

SCOPE newsletter

December 2019



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
PROFESSIONALS

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President's Holiday Message 2019



Marilyn Younghans, President

Another year has quickly passed by, and I am in a little bit of denial that it is almost time to ring in the start of 2020! My Christmas season will include spending quality time with family and friends from near and far, sharing laughter, playing games and feasting on fantastic food. It is also a time that I like to reflect on all the blessings that my family and I have, and a time to spread kindness and joy to others.

The end of the year also marks the halfway point of my year as president of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals. I have thus far chaired two intense meetings with lots of great discussion and tough decision making. There have been many challenging conversations at our Council meetings this year: we have been dealing with complex topics like compounding regulations, inducements, the opioid crisis, and travel health to name just a few. You can feel secure that there is an insightful group of people sitting on the SCPP Council who are completely engaged and determined to ensure that Saskatchewan pharmacists and pharmacy technicians safely provide services to the public and meet our vision of quality pharmacy care. We look forward to our continuing advancement of pharmacy practice and working towards the goals in our new strategic plan, which begins in 2020.

Soon, there will be a call for elections in District 2, 4, 6, and 8, and I encourage everyone who has an interest or desire to increase their involvement in our profession, to seek nomination for this role. My love for the profession of pharmacy has been revived by participating on the SCPP Council. If Council is not your particular interest, there are also several committee's looking for volunteers - get involved, it is rewarding and provides personal growth and learning!

I would like to sincerely thank Jeana and the entire staff at SCPP for their dedication, professionalism and hard work throughout the year. Their willingness to give 100% every day is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of SCPP Council, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. May you have joy, health, happiness and love in this holiday season, and cherish time with those who matter most.

Merry Christmas and all the Best in the New Year!
Marilyn Younghans

SCPP COUNCIL 2019-2020**PRESIDENT**

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The SCOPe newsletter is published by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) and is emailed to active members of the College. Decisions on matters such as regulations, drug schedule changes, etc., are published in SCOPe. All members are expected to be aware of these matters.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – NOVEMBER 28, 2019

Council met in Regina on November 28, 2019 for their regularly scheduled meeting.

Environmental Scan

Each councillor was provided with an opportunity to discuss emerging issues arising since the last Council meeting. Some of the following issues were raised in one division or may have been common across the province:

- Work has recently begun by committees of the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) on the development of provincially based policies and procedures.
- The requirements for the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) Compounding Standards continue to be a concern, with pharmacists requesting more information.
- Medication shortages continue to be a challenge for patient care, both in hospital and in community practices, delaying patient treatment.
- Also delaying patient access to medications, are longer than normal wait times for Drug Plan Exceptional Drug Status (EDS) and Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Prior Approval requests.
- Also of concern, is fragmentation of care occurring with brand-name drug product support programs, which, when they expire or are discontinued, leave the patient having to pay the full cost of the medication if they have no other insurance coverage.
- Many pharmacies have reported increased immunizations provided outside of the pharmacy by pharmacists this year.
- Many pharmacists are asking for more information about Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Travel Health after the November training sessions.
- There was concern expressed that family members are inappropriately obtaining prescriptions for patients who have been admitted to the hospital.
- The University of Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy and Nutrition will graduate the last BSP (Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy) class in 2020. The College will graduate the first class of the PharmD program in 2021.
- Information and advertising about minor ailments, 'what you should ask your pharmacist' and Health Canada information on the drug and medical device approval process all provide needed information to the public.

Registrar's Report

The Registrar reported that:

- The flu season is well underway with pharmacists providing 157,778 immunizations from October 21 to November 23, 2019.
- Major regulatory reform is underway in British Columbia with the number of health regulatory bodies being decreased from 20 to 5. The new regulatory bodies will be Physicians, Nursing, Pharmacy, Oral Care and Other Health Professionals. There will be an oversight body for the regulators. Council composition will change to 50% members and 50% public, which will all be appointed by the government. All complaints and discipline matters will be transparent and public.
- Alberta is expecting a white paper in 2020 regarding regulatory reform.
- Work continues with the Ministry of Health and Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) regarding primary health networks.
- Information will be provided to members via email regarding changes to the NAPRA Drug schedules and the decision to remove natural health products in a phased approach.

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Systems and Communications Support

- Work is ongoing with Health Canada regarding medication incident reporting and the creation of standards; central fill and the need for a Drug Establishment License; and commercial compounding policy development.
- The sterile lab instructor at Saskatchewan Polytechnic has completed the Critical Point Certified Compounding training in the U.S. ensuring Saskatchewan Polytechnic graduates receive up-to-date training in compounding.
- There are reports that practitioners are writing prescriptions for buprenorphine/naloxone to be initiated by community pharmacists including monitoring as per Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale (COWS) and ongoing observation of the patient. SCPP will be reaching out to the SHA to obtain more information as training is planned for 2020.
- As there appears to be a shortage of pharmacy technicians in Canada nationally, the development of a national process similar to that for foreign trained pharmacists is being explored through NAPRA and The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC).
- Health Canada’s Office of Controlled Substances visits to Saskatchewan pharmacies have determined that communication and information is required for Saskatchewan pharmacists to ensure they are maintaining proper control over inventory and records.

Strategic Plan Progress

Registrar Jeana Wendel updated Council on the progress of the strategic plan.

Vision – Advancing quality pharmacy care for a healthier Saskatchewan

Mission – The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals serves the public interest by regulation the profession of pharmacy to provide safe, competent pharmacy care in Saskatchewan.

Values – Professionalism, Accountability, Visionary Leadership, Collaboration and Education.

Goals of the strategic plan are:

1. Advancing Public Safety in Pharmacy Services

This is accomplished by

2. Ensuring Priorities and Resources are Aligned to Achieve Goals
3. Maintaining a Self-Regulated Profession
4. Increasing Recognition of Pharmacy Professionals as Essential Members of the Health
5. Supporting Health Care Public Policy

This is the last report on this strategic plan, with a new plan to begin in 2020.

Goal #1

Quality Improvement Reviews (QIRs), which is the inspection process to be undertaken by our field operations team, have begun their test pilots. QIRs will begin in 2020.

Goal #2

Council continues to develop a Council restructure plan with anticipated changes to occur in 2021. More information will be provided as the task force continues their work.

Council continues to determine and manage risks identified by environmental scans and other reporting mechanisms.

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Goal #3

Through direction from Council, the office continues to develop updates to the information provided on the website to increase transparency.

Goal #4

The Council was informed that the development and training for Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Travel Health is completed and information is available on the medSask website. Training is strongly recommended for pharmacy professionals interested in providing these services.

SCPP continues to work with Health Canada to explore ways pharmacists can provide specific and clearly defined services under a section 56 exemption.

SCPP granted the first exemption under Part K of the Regulatory Bylaws to allow pharmacists to provide services to patients of practitioners in North Battleford.

Other issues considered during the Council meeting included:

Internationally Trained Pharmacists

A review of the licensing and registration of internationally trained pharmacists is underway to provide support for community pharmacists participating in the appraisal training and assessment of candidates.

Training re Harm Reduction

Training has been created and will be provided to members for Harm Reduction. More information will be provided on the mandatory requirement of the training in future communications.

Exempted Codeine Products

Council approved mandatory training and education for pharmacists that are intending to sell exempted codeine products. The original intent of Council was to ban exempted codeine products for sale in Saskatchewan, however, true to our stakeholder consultation process and further review of the data, the majority of patients in Saskatchewan with respect to frequency are using the product appropriately, indicating less risk for the public. However, further data analysis showed there were areas within Saskatchewan that the sale of exempted codeine products indicated the potential for inappropriate use. In keeping with "right touch" regulation, the College has worked with those individual pharmacies and pharmacists regarding their individual practices and will continue to do so as data is received. In addition, the Prescription Review Program (PRP) stakeholders and the College of Physicians and Surgeons' (CPSS) Council have approved additional drugs be added to the PRP including exempted codeine products, which will further enable SCPP's monitoring abilities. Please watch for an announcement pending Ministerial approval.

In consultation with SCPP members, common concerns included the appropriate use of exempted codeine products and how to manage patients who are potentially misusing them. As per Health Canada, there is a potential that exempted codeine products will become prescription products and pharmacists will be added to the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act (CDSA) as prescribers for exempted codeine products. As a result, medSask and the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) were tasked to build an education module, Pharmacist Assessment Record (PAR) and resource tools for pharmacists, specifically around appropriate use, self-care options and tools for pharmacists and patients to help prevent misuse.

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MISSION

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals serves the public interest by regulating the profession of pharmacy to provide safe, competent pharmacy care in Saskatchewan.

VISION

Advancing quality pharmacy care for a healthier Saskatchewan

VALUES

- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Visionary Leadership
- Collaboration
- Education

GOALS

- Advancing Public Safety in Pharmacy Services
- Ensuring Priorities and Resources are aligned to Achieve Goals
- Maintaining a Self-Regulated Profession
- Increasing Recognition of Pharmacy Professionals as Essential Members of the Health Care Team
- Supporting Health Care Public Policy

Having this training and education program in place will put Saskatchewan pharmacists ahead of the release when exempted codeine products become prescription, as there will need to be education and training at that time. More details to be released regarding the training program and timelines in 2020.

Opioid Agonist Therapy Standards

Opioid Agonist Therapy Standards to replace the methadone guidelines have been approved in principle by Council. SCPP hopes to have the new standards posted early in the new year. CPDPP was instrumental in the development of the standards.

Joint Meeting

On November 29, 2019, the Board of the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan (PAS), representatives of the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) and the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) met to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern. The meeting offers the groups an opportunity to keep each other informed.

A presentation was provided to the group by Ms. Michele Parent-Bergeron regarding Indigenous Health Policy.

Each organization provided an update on current challenges and initiatives.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Travel Health Services

Further to the College's announcement in the [November 2019](#) issue of SCOPE, the Council-approved medSask guidelines have been released to all members with the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) guideline and implementation training that was held November 16 and 17. Contact CPDPP for information on the online training.

This means that amongst other things, this new scope of practice is fully implemented as follows:

- Except for influenza, vaccines are now Schedule I for Saskatchewan pharmacists;
- Pharmacists may prescribe vaccines and other drugs for preventable diseases and travel health services according to the [policy and framework](#) that:
 - Requires pharmacists to use the medSask guidelines;
 - For travel health services for medium-risk and high-risk destinations by medium to high-risk patients require International Society in Travel Medicine Certification in Travel Health, while CPDPP High Risk Travel Health Implementation and Guideline training is strongly recommended, supported with optional Education Program Immunization Competencies (EPIC) and Skills Workshop training;
 - For travel health services for low-risk destinations by low-risk patients, CPDPP Vaccine Preventable Disease and Low Risk Travel Implementation and Guideline training with comprehensive travel medicine courses (BCPhA or HealthLearning Travel Health Educator) are strongly recommended, supported with optional EPIC and Skills Workshop training;



- For vaccine preventable diseases in Canada, CPDPP Vaccine Preventable Disease Implementation and Guideline training are strongly recommended, supported with optional EPIC and Skills Workshop training;

[The Administration by Injection and Other Routes Guidelines](#) and the [Administration by Injection and Other Routes FAQs](#) have both been recently updated to support the vaccine preventable disease and travel health initiative.

More information can be found at [medSask](#) and [CPDPP](#). Watch for announcements as SCPP releases other supportive resources.

Prescription Transfers

It is unethical to refuse to transfer a patient's prescription upon their request, including when the request is made via the pharmacist from the pharmacy to which the patient wishes to transfer their prescription. It is also inappropriate to transfer the prescription back to the first pharmacy without the patient's knowledge or consent, nor to coerce the patient with incentives or other offers. Patients have the right to choose their pharmacy.

SCPP has been receiving concerning reports that pharmacists are

- refusing to transfer a prescription;
- calling the patient and pressuring them not to transfer the prescription or to transfer it back; and/or,
- transferring the prescription back to the pharmacy from which it was transferred without the patient's knowledge or consent.

SCPP takes these matters very seriously as they are a violation of the Code of Ethics:

- (3) A member shall observe the law, particularly those affecting the practice of pharmacy; uphold the dignity of the Profession; strive for its betterment; maintain a high standard of ethics; and report to the proper authority, without fear or favour, any unethical or illegal conduct which may be encountered within the Profession.
- (4) A member shall not engage in any practice, the conditions of which might cause him to compromise acceptable standards of the Profession.

Narcotic and Controlled Drug Reconciliation

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) has been notified by Health Canada that several visits by inspectors of Health Canada have resulted in "critical" inspection report notices.

Pharmacists, and especially pharmacy managers, are reminded that the control and monitoring of the inventory of medications which are regulated by the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA), are the members' responsibility. It is important that members do not rely on the perpetual balance inventory report in the pharmacy computer as the only check of the safety and security of their inventory. At a minimum, members should perform physical counts of the pharmacy inventory quarterly, and review drug purchase and sales records and any manual adjustments regularly. It is further recommended that only designated staff members be allowed to make manual adjustments with a secured system password and with a rationale for each adjustment.

Any actual balances that do not match the theoretic computer inventory balance must be investigated and if no resolution is obtained, reported as a loss.



Any unexplained loss or thefts are to be reported to Health Canada within 10 days of their discovery, with a copy sent to the SCPP office ([Loss and Theft Guidance and Report Form](#)).

More information is available in the SCPP reference manual, including a guidance document on narcotic and controlled drug reconciliation ([Narcotic and Controlled or Targeted Substances Reconciliation](#)).

Notes from the Field

Cotridin – Prescription Forgeries

Forgery reports have increased within the past three years for many drugs, but notably Cotridin cough syrup. Many of the people who present these forgeries state they are from out of town, have no identification or health card. British Columbia has reported such a significant increase in forgeries for Cotridin, that they will be increasing their regulation and monitoring of the product.

SCPP recommends that any prescription presented to you at your pharmacy is not filled until it has been confirmed as a legal valid prescription with the practitioner and only after you have obtained a Saskatchewan Health Card and verified it against photo identification or in the case of an out of province patient, verified that patient's government issued photo identification and valid provincial health card.

QIR's are Coming!

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) has now begun the process of completing a Quality Improvement Review (QIR) for every Saskatchewan pharmacy in the next 18 months.

The College will be sending an email from info@saskpharm.ca providing instructions on how to complete a Pharmacy Self-Assessment (PSA), which the first step in the QIR process. Pharmacies will be selected by location and after receiving and completing the PSA, a convenient time will be scheduled to review. These reviews will be conducted virtually via the ConnectWise screensharing program.

Please forward any questions to info@saskpharm.ca with "QIR Process" in the subject line.

Naturopathic Practitioners – Prescriptions

Currently, naturopathic practitioners are not listed as a prescriber in The Drug Schedules Regulations. Section 1.2 of the regulations states:

Practitioners prescribed

1.2 For the purposes of clause 2(t) of the Act, the following health care professionals are prescribed as practitioners:

- (a) registered nurses who are entitled pursuant to *The Registered Nurses Act, 1988* to practise:
 - (i) in the nurse practitioner category; or
 - (ii) in the general category with additional authorized practice;
- (b) optometrists;
- (c) pharmacists;
- (d) midwives;
- (e) podiatrists

Until such time as naturopathic practitioners are granted the authority to prescribe in Saskatchewan, their prescriptions cannot be filled by a Saskatchewan pharmacist. Naturopathic practitioners are in the process of amending their legislation to gain the ability to prescribe and SCPP will notify members when the regulations are amended.

SCPP Members Facebook Group

When there is something the College would like to get out quickly, including drug recalls, drug schedule changes, important notices, etc. the SCPP Members Facebook group is one of the avenues the College uses. It is also a place where members can ask questions and post information that will benefit the community.

The group is available any SCPP member who has an active member number and is a Facebook user. The Facebook Group has been set up as a "secret" group and is therefore not viewable by others.

How to Join

Email info@saskpharm.ca with "Join SCPP Members Group" in the subject line. Please include a first and last name, licence number and the email address associated with your Facebook account in the body of the email. An invitation to join the group will be sent via Facebook. Participants can leave the group at any time.



Discipline Matters

The Discipline Committee considers the primary purpose of a discipline proceeding to be the protection of the public and the pharmacy profession as a whole. The Discipline Committee is conscious of the fact that the public must have confidence in the profession’s ability to regulate itself in a manner that protects the public. All Decisions and Orders of the Discipline Committee are posted on the CanLII website in their entirety at www.canlii.org/en/sk/skcppdc.

Richard Woo

On September 18, 2019, the Discipline Committee convened a hearing to hear and determine charges of professional incompetence and professional misconduct against pharmacist member Mr. Richard Woo. The hearing proceeded via an agreed statement of fact and a joint submission on penalty.

The agreed statement of facts described the charges summarized below:

- On Richard Woo’s membership renewal for the 2016-2017 membership year, Mr. Woo indicated that he had met the Continuing Education requirements (15 CEU’s from April 1, 2015 – June 1, 2016) to renew. When asked to produce verification that Mr. Woo obtained the 15 Continuing Education Units for the 2016-2017 membership year as required by the SCPP Regulation Bylaws, Mr. Woo was unable to provide verification.

- On Richard Woo’s membership renewal for the 2017-2018 membership year, Mr. Woo indicated that he had met the Continuing Education requirements (15 CEU’s from April 1, 2016 – June 1, 2017) to renew. When asked to produce verification that Mr. Woo obtained the 15 Continuing Education Units for the 2017-2018 membership year as required by the SCPP Regulation Bylaws, Mr. Woo was unable to provide verification.

Mr. Richard Woo admitted the allegations were true and admitted that the conduct described in the charges constituted professional incompetence and professional misconduct as set out in section 24 and 25 of *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act, SS 1996, c P-9.1*.

The Discipline Committee accepted the joint submission on penalty from Mr. Connor Clyde, counsel for the College and Mr. Donald Orr, LLP counsel for Mr. Woo which included:

- Mr. Woo be reprimanded and ordered to pay the costs of the hearing of \$9,965.

The entire Decision and Order is available for review on the following CanLII link: <https://www.canlii.org/en/sk/skcppdc/doc/2019/2019skcppdc5/2019skcppdc5.html>.



Planning to Open a New Pharmacy? Renovate? Relocate?

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) has recently experienced increased activity in the areas of pharmacy applications for new pharmacy openings, renovations and relocations. Considering this activity, the College would like to remind members of resources available on the SCPP website to better assist them in navigating through each of these processes.

[New Pharmacy Openings](#): all critically relevant information and documents are available at this link. These include, but are not limited, to the following:

1. New Pharmacy Opening Guidelines or New Satellite Pharmacy Opening Guidelines
2. New Pharmacy Notification & Details Form
3. Drawing and Schematics Checklist
4. Proposed Patient Care Area Guidelines
5. Compounding Excellence – CompEX
6. Professional Services Area – Delineation of the Pharmacy
7. Refrigerator Compatibility
8. Lock & Leave Establishment Guidelines
9. Permit-related Documents and Info
 - a. Privacy Officer Requirements – Certification
 - b. E-Health Requirements for New Pharmacies
 - c. ISMP Canada – Data Sharing Agreement (DSA)
 - d. ISC – Corporate Registry Report (CRR)
 - e. Drug Plan – DPEBB Contract
 - f. COMPASS Co-Ordinator Training - Certification

10. Pre-Opening Inspection – explains expectations related to booking of inspections

11. Pharmacy Inspection Checklist – explains what will be assessed at the New, Relocating or Renovating pharmacies' inspections.

[Renovating a Pharmacy](#): this link includes the following documents specific to renovations, in addition to the relevant ones listed above.

1. Pharmacy Renovation Guidelines
2. Pharmacy Renovation/Relocation Notification & Details Form

[Relocating a Pharmacy](#): this link includes the following documents specific to relocations, in addition to the relevant ones listed above.

1. Pharmacy Relocation Guidelines
2. Pharmacy Renovation/Relocation Notification & Details Form

SCPP would like to remind members who are considering any of the above endeavours that the College requires **90 days** advance notification **prior** to the start of the project. This notification means submission of the appropriate Notification & Details Form to info@saskpharm.ca. The College would also like to remind members that an accurate and detailed schematic will aid in an efficient and timely assessment of their project. Inspections cannot proceed until all the permit-related requirements have also been met.

Health Canada Releases New Guidance Document for Pharmacy Professionals

Reprinted from the Alberta College of Pharmacy's website [November 27, 2019](#)

Health Canada has released a [new guidance document](#) for the handling and destruction of post-consumer returns containing controlled substances.

The purpose of the document is to set out procedures for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians involved in the collection, provision, and destruction of unused or expired drug products containing a narcotic, controlled drug, or targeted substance returned to the pharmacy by an individual.

The guidance clarifies that businesses involved in the provision or who specialize in the destruction of post-consumer returns must obtain a Controlled Drugs Licence. It also sets out record-keeping requirements for pharmacists and licensed dealers.

Health Canada outlines that pharmacists and licensed dealers must take all reasonable steps necessary to protect post-consumer returns from loss or theft. The guidance includes a reminder that post-consumer returns must be received by a pharmacist, provisional pharmacist (intern), or a pharmacy technician.

The [guidance](#) is now available on the Health Canada website and takes effect on January 1, 2020.

Compounding Standards Implementation

As part of the implementation of the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) Model Standards for Pharmacy Compounding, the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) asked pharmacies to complete and submit a compounding declaration with a gap analysis following the completion of the risk assessment. As of November 28, there were still 144 pharmacies who have yet to submit the compounding declaration.

Completing the declaration and gap analysis allows the College to get an accurate overview of where compounding practice sits across the province, as well as to build awareness of the trending areas where

pharmacies may require additional direction on how to meet compliance. As a reminder, all pharmacies are required to be compliant with Level A non-sterile requirements.

If compounding supervisors have any questions surrounding completing the risk assessment, the compounding declaration or gap analysis, please contact Brittany Sharkey, Certified Compounding Inspector – Field Officer, at Brittany.Sharkey@saskpharm.ca.

The compounding declaration, gap analysis and all other applicable information can be found on the SCPP website [here](#).

Bylaw and Document Updates

Bylaw Amendments:

Part N – Schedule I Drugs of [SCPP Regulatory Bylaws](#) – Administrative Edits

Section 11 (Sale of Schedule I Drugs Without a Prescription) of Part N - Schedule I Drugs of the regulatory bylaws has been updated to correct administrative errors and to delete unnecessary subsections. Subsection 11(2) of Part N was repealed in March 2018. This subsection provided pharmacists with the authority to prescribe emergency contraception, but became integrated within the Minor Ailments and Self-Care bylaw when this bylaw was proclaimed. Subsections 11(3) and 11(4), which had administrative errors and referenced subsection 11(2), have been deleted. A period has also been added to the end of subsection 11(2).

Reference Manual Documents:

[Prescription Validity](#) – Revised

Provides information on how to handle **dispensing** new prescriptions or **dispensing** refills when a prescriber passes away, retires or otherwise ceases practice.

[Prescribing Authority Exemptions](#) – New

Outlines the update of Section 10 of Part K of the SCPP regulatory bylaws, which allows pharmacists to **prescribe** drugs in extraordinary circumstances. This document provides examples of extraordinary circumstances, criteria that will guide exemptions and who can make requests for these exemptions.

Other Documents:

[Orientation to Practice Guide](#) – New

A checklist that can be used as a tool for new practicing members or for new pharmacy personnel.

[Jurisprudence Exam Policy](#) – Revised

Outlines the College's procedure and requirements for sitting the SCPP Jurisprudence Exam. Includes a new section for candidates who require reasonable accommodations for a disability.

ACTION: Call for Assessors

In the [November 27, 2019](#) edition of MicroSCOPE, the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) outlined [what is involved in being an assessor](#) for the College.

SCPP regularly enlists the help of pharmacist members to train and evaluate internationally-trained pharmacy graduates who are pursuing registration with the College. To become licenced, these candidates must undergo the Appraisal Training and Assessment Program. There is an ongoing need for assessors to evaluate candidates once they have completed the appraisal training and an assessment has been recommended.

The assessment runs over two weeks (five days per week to a maximum 40 hours per week) in the assessor's place of employment where the candidate's

practice can be observed as they address day-to-day situations that arise in a pharmacy. The assessor's role is not to train the candidate, but to assess their ability to practice independently.

What qualifications should an assessor have?

1. Is a member in good standing.
2. Has completed the University of Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy and Nutrition Preceptor Training course.
3. Has previously precepted a fourth-year student in the Structured Practice Experiences Program (SPEP).

Please consider if becoming an assessor might be a good fit. Interested pharmacists who meet the qualifications can contact Lori Postnikoff, Deputy Registrar, at Lori.Postnikoff@saskpharm.ca.

ACTION: Contact Information Update Review

The profession of pharmacy is changing rapidly, and the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) wants to ensure it can successfully reach members in a timely manner to advise of urgent changes about key issues, drug schedule changes or other current matters. The College also uses member's contact information for other important business, such as determining electoral divisions, etc.

ACTION: SCPP is asking members to log into their member portals to check that their name, place of employment, email and mailing address are current.

Members can click the "Member Login" along the top of the [SCPP website](#). Thank you for looking after this important housekeeping item.



REMINDER:

Deadline for SCPP
Award Nominations is
January 31, 2020

Nominations are still open for the annual awards presented by the SCPP Awards and Honours Committee. If you or someone you know who has made a significant contribution to the pharmacy profession and/or community and meets the criteria outlined for one of the awards, please submit a nomination form. Early submissions are appreciated.

For full award information, including links to nomination forms and list of past award recipients, please go to page 9 and 10 of the [November 2019 edition of SCOPE](#).



From the Desk of the Dean

Dr. Jane Alcorn

**College of Pharmacy and Nutrition,
University of Saskatchewan**

For the latest news from the College, visit our website:
pharmacy-nutrition.usask.ca

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition was a busy place during the fall and I'm proud of all the exceptional people you'll read about below. Here are some of the remarkable moments from the last few months:

Congratulations to **Dr. Susan Whiting** on receiving the **Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Achievement Award** at this year's Santé Awards. This award is presented to an individual in health research whose exemplary career achievements have inspired us with their drive, leadership and ingenuity. [Read more.](#)



On Tuesday, October 22 the college celebrated **Dr. Susan Whiting's** retirement at the University Club. She joined the Division of Nutrition and Dietetics as an associate professor in 1988, and as of October 1, she was granted the honorary title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus from the university.



Aleta Schellenberg (BSP '15) is the recipient of Preceptor of the Year Award for 2018-2019. This award recognizes a preceptor in the pharmacy who has made a significant contribution to the education of pharmacy students in the Experiential Learning program.

The new Doctor of Pharmacy class received their white coats at a ceremony on Sunday, October 6. Thank you to Master of Ceremonies **Dr. Ed Krol**, as well as **Dr. Patricia McDougall** for providing greetings from the university, **Alex Crawley** for providing the keynote address, and the following people who acted as dressers for the students:

- **Cordell Hilderman (BSP '96)**, Board Member Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan
- **Jane Alcorn**, Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
- **Riley Burkart**, Co-President, SPNSS



- **Palima Shrestha**, Senior Stick
- **Danielle d'Entremont**, CAPSI representative
- **Christine Hrudka (BSP '82)**, Canadian Pharmacists Association representative
- **Jeana Wendel**, Registrar, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
- **Alex Crawley (BSP '12)**, President, Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists, Saskatchewan Branch
- **Justin Kosar (BSP, 08)**, Past President, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
- **Amy Wiebe (BSP, 08)**, Council Member, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals

Monday, October 30 was **Orange Shirt Day** and the faculty and staff wore orange to recognize the residential school experience, to witness and honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation.



Some faculty and staff moved into our permanent space in Health Science A-wing during the week of November 4. **The new main office is located on the second floor of A-wing in room 2A20.01.**

Join us for complimentary refreshments, and a chance to catch up with your classmates, colleagues and friends after the **Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Awards** on **Saturday, February 1 at 9:00**. The reception will begin at 9:00 pm at Reds on Adelaide (77 Adelaide Street West), which is the same venue as last year.

I hope everyone will have time to take a break and enjoy your time with family and friends over the holiday season. More exciting things are coming in the new year and we'll be extending invitations for you to join us at our alumni events.

Dr. Jane Alcorn
Professor and Dean

Upcoming Continuing Education

Program	Pharmacists/Pharmacy Technicians	Provider	Date	For more information:
Older Adults Conference 2020 in Saskatoon	Health Professionals	University of Saskatchewan Health Sciences Continuing Education	Saturday, March 28, 2020	Poster Registration coming soon
Vaccine Preventable Diseases and Travel Health Training – visit the CPDPP website for information	Pharmacists	CPDPP		Website
OATP Conference 2020 in Saskatoon	Health Professionals	College of Physicians and Surgeons	March 6-7, 2020	Poster
CAPhO Conference 2020 in Toronto	Health Professionals	CAPhO	April 2-5, 2020	Website

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) Examination Dates

Pharmacist Schedule of Exams

Below are the exam dates at time of print. For the most up-to-date exam schedules, please visit the PEBC website at www.pebc.ca.

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Winter Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	January 8, 2020	Deadline passed
Spring Pharmacist Qualifying Examination	MCO: May 19 & 20, 2020	February 21, 2020
	OSCE: May 23, 2020	
Summer Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	June 26, 2020	March 13, 2020

Pharmacy Technician Schedule of Exams

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Winter Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination	MCO: April 5, 2020	Deadline passed
	OSPE: April 4, 2020	

* Applications must be **received** by the PEBC office no later than the application deadline date.



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
PROFESSIONALS

Wishing you a Joyous Noel!

The weather is getting chilly, the children are counting down the days, the trimmings decorate our homes and thoughts of special people like you come to mind.

The staff at the
Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
would like to wish our Council and committee volunteers, our members,
and the people in our many partner organizations
happiness throughout this holiday season:

David Chou, Peleshia Dubidad, Pat Guillemin, Kathleen Handford, Ray Joubert,
Fatima Khan, Darlene King, Chantal Lambert, Christina McPherson,
Heather Neirinck, Lori Postnikoff, Natalie Rediger, Kim Samoila,
Jeannette Sandiford, Tami Schwebius, Brittany Sharkey,
Audrey Solie, Meaghan Underwood, Ingrid Wakefield,
Jeana Wendel, Cheryl Wyatt and Caroline Zareba.

In keeping with the season's spirit of giving, a donation has been made to a local charity in lieu of sending holiday cards.

Holiday Office Schedule

Closed December 24 at noon until January 1
Regular office hours resume Thursday, January 2
8 a.m. - noon • 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Happy Holidays!



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