

The Island Capsule

Newsletter of the Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board

June 2006

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND PHARMACY BOARD

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MEMBERS

David McLeod, Chair and NAPRA Delegate
(Lawton's St.Peter's Rd)
Ken Ramsay, Vice-Chair (Ramsay's Ph)
Wally Kowalchuk (Zellers Phcy)
Jeff Jardine (The Drugstore Phcy)
Kerry Murphy (Shoppers Drug)
Iain Smith (QEH)
Nancy Canham, LayRep
Government Rep – Pat Crawford

REGISTRATIONS

Pharmacists: 160
Permits: 40 + 7 hospitals + Provincial Phcy
Students: 21

This newsletter is distributed to all licensed pharmacies in PEI, emailed and posted on our website. Decisions regarding all matters such as regulations, drug related incidents, etc. are published in it. The PEI Pharmacy

Board therefore assumes that all pharmacists are aware of these matters

ENCLOSURES

1. Prescribers' List
2. Pharmacists' List
3. Learning Portfolio
4. NAPRA Notes – Update
5. Memo from Canadian Institute for Health Information

ARE YOU AND YOUR STAFF CONNECTED?

Pharmacy Managers are reminded that mailings and faxes are only going to them at the pharmacy of employment. **Please ensure your staff pharmacists receive any documents forwarded – this includes newsletters, guidelines etc.** if they are not accessing E-Link.

Pharmacists can also go to www.napra.ca and click on PE to access newsletters and all other documents.

For the 2007/8 licensing year the CE requirements will be **20 CEUs**. Professional Development Log and information on program accreditation can be found on the PEI section of the napra website.

The Board is working with the *Health Human Resources Database* for the province as well as the federal government (through the Canadian Institute for Health Information) as a means to track professional human resources needs in the future. You will be notified by email to log

on to database and complete licensing information. Please ensure you fully complete the data on the application forms – and it is our hope that you will soon be able to register on line and use the database to update your own file – for things like name changes, changes in places of employment, changes to a mailing address etc.! This database will be used by the Board for its standard database. It will also be used by the province and Health Canada (through CIHI) to monitor human resources for health professions. Information provided to them will be non-identifiable.

BOARD EMAIL SYSTEM

Your NAPRA email address has been your name (jane.doe@peipb.napra.ca). This will remain for those who use the email as their regular address. Your own access, to go into the address and retrieve email or have it set up to forward to another regular email account (such as hotmail or simpatico), will soon be your license # (12345@peipb.napra.ca). This will prevent complications like same names, name changes in marriage, etc. when I forward a pharmacists' updated list to NAPRA for inclusion or removal of pharmacists. Once you forward mail to another account, be sure to update this should you change servers (eg. Eastlink instead of simpatico). Any questions on email addresses, passwords, etc can be directed to the Registrar.

NHPD MONTHLY COMMUNIQUE

The *NHPD Monthly Communique* is a publication of Health Canada's Natural Health Products Directorate (NHPD), the federal department responsible for the regulation of natural health products sold in Canada. The communiqué is released to the Canadian public the first week of each month via the NHPD's electronic bulletin. Subscription to this e-bulletin is available at www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/prodnatur/activit/education/list/index_e.html

(underscore between index and e.html)

List of Approved Natural Health Products. The list of Health Canada – approved natural health products is accessible at: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/prodnatur/applications/licen-prod/lists/listapprnhp-listeapprpsn_e.html (underscore before e.html)

This list will be updated on a monthly basis until a more complete searchable database is available. Please note that to ensure accuracy of information being posted, there will be a delay of at least 60 days before new products are added to this monthly update. All license numbers listed in the table are Natural Product Numbers (NPNs) or DIN-HMs.

NAPRA ELECTIONS

The annual meeting for the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities was held in Ottawa in April. Janet Bradshaw, delegate from Saskatchewan, was elected President. Sandra Carey (Newfoundland and Labrador) was elected as NAPRA Vice-President. Bill Veniot, Registrar from New Brunswick, was elected Chair of the Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada (CPRC) and our Registrar, Neila Auld, was elected Vice-Chair of CPRC.

Please see attached *NAPRA Notes*

WELCOME NEW GRADUATES!

Congratulations and welcome to Dalhousie and Memorial Pharmacy Graduates:

Nadine Pettipas
David Gallant
Jeanette MacQueen
Juanita MacDonald
Natalie Gaudet
Nicolle Gallant
Cheryl Neil
Amy Chisholm
Brodie McMurrer
Amy Chisholm



NAPRA Notes

Welcome to the first issue of NAPRA Notes! Our members – you – have shared with us that your vision for a stronger association includes enhanced communications. In that spirit, we have two principle goals for this publication. First, we want to inform our members on a regular basis on the activities of the National Office: the discussions and decisions taken by the Board of Directors on behalf of the NAPRA members; the ongoing meetings with Health Canada; and our interactions with other national and international organizations just to name a few. Secondly, we want to provide our member Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities with ready-to-use material that can be incorporated into your own newsletters, posted to your website or disseminated to your members through your preferred channel.

It is our intent to have this publication appear on your desktop every two months. Your comments are important to us. We've provided a feedback opportunity for you to share your thoughts. Let us know what you think – we want to ensure that we are meeting your needs.

Lisa Gall
Manager of Communications

An overview of the key discussion points from the NAPRA Board of Directors and Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada Meetings held April 22-25, 2006 in Ottawa, is outlined below.

Board of Directors Elections

The spring Board Meeting is also the time for NAPRA's elections. Janet Bradshaw, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP) was acclaimed as NAPRA's President for the 2006-2007 term. Joining Ms. Bradshaw on the Executive Committee through acclamation to their positions are:
Vice-President – Sandra Carey, Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board (NLPB);
Director – Erica Gregory, College of Pharmacists of British Columbia (CPBC); and
Director – Pat Trozzo, Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association (MPhA).

NAPRA also welcomed two new appointees to the Board of Directors: Dianne Donnan, Alberta College of Pharmacists (ACP); and David McLeod, Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board (PEIPB). We look forward to a busy and productive year of activities for our Executive Committee and our Board.

We extend our sincere thanks to three very committed members of our Board. Lois Cantin (MPhA), Wally Kowalchuck (PEIPB) and Burke Suidan (ACP) all concluded their terms on the Board of Directors. Their enthusiasm and dedication to the Board and to the organization were critical to the successes NAPRA achieved during their tenure.



NAPRA Notes

Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada Elections

The Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada (CPRC) held their annual election in Ottawa on April 22, 2006. The CPRC acclaimed Bill Veniot (New Brunswick Pharmaceutical Society) as Chair and Neila Auld (Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board) as Vice-Chair. The Council expressed its thanks to Ronald Guse (Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association) for two years of dedicated service as Chair.

2006 NAPRA Objectives

The 2006 Objectives were approved by the Board of Directors. Each objective received a prioritization ranking as recommended by the Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada (CPRC). The Objectives were drawn from the 2006 Operational Plan and focus primarily on revising the documents that provide the foundation for the *Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for the Profession of Pharmacy in Canada*.

The National Drug Schedules and Natural Health Products

The Board approved a motion that Natural Health Products (NHPs), as designated by a Natural Product Number or DIN-HM, would not be considered products for scheduling within the National Drug Schedules and that Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities would not be responsible for their enforcement. Further, it was also noted that NAPRA should raise the concern for patient safety with the NHPs to Health Canada as a result of the decision not to bear the responsibility for the enforcement of the conditions for sale of these products. Health Canada was notified of the Board's decision and additional communication support for members is forthcoming on this matter.

Policy for "Schedule F Recommended" Drugs

The Board approved a policy to clarify the status of products containing medicinal ingredients that are recommended for addition to Schedule F (i.e. "Schedule F Recommended" drugs). The policy creates a requirement that "Schedule F Recommended" drugs be dispensed pursuant to a prescription, using the framework of the National Drug Schedules (NDS). In fulfillment of the policy, all of the official Health Canada "Schedule F Recommended" listings up to and including May 31, 2006 were placed in Schedule I of the NDS and have been footnoted accordingly (with "FR"). The policy is available to view or download through the following link <http://www.napra.org/docs/0/92/112.asp>. It should be noted that most, but not all, provinces schedule by reference to NAPRA's NDS.

Review of NAPRA Committee Structure

The Board discussed and resolved to engage in a comprehensive review of NAPRA's committee structure. Further, the committee structure review initiated a related discussion concerning a comprehensive review of the Association's By-laws and governance structure. The Board agreed that a significant portion of time will be devoted to the examination of these important topics during the November 2006 Board of Directors Meeting.



NAPRA Notes

Language Fluency Requirements for Licensure as a Pharmacist in Canada

In recognition of the impending phase-out of paper and computer-based testing in favour of the internet-based TOEFL®-iBT, NAPRA's Board carried a motion to address this issue. Moving forward, NAPRA will coordinate a process for a review of the current test combinations and minimum scores, to update them in consideration of the available tests. The final result of the process will be a revised *Language Fluency Requirements for Licensure as a Pharmacist in Canada* document (<http://www.napra.org/docs/0/94/107/206.asp>). Estimated completion is fall 2006.

Mutual Recognition Agreement

A survey was conducted in December 2005 with all Signatories and non-Signatories to the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA). Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) was invited to participate in the survey in consideration of their involvement on labour mobility issues and past involvement with the MRA. The final report, completed in April 2006, contained a summary of the results and a recommendation. In the final analysis, the Signatories indicated that they are reasonably satisfied that the MRA is serving its intended purpose. It was recognized that current challenges (continuing competency assurance programs, recognition of pharmacists from non-Signatory jurisdictions, and international pharmacy graduates), future changes in the practice (e.g. pharmacist prescribing), and revisions to undergraduate education programs, all may have an impact on the MRA. It was recommended, therefore, that the Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada (CPRC) hold a teleconference involving all Signatories, non-Signatories and HRSDC. The objective of the teleconference would be to review the findings of the survey and determine whether there are any specific actions that the Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities would recommend NAPRA undertake in 2006.

Natural Health Products Directorate and Therapeutic Products Directorate Meetings

Recent bilateral meetings with the Natural Health Products Directorate (NHPD) and the Therapeutic Products Directorate (TPD) of Health Canada covered a number of important issues. The meeting with NHPD was very positive in establishing a working relationship between our two organizations. Further, NAPRA and NHPD developed a baseline understanding of how NAPRA's National Drug Schedules (NDS) are taken into consideration during the licensing of Natural Health Products (NHPs). The meeting with TPD covered a range of topics including: policy development around "Manufacturing and Compounding Drug Products"; international prescription service pharmacies; electronic transfer of prescriptions; Health Canada's "Mandatory Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting System" and the "Schedule F Recommended" designation of products. Overall these meetings continue to be productive and collaborative towards the advancement of issues of importance for the regulation of pharmacy in Canada. A joint Regulators Forum including pharmacy and medical regulatory authorities, as well as Health Canada officials, is being planned for late June 2006.



NAPRA Notes

National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee Membership

The National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) recently welcomed two new members to the committee with the appointments of Dr. Ruth Wilson (March 2006) and Dr. Sheldon Koven (April 2006). Both members have a wide-range of professional experience that they will utilize in their capacities as committee members.

NAPRA would also like to thank three outgoing members of NDSAC for their years of active service: Dr. Marilyn Caughlin, Dr. Mark Armstrong and Fred Rumpel. All were dedicated members contributing both their time and expertise to advance the mandate of the committee.

Canadian Institute for Health Information Report on Health Personnel Trends

In April 2006, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) released its report entitled *“Health Personnel Trends in Canada 1995-2004”*. The report is a reference document designed to assist with health services planning and research. An entire chapter is devoted to pharmacists and was prepared with significant input from NAPRA. To read more about the pharmacists’ chapter of the report, please visit the CIHI website (www.cihi.ca) and go to the *“What’s New at CIHI/Health Personnel Provincial Profiles”* section of the main page.

Staff Addition at NAPRA

Starting June 13, 2006, NAPRA is pleased to welcome Karen Wolfe as our new Director of Pharmacy Practice Support. Ms. Wolfe is not only embracing the responsibilities of a new position, she is also taking on the challenges of coordinating a move from Grand Prairie, Alberta to Ottawa to join the National Office staff. Ms. Wolfe recently completed her term as President of the Alberta College of Pharmacists (ACP). Good luck Karen and we look forward to seeing you in the office soon!

Feedback

Let us know what you think! As this is our first issue, we can only improve from here...but we need your help. Send us your thoughts on what works well, what can be improved, the type of information you would like to receive – we are open to all suggestions. Please send your feedback to Lisa Gall, Manager of Communications by E-mail at lgall@napra.ca



Health Human Resources Databases Development Project: The Development of a National Pharmacist Database

Effective management of health human resources requires access to accurate, comparable, and timely data. Currently there is very little standardized national data on health professionals except for physicians and the regulated nursing professions. To continue fulfilling its mandate and increase availability of standardized value added information for health human resources, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is developing five new national supply-based databases for the following professions: Occupational Therapists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, Medical Laboratory Technologists, and Medical Radiation Technologists.

The **Pharmacist Database** is one of the first to be developed and will provide a new source of timely, quality information for the profession of pharmacy in Canada. The benefits for the profession include an improved information base, increased exposure, an annual report focusing on the profession, and the enhanced ability to inform policy-makers, researchers and the general public on the profession of pharmacy.

CIHI's function as a "data custodian" ensures that ownership of the data always remains with the original data provider. For the **Pharmacist Database**, the data will be provided to CIHI by the provincial/territorial regulatory bodies. A sub-set of the registration and renewal data will be shared with CIHI, including information on demographics, geography, education and employment. **It is important to note that name, address (number, street name and city) and contact details for any individual will not be collected by CIHI.**

CIHI is a recognized leader in the collection and dissemination of health information, and a large part of its success is the ability to effectively address issues around privacy and confidentiality. Respecting personal privacy, safeguarding confidential information and ensuring security are critical to CIHI's mandate. All five databases will be developed in accordance with CIHI's privacy principles, which emphasize controlled access to and responsible use of health information in Canada. For additional information on CIHI's privacy principles, please visit www.cihi.ca.

Your information is critical for improving the knowledge base for the pharmacist profession and supporting the effective management of health human resources in Canada.

If you have any questions or require further information please contact:

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