

# PEI PHARMACISTS ASSN

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## NEWSLETTER

September 2009

For members, friends and supporters of the PEI Pharmacists Association

### AGM 2009

The Annual General Meeting of the PEI Pharmacists Association took place on Saturday, May 2nd at the Loyalist Country Inn in Summerside, PEI. The event was extremely well attended.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend sincere gratitude to our Sponsors, without whose support our Annual Continuing Education and Awards Banquet Weekend would not be possible!

**Gold:** Ratiopharm  
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**Bronze:** Colbalt  
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McKesson Canada  
Pharmasave  
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Purdue Pharma

**Thank-you for your continued support of Pharmacy in PEI!**

### AWARDS:

Our Association is very pleased to present awards to deserving pharmacists in our Province to acknowledge their outstanding contributions to our Profession and our Communities. The following awards were presented at this year's AGM weekend:

**Sunshine Award:** The pharmacist who is friendly over and above the call of duty and is customer service focused.

*2009 Winner: Jeannine McQuaid*

**Meritorious Service Award:** Pharmacist who is involved in provincial pharmacy activities plus community activities that benefit the profession.

*2009 Winner: Wally Kowalchuk*

**Certificate of Recognition:** Pharmacist who has contributed to provincial pharmacy activities over and above the call of duty.

*2009 Winner: David McLeod*

**The Sid Stead Memorial Award**

Pharmacist who is committed to mentoring pharmacy students, as Sid Stead did for many years.

*2009 Winner: Bev Martin*

**Whitehall Robins Bowl of Hygeia:**

Awarded annually to an Island pharmacist for outstanding professional and community service

*2009 Winner: Rob MacLellan*

**The Wyeth Apothecary Award** The first award in Canada that specifically recognizes pharmacists who have completed advanced training or education and have successfully expanded their practice as a result. Wyeth will award to each winner a \$1,000 bursary to be

donated to the pharmacy school alma mater, advanced training program, or disease-based charity of his or her choice  
*2009 Winner-Lisa Kelly (Compounding Pharmacist)*

### Past-President's Award:

Bristol Myers Squibb has developed an award that recognizes the contributions of pharmacists across the country, who have served their respective pharmacy organizations in the office of President. We are most grateful to Bristol Myers Squibb for providing this award to our Past-President, *Mary Ellen Rennie*

### Your Association wants

**YOU!** Committee members always wanted!

#### Executive Committee;

President-Terry Walsh  
President Elect- Grant Wyand  
Councilors: Jeannine McQuaid, Angela Doucette, Greg Burton & Marsha Cusack & Barb Scales, hospital rep.

#### Economics Committee:

Rob MacLellan, Fred Martin, Paul Gallant, Jeannine McQuaid, Greg Burton

#### Pharmacy Awareness Week:

Christie Smith, Crystal MacEachern & Kilby Rinco

#### Insurance Committee:

Shawn Callaghan, Erin MacKenzie

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#### **CANADA GAMES SUCCESS**

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those volunteers (pharmacists and pharmacy technicians) that donated their time during the two weeks of the Canada Games to help make the games the success it was. Pharmacy volunteers provided a valuable service during the games and helped to promote our profession.

Thank you to all those who worked shifts during the Games including;

#### **Pharmacy Technicians:**

Holly Arsenault, Jill Kelly, Juliana Birch, Betty MacDonald, Lyndon Bryanton, Sheila MacGilivray, Kelly Bulger, Jacinta MacLeod, Ben Cairns, David MacNevin, Chris Cairns, Bev Matthews, Patricia Collins, Christine McAleer, Tracy Day, Brian Milley, Tracey DesRoches, Colleen Poirier, Lisa Ferguson, Eveyln Stewart, Adrienne Hagen, Amanda Thompson, Nancy Journeau

#### **Pharmacists:**

Denise Boulter, Wally Kowalchuk, Kyler Bowness, John MacIntyre, Jennifer Brown, Fred Martin, Anne Cairns, Nadine Pettipas, Lori Coulson, Jenna Sonier, Joanne Duncan, LeeAnne Sullivan, David Gallant, Jim Thorkelson, Sue Ellen Hamill, Cindy Walker, Jeff Jardine, Mark Walker

Special thanks to Fred and Gisele Martin who helped organize the volunteers and the volunteer schedule and Fred for looking after the day to day operations of the first week of the Games.

Thank you again for all your help!

Rob MacLellan Wendy Cooke Roy Cairns

**DIS UPDATE** During the past month I have had the opportunity to visit over half the pharmacies on PEI. These visits have allowed me to document the issues that you are faced with and in turn share them with senior management in Health and Social Services and Seniors. In response to some of the issues and concerns you shared with me the following activities are taking place;

DIS Downtime: Discussions have taken place with individual vendors to encourage and recommend improvements to their systems DIS downtime procedures. Also, the Information Technology Support Services (ITSS) division within government has made upgrading the DIS infrastructure a priority. This will include improvements to firewalls, new hardware upgrades and redundancy planning (this is taking place now).

DUR messages: Based on your feedback, a request is being made to have a comprehensive review done of the DUR models that are implemented as well as a technical review of how the messaging works. The goal is to reduce the number of messages being returned and to ensure that the information is relevant.

Upcoming changes:

Strength: National standards require the DIN message is sent for all prescriptions. From the DIN, the strength can be determined so the national standards group do not support additional messaging for strength. So from a requirement perspective, how strength is

displayed varies amongst vendor software. Based on your feedback, PEI will be implementing a change to our DIS which will display strength as part of the drug name so it will be visible for all prescriptions regarding which software is being used. ETA - late fall

Exempt Codeine Products: PEI is implementing a jurisdictional rule which will require vendors to send and display more specific details regarding exempt codeine products such as;

- i) date of supply;
- ii) brand name/ generic name of the drug and manufacturer;
- iii) quantity of the drug;
- iv) identification of the pharmacy;
- v) initials of licensed pharmacist authorizing supply.

Quick tips:

- \* to avoid unnecessary DURs associated with OTCs, be sure to enter the days supply and/or end date all medications captured. If an

end date is identified, the medication will continue to be part of the DUR for 14 months.

- \* By managing DURs at the prescription entry stage you will avoid the DUR reappearing as unmanaged at the dispense stage as well as for future refills. The key to reducing the number of DURs is manage, manage, manage. . . . Unmanage DURs will continue to multiple.

- \* Business Constraint Violations can not be managed as the operation that is being performed is not valid. Examples include trying to dispense against a prescription that is no longer active.

Did you know:

- \* The DIS provider portal is currently rolled out four primary health clinics, all hospital pharmacies, and is currently being piloted at the PCH Emergency Room.

- \* Reports are now being generated from the DIS data. Statistics such as prescriber per patient ratios and prescribing patterns are examples. Also, information requests are being filled for the Chief Health Office and the PEI Pharmacy Association.

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## **PERSONAL Liability Insurance**

**\$1 000 000** in malpractice insurance is **included** in your membership fee. Regulations are expected to be passed early this fall to enable Continued Care prescriptions. The Board will be preparing a document to assist pharmacists in incorporating this into their practices. An important piece of this legislation is the requirement for **MANDATORY PERSONAL Liability Insurance** with a minimum of 2 Million dollars. While most members of the Association will be sufficiently covered, those who opted for the minimum level will need to top up their coverage to comply. Forms to do so are available from the Association office.



## Employment Corner

**Maternity Leave:** O'Leary Guardian Drugs has a 6 month maternity position available, starting March 2010. Contact Shawn Brown or Amy Bryan 902-859-2606

**Murphy's Pharmacies** have a long history of looking after the health needs of Islanders and consist of eight convenient pharmacy locations and our Compounding Laboratory to serve our customers health care needs. We are also proud to offer supplementary health services at Murphy's Health Education Centre, Murphy's Home Health Care, and the Parkdale Travel Health Clinic. To show our commitment to the community, we are also proud to offer additional services and programs at Murphy's Community Centre.

We are currently growing our team and seeking dynamic, motivated individuals for the position of Pharmacy Manager. We invite pharmacists to apply for our Tyne Valley (no evenings, no Sundays) and Stratford Locations (dispensary manager position, approx 30 hours per week). If you are interested in developing specialty areas of practice, providing patient focused care, working with a strong technician-pharmacist team and collaborating with other health professionals, please apply in confidence to:

Jeannine McQuaid, BScPharm,  
Director, Pharmacy Operations  
[jmcquaid@murphyspharmacies.com](mailto:jmcquaid@murphyspharmacies.com) or  
Lauralea Hourihan, BBA  
Director, Human Resources  
[lhouriha@murphyspharmacies.com](mailto:lhouriha@murphyspharmacies.com)

Murphy's Pharmacies

41 St. Peters Road

Charlottetown, PEI C1A 5N1

Murphy's Pharmacies is committed to building healthier communities on PEI

**The Medicine Shoppe** in Summerside has an immediate opening for a full time pharmacist. This position requires an enthusiastic, self motivated individual who has exceptional communication skills both with patients and other health professionals in a

collaborative practice. NO NIGHTS, SUNDAYS OR HOLIDAYS & every 2nd Saturday 10am -4PM. Salary and benefits would commensurate with experience. The Medicine Shoppe is affiliated with the Katz group of pharmacies.

Please reply in confidence to;  
Greg Burton BSc.Pharm/diab educ

### PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN THE PRACTICE OF PHARMACY

#### New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society Registrar

Promoting excellence within the pharmacy profession, the **New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society** is the regulatory body for pharmacists licensed to practice in the province. Under provincial legislation the Society is mandated to protect the New Brunswick public by promoting health care and ensuring pharmacists have the knowledge and skills necessary to provide optimal drug therapy.

There has never been a more exciting time to play a leadership role in the Society. The recent changes to the New Brunswick Pharmacy Act give the province's 720 pharmacists more tools to help their clients and give New Brunswickers better access to their medications. Implementation of the changes to the current Act and leading the development of a new Act are a couple of the key initiatives you will lead as the next **Registrar**.

A strategic visionary, competent administrator and relationship builder, you will be a guiding force in ensuring the professional practice of pharmacy in the Province and in shaping and influencing the future of the pharmacy profession. Working closely with the Council and its Committees and representing the Society on provincial and national initiatives, you will build relationships with members, government officials, and key

stakeholders in support of the Society's mandate. Your superior communication skills, courage of conviction, understanding of health care system trends and regulatory process, and commitment to excellence qualify you to assume this leadership role.



**New Brunswick  
Pharmaceutical Society**

**L'Ordre des Pharmaciens  
Du Nouveau-Brunswick**

If you are a qualified administrator who is ready to promote excellence in the practice of pharmacy, this could be your next career opportunity. Please submit your resume directly online at <http://www.jobs.robertsonsurrette.com/Careers/885/> or call Anna Stuart at 1-866-822-6022 for more information.

### PROMOUVOIR LA PRATIQUE DE LA PHARMACIE AXÉE SUR L'EXCELLENCE

#### L'Ordre des Pharmaciens du Nouveau-Brunswick Registraire

Voué à la promotion de la pratique de la pharmacie axée sur l'excellence, l'**Ordre des Pharmaciens du Nouveau-Brunswick** est l'organisme de réglementation des pharmaciens autorisé à exercer la profession de pharmacien au sein de la province. Selon la loi provinciale, l'Ordre a le mandat de protéger la population du Nouveau-Brunswick en contribuant aux soins de santé et en s'assurant que le pharmacien a les connaissances et les compétences nécessaires pour donner le meilleur traitement médicamenteux possible.

Jamais n'a-t-il été si intéressant d'assumer un rôle de leadership au sein de l'Ordre. Une récente

modification de la Loi sur la Pharmacie au Nouveau-Brunswick donne aux 720 pharmaciens de la province un plus grand nombre de moyens pour offrir de meilleurs soins à leurs clients. Les Néo-Brunswick auront donc un meilleur accès aux médicaments. À titre de **registraire**, vous aurez à mettre en œuvre les changements apportés à la loi et à diriger les efforts d'élaboration d'une nouvelle loi, pour ne nommer que quelques unes de vos nouvelles responsabilités. Un visionnaire stratégique, un administrateur compétent et un facilitateur de relations interpersonnelles, vous jouerez un rôle crucial au sein de la pratique de la profession de pharmacien au sein de la province en façonnant et en influençant l'avenir de la pratique de la pharmacie. Travaillant en étroite collaboration avec le Conseil et ses Comités et représentant l'Ordre au cours d'initiatives provinciales et nationales, vous établirez de bonnes relations avec les membres, les représentants du gouvernement et les parties prenantes clés afin de mieux appuyer le mandat de l'Ordre. En fait, votre aptitude à la communication nettement supérieure, vos convictions, votre connaissance des tendances et du processus d'application de la réglementation au sein du système de soins de santé ainsi que votre engagement à l'excellence font de vous la personne idéale pour se rôle.

Si vous êtes un administrateur qualifié qui est prêt à promouvoir

l'excellence au sein de la pratique de la pharmacie, ce poste pourrait être ce qu'il vous faut. Veuillez nous faire parvenir votre résumé en ligne au

<http://www.jobs.robertsonsurrette.com/Careers/885/> ou

communiquer avec Anna Stuart au 1-866-822-6022 pour de plus amples renseignements.

## **H1N1 Preparations**

The Association has been actively involved in pandemic planning with the Department of Health. The goal of pandemic planning is to minimize serious illness and deaths resulting from an influenza pandemic, and to minimize societal disruption (that is, allow as many people as possible to carry on their normal activities) during a pandemic. Pharmacists are encouraged to refer to **FightFlu.ca** for important tips on flu prevention and pandemic management.

According to the Canadian Public Health Agency, Up to 70 percent of the population could become infected, but only between 15 and 35 percent of the population will become "clinically ill" - which means ill enough to miss work for at least half a day.

For a pandemic of mild to moderate severity, if a vaccine and antivirals are not available, up to 50 percent of the clinically ill will seek outpatient care, 1 percent of the clinically ill will be hospitalized and recover, and 0.4 percent of the clinically ill will die.

Individuals who recover from illness caused by the pandemic strain will no longer be at risk of infection by that strain.

**If the pandemic causes illness in 35 percent of the population, businesses should expect up to 25 percent of their staff to be away from work in the peak two weeks. Some will be ill, and others will be caring for relatives and friends or afraid to go to work. There may also be school closures and other pandemic-related public health measures that affect the work force.**

Pharmacy owners & managers are encouraged to be prepared, by developing a pandemic plan for their own businesses. For tips on how to formulate a plan, to assist in minimizing the impact of a pandemic situation, see [www.pandemicflu.gov/professionals/business/businesschecklist.html](http://www.pandemicflu.gov/professionals/business/businesschecklist.html)

## **Economics**

### **Committee Update**

The current contract with government for PHIP programs is due to expire in 2010. Consequently, the economics committee has begun regular meetings, to prepare for the next phase of government negotiations. Store owners are encouraged to become engaged as this process moves forward. An owners/managers meeting is being planned this Fall. Please contact the executive director if you would like to become involved on the economics committee.

Alternatively, your input is most welcome, and can be shared with any of our economic committee members: Fred Martin, Chair, Rob MacLellan, Jeannine McQuaid, Paul Gallant, & Greg Burton.

### Volunteer Pharmacists Needed for Medical Mission to Kenya in February 2010

Mikinduri Children of Hope Foundation (MCOH) is looking for pharmacist volunteers to be part of a medical team traveling to Kenya in February 2010. MCOH is a PEI-based charity that was established in 2003 to help relieve poverty and sickness in the Mikinduri area in Kenya. Various ongoing programs are currently being funded by MCOH including feeding programs, a clean water program, an agricultural development program, the scholarship program, and a couple of economic development projects. Volunteers with MCOH are traveling to Kenya in February 2010 to put on medical, dental, and vision clinics. The goal of these clinics is to provide much needed healthcare and teaching to the Kenyan people and also to work with Kenyan healthcare professionals to build sustainable resources including permanent clinics.

In January 2009 we had the incredible opportunity to go to Kenya with MCOH volunteers to help run the first time medical clinics. We worked closely with many Kenyan volunteers including doctors, pharmacists, nurses, dentists, and interpreters – just to name a few. It was a challenging but also very rewarding experience. ....We have come home with countless heart-warming memories and this amazing experience has undoubtedly touched our lives.

Please visit Mikinduri Children of Hope Foundation's website ([www.mikinduri.com](http://www.mikinduri.com)) for more information about MCOH. For further information on the January 2009 mission or the upcoming February 2010 mission contact Rebecca Ellis ([rabooka@hotmail.com](mailto:rabooka@hotmail.com)) or Jennifer Boswell ([jlboswell@hotmail.com](mailto:jlboswell@hotmail.com)).



### **Canadian Blood Services Challenge**

The PEI Pharmacists Association is committed to increasing the profile of our profession. Collaborating with other health industry partners is an excellent way to remind the public of the important role pharmacists play in health care and health promotion. To this end, the PEI Pharmacists Association has joined the Canadian Blood Services "*Partners for Life*" campaign.

Pharmacists, pharmacy staff, family members, patients and friends can roll up their sleeves to donate blood, on behalf of the pharmacists of PEI. Remember to have all donors register their donation on behalf of the PEI Pharmacists Association. The number of units donated per year will be tracked by Canadian Blood Services. To date, we have received **4 DONATIONS** and have pledged **15**. Let's do our best to achieve our goal together!

This is a great way to build relationships with our patients &/or create unity in our workplaces. Most of all, it is a wonderful way for Pharmacists to come together to contribute to the health of our community. As pharmacists, we are fortunate to be seen as highly respected members of the health care team. The "*Partners for Life*" campaign provides us with the opportunity to 'give back'!