Practising	26	10	n/a	44	54	63	55
<b>Non-Practising Members</b>	57	56	52	45	44	48	45
<b>Associate Members</b>	71	69	59	55	50	48	47
<b>Retired Members</b>	60	74	85	91	91	99	101
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS</b>	<b>1485</b>	<b>1509</b>	<b>1513</b>	<b>1564</b>	<b>1603</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>1714</b>
Membership Terminations	71	66	77	79	69	65	71

As of July 1, 2015 there were a total of 1714 members on the register, compared to 1674 members in July of 2014. This year's total consists of: 1521 Practising Members, 45 Non- Practising Members, 47 Associate Members and 101 Retired Members.

There were 84 graduates from the 2015 BSP class at the University of Saskatchewan. Out of the 84 graduates, 68 became registered. Of the 68 who registered, 13 registered as Practising members and 55 registered initially as Conditional Practising members. To date, 48 of the Conditional Practising members have had the conditions removed.

Between July 1, 2014 and July 1, 2015 there were 27 candidates from outside of Saskatchewan who registered (of the 27, 8 were University of Saskatchewan graduates). There were 19 International Pharmacy Graduates (IPGs) who registered as Practising members during that time.

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 College and other regulatory and advocacy bodies.

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## Proclamation of Bill 151 - continued from page 1

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pharmacy assistants under Bill 151, practical assessments, the SCPP Jurisprudence exam and more.

If you were a licensed pharmacy technician in another province and are now practising in Saskatchewan, we will require a letter of good standing from your former College before we can set up an appointment for the jurisprudence exam.

Please note that effective October 5, 2015, 'Pharmacy Technician' is a protected title. In addition to the Special Edition Newsletter, we will soon be releasing regulatory bylaws, policies and standards respecting pharmacy technicians. This information will also include policies governing the regulation of technicians to allow use of the restricted title and practice within their authorized scope.

We would encourage any pharmacy assistant interested in becoming a Licensed Pharmacy Technician to email us at [SCPPRegistration.PHARMTECH@saskpharm.ca](mailto:SCPPRegistration.PHARMTECH@saskpharm.ca).

### ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS

Before members may engage in the practises authorized under the Bill, especially administration of the publicly funded flu vaccine, a number of steps must be completed. They include:

- 1) Successful completion of the required training;
- 2) Approval of our Regulatory Bylaws by the Minister of Health;
- 3) Publication of his approval in the Saskatchewan Gazette (expected but not yet confirmed to be October 16, 2015);
- 4) Upon publication, the Regulatory Bylaws come into force along with the accompanying SCPP standards and policies;
- 5) Those bylaws then authorize this office to issue Advanced Method Certification to members who qualify upon application for certification; and,
- 6) Then authorize licensed pharmacist who are certified to administer drugs by Advanced Method (e.g. subcutaneous or intramuscular injection).

**What this all means is that members cannot administer any drug by injection, including the publicly funded flu vaccine, until certified by this office.**

Please visit our website to complete an application for certification. Upon approval of your application, we will issue a certificate showing the effective date upon which you may begin to administer drugs by Advanced Method.

We will also be issuing our policies and standards soon that will provide further guidance on the drugs you may administer



by this method. **For this initial time-frame, the only publicly funded vaccine you will be allowed to administer is the flu injection provided through the Influenza Immunization Program administered by the Drug Plan.** Although the standards state otherwise, we recommend that members defer the administration of other vaccines. We plan to release details as soon we can as we are working with our Solicitor, PAS and the Ministry of Health to reconcile legal, compensation, policy and other issues.

Members may administer other drugs upon Advanced Method Certification (e.g. vitamin B12) according to the aforementioned policies and standards.

Members who have questions are encouraged to wait for the release of our new bylaws, the accompanying standards and policies, along with the answers to Frequently Asked Questions that we intend to release after the standards and policies. Also updated information on the Drug Plan's Influenza Immunization Program will be presented during the PAS telehealth session on October 15th and webinar on October 16th.

### LABORATORY TESTS

Soon we will also be releasing regulatory bylaws, policies and standards respecting medical laboratory tests. For example, the bylaws provide that until the health care system is ready, community pharmacists are not able to order laboratory tests, while hospital pharmacists may order tests as may be authorized by their Regional Health Authority.

Members should await receipt of these directives from us before engaging in the practices authorized under the Bill.



## COMPASS™ STATISTICS

The following are the statistics for incident reporting in the CPhIR (Community Pharmacy Incident Reporting) system from September 2013 (Phase I) until the end of August 2015.

There have been **3971** incidents reported. A breakdown of the most frequent types of incidents includes:

- **905** incidents with an incorrect dose/frequency
- **810** incidents where the incorrect quantity was dispensed
- **566** incidents that involved an incorrect drug

The majority or **3251** of these incidents had an outcome of NO ERROR, which means the incidents were intercepted BEFORE they reached the patient.

**681** were NO HARM incidents, which means the incident reached the patient, but did not cause harm.

There were **39** reported incidents that did result in HARM. Information from ISMP Canada indicated that **38** were MILD harm and **1** was MODERATE harm. The MODERATE HARM incident was related to an incorrect medication error—methotrimeprazine was filled instead of tapazole. The patient noticed the error and informed the pharmacy. ISMP Canada indicated that this is consistent with a unique theme identified when analyzing incidents for COMPASS™. Patients in Saskatchewan are very involved in advancing medication safety by informing their pharmacies of incidents and/or near misses.

## ENCOURAGING PATIENT INVOLVEMENT

Patients should be encouraged to be involved in medication safety. By working with patients to identify and voice those things that “just don’t look right,” the overall safety of pharmacy processes and systems can be improved.

Ways to encourage patient involvement:

- apologize to the patient for the error/incident
- thank the patient for bringing the error/incident to your attention
- inform the patient of any corrective action that was taken to prevent the error from occurring again
- inform the patient if your pharmacy is involved with COMPASS™ and that errors/incidents are taken seriously
- encourage patients to speak up if they think something doesn’t look right or is not correct about their medication

## SHARED LEARNING FROM REPORTED INCIDENTS

We are still looking for reports of incidents that occurred in your pharmacy and how they were resolved to post as a “Good Catch” in the SCOPe newsletter or on our Facebook Group page as a good learning opportunity for other Saskatchewan pharmacies. Whether or not your pharmacy participates in the COMPASS™ program, we would like to hear about these incidents. All information provided will be kept strictly anonymous. Please forward any reports of incidents to Jeannette Sandiford at [jeannette.sandiford@saskpharm.ca](mailto:jeannette.sandiford@saskpharm.ca).

## INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF COMPASS™?

If you have been thinking about joining the COMPASS™ program but thought it was too late, there is still an opportunity. We would be happy to add any interested pharmacies to the pilot project. If you want to join or would just like more information, please contact Jeannette Sandiford by email at [jeannette.sandiford@saskpharm.ca](mailto:jeannette.sandiford@saskpharm.ca) or by phone 306-584-2292 ext. 6.

Making pharmacy practice safer is a great place to start to ensure we are providing patients with the best care possible.

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## Discipline Matters

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### DELMAGE DECISION & SUPPLEMENTARY DECISION AND ORDER

On May 27, 2015 the Discipline Committee concluded proceedings relating to charges that the Respondent, Ian Delmage, a Saskatoon pharmacist, was guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of Section 25 of *The Pharmacy Act, 1996* (the “Act”).

The charges were as follows:

On or about July 10, 2013, Mr. Delmage prescribed and dispensed Amoxicillin 500mg three times a day to a patient without authority and contrary to the instructions and directions of the practitioner and in doing so altered the original dosage amount (strength and directions) from the dosage amount prescribed in the absence of a Collaborative Practice Agreement and in circumstances where a Collaborative Practice Environment did not exist.

The Bylaws provide that a pharmacist may have no prescribing authority or, alternatively, “Level 1” or “Level 2” prescribing authority in respect to an individual patient. Only a pharmacist “with Level 1 prescribing authority” may alter the dosage form of any drug (and provided the other conditions are met). A pharmacist has Level 1 prescribing authority if the pharmacist has completed certain qualifying training (which Mr. Delmage did) and if “a collaborative practice environment exists between the licensed pharmacist and a practitioner who is responsible for the care of the individual patient.” The Bylaws define “a Collaborative Practice Environment” as existing where “a relationship between the licensed pharmacist and other practitioner(s) involved in the care of the patient is such that the practitioner(s) can reasonably rely upon the basic skills of the licensed pharmacist to prescribe in the best interest of the patient.” The Bylaws further provide that the existence of a collaborative practice environment is “a question of fact” and is “presumed to exist” between a licensed pharmacist and a practitioner when a licensed pharmacist exercises prescribing authority under the Bylaws. However, the Bylaws also provide that a collaborative practice environment “does not exist in respect to an individual patient in any circumstances where” (among other circumstances):

[...] a practitioner has communicated to the licensed pharmacist, either orally or in writing that:

1. no collaborative practice environment exists between the practitioner and the licensed pharmacist, in respect to a particular patient or generally in respect to a class of patients of the practitioner to which the individual patient belongs; or

2. a licensed pharmacist is not to exercise Level I Prescribing Authority in respect to an individual patient or class of patients of the practitioner to which the individual patient belongs.

In an interim Decision dated February 10, 2015, the Discipline Committee found, as a matter of fact, that no collaborative practice environment existed between the prescriber and Mr. Delmage in respect to the patient. As a practicing pharmacist, and having taken the Level 1 prescribing authority training, Mr. Delmage should have recognized this and realized he did not have the authority to write a prescription or to alter the prescription. Mr. Delmage consulted with the practitioner over his concern that the 250mg four times a day dosage was sub-therapeutic and not in the best interest of the patient. The practitioner disagreed, requesting the prescription be dispensed as prescribed. The Discipline Committee also found that “the alteration of the prescription was not an alteration as to the dosage form” as contemplated under Bylaw 23(7). The Discipline Committee further stated, “A pharmacist owes a duty to the patient, but does not have the authority outside of a collaborative practice to change the prescription as Mr. Delmage did or to prescribe for this condition.”

After receipt of further submissions, on May 27, 2015 the Discipline Committee ordered that:

1. Mr. Delmage receive a reprimand;
2. Mr. Delmage undertake the Prescriptive Authority Level I course within eight months of the date of the Order, provide confirmation of successful completion of the course, shall bear all costs associated with the course, and within 30 days of completion of the course direct correspondence to the Registrar outlining what he learned from the course relevant to the findings of the Discipline Committee;
3. Mr. Delmage pay costs of the investigation and hearing in the amount of \$17,000, failing which Mr. Delmage’s license shall be suspended until payment is made; and
4. A copy of the Decision be provided to the complainant and published in the manner directed.

The full text of this Decision is available on the CanLII website at: <http://www.canlii.org/en/sk/skcpdc/>

CanLII is a non-profit organization managed by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada. CanLII’s goal is to make Canadian law accessible for free on the Internet.







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## New Executives on Council

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### **William (Bill) Gerla – President**

Bill Gerla has served on the SCP Council for four years and currently serving as SCPP's President. He received his Bachelor of Science – Pharmacy (BSP) from the University of Saskatchewan and since that

time has been busy serving a variety of charities and non-profits.

Bill has served the Humboldt and District Canadian Diabetes Association for a total of 10 years—five years as its Chair, and eight years as Town Captain for the Canadian Diabetes Association residential campaign. He has also volunteered three years with the Humboldt and District Chamber of Commerce (one year as Chair), served five years with the Humboldt Downtowners Association, aided PAS (RBSP) for five years (one year as Chair), and assisted the Westminster United Church as Finance Chair for nine years (one year as Trustee).

Currently Bill is an Associate with Shoppers Drug Mart in Humboldt. He enjoys quading in the summer and sledding in the winter. His son and daughter are also avid outdoor people. Bill's son, Steven, is a journeyman electrician, and his daughter, Jennifer, is entering her fourth year of nursing at the University of Regina. All three enjoy fishing, hunting and trapping together.



### **Justin Kosar – President Elect**

Justin Kosar is currently serving as President Elect for the SCPP Council. He has been serving on Council since 2012. He holds two Bachelor of Science degrees – one in Chemistry from the University of Regina and one

in Pharmacy (BSP) from the University of Saskatchewan. He was Senior Stick in his graduating year and won the Future Pharmacy Leader Award from PAS/Apotex.

Since graduation, Justin has been very busy serving with the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP). For the Western Conference Educational Committee, Justin was Co-Chair and Saskatchewan Representative for the Banff

Spring Session Committee in 2013 - 2015 and the Saskatchewan Representative in 2010 and 2012. For the Saskatchewan Branch of CSHP, Justin has been the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists Liaison since 2012, and was the Education Committee Chair in 2010–2011, and Co-Chair in 2009–2010. In 2011, he was Chair of the CSHP Annual General Meeting and Educational Session, and Co-Coordinator in 2010. He was Coordinator of the CSHP SK Branch Spring Education Session in 2011 and Assistant Coordinator in 2010.

Justin is married to Lynette Kosar and together they have a daughter, Autumn. They enjoy travelling as a family and attend summer festivals in and around Saskatoon or setting up at a provincial park campground. Justin enjoys both cooking and eating all types of food, and sitting with a good cup of coffee on a lazy Sunday morning with his family.



### **Leah Perrault – Vice President**

Leah Perrault has been a member of the SCP Council since July 2013 and has served as Chair of the Complaints Committee since June 2014. She has been elected to serve as Vice President for the SCP Council

for the 2015/2016 year. She earned her Bachelor of Science – Pharmacy (BSP) at the University of Saskatchewan.

She brings with her experience as a member of the Bermuda Pharmacy Council from 2006-2008 and as the President of the Bermuda Pharmaceutical Association in 2007. Leah has sat on the Board of Cypress Diabetes Partners since 2011, has been the Co-ordinator of Children's Liturgy at Christ Redeemer Church since 2013, and recently began coaching minor soccer.

She anticipates the profession will continue to evolve as proposed changes to legislation come into force and looks forward being able to watch this happen from her vantage point as Council's Vice President.

Leah practises as a pharmacist at the Swift Current Pharmasave. She is married to Denis Perrault and together with their five-year-old son, Luc, enjoy playing soccer and exercising their creativity by building Lego.

## From the Desk of the Dean



**Dr. Kishor Wasan**

**College of Pharmacy and Nutrition:** *Proud of Our Tradition and Home of Research and Practice Innovation*

For the latest news from the College, visit our website: <http://www.usask.ca/pharmacy-nutrition>.

After a beautiful summer, it has been a very busy start to the academic year at the College. We hit the ground running with first year orientation and haven't looked back since. Even before our students returned, we were working hard over the summer on a number of major projects. Two of our top stories from the summer months are quite remarkable:

### **Olympian Clara Hughes to speak at Pharmacy Professional Enhancement Day**

The 2015 Pharmacy Professional Enhancement Day keynote speaker will be Clara Hughes. Clara is a cyclist and speed skater, an Officer of the Order of Canada, and works to end the stigma of mental health issues. The Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Students' Society (SPNSS) and the College have partnered together to bring in this remarkable speaker as mental health is something we don't talk about enough in healthcare or education.

Clara's talk will be open to the entire campus community and to the public. Our goal is to create an event that's accessible to as many students and healthcare professionals as possible. I am personally inviting each and every one of you to this event. Not only will you hear from a truly inspirational speaker, but you'll also contribute to the donation we'll make to the Bell Let's Talk campaign at the end of the evening.

### **University of Saskatchewan awarded \$37.2 million to design crops for global food security**

The U of S was awarded \$37.2 million over seven years by the Canada First Research Excellence Fund for leading-edge research and technology that will transform crop breeding and provide innovative solutions to national and global food security. The College has several researchers collaborating in this endeavour, namely Drs. Carol Henry, Susan Whiting, and Gordon Zello from the division of Nutrition and Drs. Anas El-Aneed, Jane Alcorn, and Kishor Wasan from the division of Pharmacy.

The U of S is one of only five universities in Canada selected by an international board to receive funding under the new federal program in which 36 Canadian post-secondary institutions competed for up to \$350 million. [Read more.](#)

The College also continues to be busy beyond these two major stories. We're working to connect with alumni and our traditions remain strong. Some highlights include:

#### **Calgary, Edmonton Alumni Receptions**

After the Centennial year, we're working to reconnect with alumni on a more personal level. On August 31 and September 1 the College hosted alumni receptions in Calgary and Edmonton. Andy Collin, Development Officer, and Kieran Kobitz, Communications and Alumni Relations Specialist, joined me to meet with alumni and build new relationships. We met alumni who are doing interesting, innovative work, and who are looking to get involved with the College to enhance the student experience.

#### **White Coat Ceremony**

The White Coat Ceremony is one of the College's proudest traditions. On Sunday, October 18 we'll welcome the Pharmacy Class of 2019 to the College. The sense of professionalism and community that comes from the ceremony helps students bond with each other and with those who came before them.

The College has been full of energy and excitement over the last month and there's no sign of it slowing down. Keep an eye on the [Dean's Newsletter](#), the [website](#), or our [Facebook page](#) to find out how you can get involved with everything that's happening here.

Kish Wasan, R.Ph, Ph.D, FAAPS, FCSPS, FCAHS  
Professor and Dean



### Proper Documentation of Prescription Review Program Prescriptions

Questions related to the proper documentation required for a prescription are still being reviewed jointly by the College of Physicians and Surgeons and SPCP.

### Early Refills for Prescription Review Program Drugs

Early refill questions have been received regarding Prescription Review Program drugs. SPCP encourages pharmacists to be patient-centric when reviewing early refill requests. For example, a patient requests a refill three days early. If they are simply told their medication can't be refilled, it is not in the best interest of patient care and can lead to disruption of patient therapy, which could lead to patient harm.

There are many reasons why a physician will specify an interval on the prescription. The most common reason is to ensure that multiple dispenses of a narcotic can occur. A total quantity of the drug and the amount to be dispensed at each interval are to be specified on the prescription for any narcotic that will be 'part filled'. Likewise a controlled drug requires the number of refills and the intervals between fills to be specified on the prescription. While benzodiazepines do not require such an interval, the fills should still be monitored if a specific interval is written on the prescription.

### Gathering Required Patient Information

The NAPRA Model Standards of Practice specifies that the practice of patient care requires the pharmacist understands the condition and symptoms that the medication is being prescribed for and that this information is documented in the pharmacy's computer management system.

The next step is to determine the reasons for the early refill request. A review of the patient's profile should reveal any trends. If you note consistent early refills, try not to jump to a conclusion, but instead, ask questions to determine how the patient is using the medication. The physician may have verbally advised the patient that under certain circumstances they could use more than directed on the prescription.

It is very important not to make assumptions about how a patient is using a drug. Always ask questions and find out the facts before drawing conclusions and making a clinical decision.

### Contacting the Doctor

Whatever the reason for the early refill request, proper documentation of the circumstances is highly recommended. A note to the physician documenting your discussion and the patient's actual usage is also good practice. Informing the patient that you are contacting their physician is also important so they can have an open discussion with their doctor about how the medication should best be used for the condition.

Faxing the doctor simply to say the patient is requesting an early refill doesn't give the physician the needed information that can help them provide the best care for their patient. To be a valuable member of the patient's health care team, taking time to gather the facts and effectively communicating those facts ensures we are contributing to the fullest care of the patient.

### Making the Decision

Once you are armed with the all the facts, you can then make a decision based upon your professional judgment, the information gathered from the patient, and where it makes sense, the patient's practitioner. If you decide to fill the prescription early for a valid reason, document the reasons for your decision and any follow up that may be required. Always apply clinical judgment in tandem with following pharmacy procedures to ensure your patient's health and safety are both considered in your decision-making process.

## Prescribing Privileges for Optometrists

The College has consulted with the Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists (SAO) to clarify the prescribing privileges for optometrists. The information following replaces the April 2004 document.

Of specific relevance to members is subsection 11.12 of the Optometric Profession Bylaws, which allows qualified optometrists to prescribe and use therapeutic (including oral) agents for the treatment of ocular diseases and abnormal conditions, except for anti-glaucoma agents. The following interpretive guidelines have been prepared to assist members in the implementation of this bylaw:

- a) Only optometrists who hold a valid Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents Certificate are authorized to prescribe. Optometrists will verify their authority to prescribe when issuing prescriptions. For example, they have been asked to cite their certificate number on prescriptions which, when followed with the suffix "T", means that the optometrist in question is entitled to prescribe pursuant to the bylaw.

However, because these optometrists are also eligible to prescribe benefits under the Saskatchewan Drug Plan, the Drug Plan will include these optometrists in their

prescriber lists. The Drug Plan will provide future updates, as well as assign prescriber numbers which differ from the optometrists' certificate numbers. Use the assigned prescriber number, NOT the certificate number, when submitting claims to the Drug Plan.

- b) Optometrists who hold a Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents Certificate may prescribe agents for the treatment of ocular diseases and abnormal conditions with the exception of antiglaucoma agents.
- c) All Optometrists licensed in Saskatchewan may order any pharmaceutical agent for diagnostic purposes within their scope of practice.
- d) The Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists (SAO) has asked that any suspected violation of the foregoing, such as prescriptions issued by non-authorized optometrists, or issued beyond these guidelines, should be reported to the SCPP office. We, in turn, will refer the report to the SAO.

This means that optometrists who have a "T" affixed to the end of their member number (i.e. 1234T) are authorized to prescribe medication products for conditions, except for anti-glaucoma agents, within their scope of practice. There is no restriction as to the dosage form prescribed.

## Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) Examination Dates

### Schedule of Examinations for Pharmacists

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Fall Pharmacist <b>Qualifying Examination</b>	MCQ: Nov 4 & 5, 2015 OSCE: Nov 7, 2015	Registration Closed
Winter Pharmacist <b>Evaluating Examination</b>	January 6 & 7, 2016	Registration Closed
Spring Pharmacist <b>Qualifying Examination</b>	MCQ: May 24 & 25, 2016 OSCE: May 29, 2016	February 26, 2016
Summer Pharmacist <b>Evaluating Examination</b>	July 5 & 6, 2016	April 1, 2016

### Schedule of Examinations for Pharmacy Technicians

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Fall Pharmacy Technician <b>Evaluating Examination</b>	Oct 17, 2015	Registration Closed
Winter Pharmacy Technician <b>Qualifying Examination</b>	OSPE: Apr 2, 2016 MCQ: Apr 3, 2016	December 11, 2015
Spring Pharmacy Technician <b>Evaluating Examination</b>	April 24, 2016	January 13, 2016

\*Applications must be RECEIVED by the PEBC office no later than the application deadline date

# Saskatchewan Interprofessional Preceptor Conference

Featuring topics such as:

- ◆ Preceptor Roles, Responsibilities and Best Practices
- ◆ Developing a Preceptoring Plan
- ◆ Feedback and evaluation

*And many other topics ..*

**No cost to register!**

**Saskatoon — October 22, 2015**

*Open to all preceptors from any health science  
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**More info:**

[www.saskhealthsciencesnetwork.ca](http://www.saskhealthsciencesnetwork.ca)

**Register online at:**

<https://www.picatic.com/SAHSN-IPC-PA>

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## Saskatchewan Change Day

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### WHAT IS SASKATCHEWAN CHANGE DAY?

Saskatchewan Change Day, which will be held on November 5, 2015, is part of an exciting global movement aimed at making small health care improvements. The Change Day concept originated in the National Health Service in the United Kingdom and has since spread to countries around the world, including Sweden, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, India, Jordan, the Netherlands, Finland, Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the provinces of Saskatchewan and B.C. in Canada. The Saskatchewan Health Quality Council (HQC) organized Canada's first Change Day campaign in 2014 and is also organizing Saskatchewan Change Day again in 2015.

### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN SASKATCHEWAN CHANGE DAY?

Anyone who provides health care, receives health care, or who cares about health care can pledge to make a difference. A pledge is an idea for improvement that is meaningful to the pledger. People are asked to enter their pledges on the Saskatchewan Change Day website at [www.skchangeday.com](http://www.skchangeday.com) by November 5, 2015. Participants can act on their pledge any time before Change Day. HQC has set the goal of receiving 2,015 pledges from across the province by Change Day 2015, more than doubling the 2014 campaign goal of receiving 1,000 pledges.

### WHAT SORTS OF PLEDGES CAN PEOPLE MAKE?

This year's Saskatchewan Change Day theme is "Make Health Better Together." Participants can pledge to do something to improve their own health, the health of their workplace, or the health of the patients, residents or clients they serve. Participants are also welcome to make more than one pledge.



### HOW CAN I SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT CHANGE DAY?

The first step is to think of a pledge and then to enter it online at [www.skchangeday.com](http://www.skchangeday.com). Once you have made your pledge, tell others about it. Let your friends, family members, co-workers, and others know about your improvement idea. Encourage them to make their own pledges. You can also share your pledge publicly via social media. For example, you can follow Saskatchewan Change Day on Twitter (@SKChangeDay) and tweet your pledge. When tweeting about Saskatchewan Change Day, consider using this hashtag: #SkChangeDay.

*SCPP Registrar, Ray Joubert, is participating in Saskatchewan Change Day and has made this personal pledge: "My Change Day pledge is to take advantage of every opportunity to promote medication safety for patients, and safe medication practices in the pharmacy."*

*Field Officer, Jeannette Sandiford, is also participating. "My Change Day pledge is to take every opportunity to promote the benefits of COMPASS™ to Saskatchewan pharmacies and other health care organizations."*

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## Has Your Contact Information Changed?

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Please remember to inform the SCPP office (through the website) if your email address, mailing address or place of employment has changed.

It is the member's responsibility to keep personal information current and up-to-date with the College. It is also the member's responsibility to inform the College of the current

place of employment. This information helps the College in determining the electoral divisions for College election and allows the College to keep members informed of urgent matters.

These changes can be done by using your member log-in at the SCPP website - [www.saskpharm.ca](http://www.saskpharm.ca).

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## Call for Nominations - Member Recognition

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### **DEADLINE FOR SCPP AWARD NOMINATIONS – JANUARY 31, 2016**

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (formerly Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists) Awards and Honours Committee is calling for nominations for their annual awards. These will be presented to members who have made a significant contribution to the pharmacy profession and/or community. Begin considering now who you will nominate. Early submissions are appreciated.

### **NEW! EMERALD ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

The new Emerald Achievement Award will go to a practising SCPP member in good standing for their dedication and service. The recipient must have been active in our profession for at least 35 years.

### **SCPP CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION**

The SCPP Certificate of Recognition recognizes retiring Presidents, Councillors, and committee members of SCPP for their dedication and contributions to the Council of SCPP.

The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial or national level.

### **PRESIDENTIAL CITATION**

The Presidential Citation recognizes an SCPP member who has made special contributions to pharmacy and/or one outstanding contribution or a specific achievement that has enhanced the profession of pharmacy.

### **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER AWARD**

An Honorary Life Member Award will be presented to recognize a member of SCPP for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or SCPP, beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.

An Honorary Life Member Award may be granted in recognition of:

- i) A distinguished record of professional service to the community;
- ii) And/or outstanding contribution to SCPP;
- iii) And/or a distinguished record of service to SCPP;
- iv) And/or specific achievements that enhanced the profession;
- v) And/or long term service to the profession with a distinguished record.

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

### **MEMBER EMERITUS STATUS (MESCPP)**

**Attention Retired SCPP Member(s):** Have you previously been a practising or non-practising member of SCPP in good standing for at least 25 years? If so, you may be eligible to apply for the designation 'Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals' or 'MESCPP'.

Any member on the Retired Register may be designated as a 'Member Emeritus' of the College and may use the designation 'Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals' or 'MESCPP' if they can declare the following:

- a) Have been a practising or non-practising member continually in good standing with the SCPP or other regulatory body for pharmacists for at least 25 years;
- b) Have not been found guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence;
- c) Understand that their name must remain on the Retired Register of SCPP;
- d) Ask that their designation be confirmed by the Awards Committee of SCPP.

NOTE: Where a member is ineligible pursuant to clause (b) herein, Council may, upon receipt of a written request giving reasons, determine that the member is eligible to be designated as a "Member Emeritus".

### **SCPP AWARD OF MERIT**

Available to the general public, this award recognizes any person, group or organization, who is not a member of the College, and who through their active participation has promoted SCPP and/or the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan.

The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial, or national level.

### **HONORARY MEMBER AWARD**

Available to the general public, this award recognizes any person for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or SCPP beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.

An Honorary Member award may be granted in recognition of:

- i) An outstanding single contribution to SCPP;
- ii) And/or a distinguished record of service to SCPP;
- iii) And/or a single specific achievement that enhanced the profession;
- iv) And/or through long term service to the profession with a distinguished record.

Continued on page 17



The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial, or national level.

## **CENTENNIAL PHARMACY AWARD**

In 2011, SCPP celebrated its Centennial Anniversary. At that time, we invited all pharmacies celebrating their Centennial Anniversary in 2011 and those pharmacies in operation for more than 100 years to celebrate this milestone alongside the College by introducing a new award to recognize the great accomplishment.

SCPP would like to continue to recognize this achievement of operating as a pharmacy for 100 years by making the Centennial Pharmacy Award an annual award which will be given to those pharmacies who can document their roots back 100 years.

In each coming year, SCPP will be looking for all Saskatchewan pharmacies that have been in continuous operation by the same or different owners for 100 years or more.

If your pharmacy is celebrating its' centennial year, and your pharmacy's history can be traced back more than 100 years, the

College would like to hear from you and asks that you forward an outline of your pharmacy's history, including ownership and key dates and changes. The College would also like to know of any outreach and involvement in your community that your pharmacy has done and/or continues to do.

You are invited to nominate your colleague(s) and/or yourself for any of these awards. Self-nominations are welcome and accepted for all awards. *Please note that all nominations must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications consistent with the terms of reference.* If you would like to see who has received an award in the past, please visit the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) website under [Awards](#).

Please [click here](#) for a complete list of awards and criteria, including where to send your nomination form. Forms may be requested from the SCPP office, and are also available on the College website under [Awards](#).

**While the deadline for receipt of nominations for an SCPP Award is January 31, 2016, we are encouraging early submissions. In all cases, the selections must be approved by the SCPP Council, following recommendation from the Awards and Honours Committee.**



SASKATCHEWAN  
COLLEGE OF  
PHARMACY  
PROFESSIONALS