

# The Island Capsule

PEI College of Pharmacists

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## *Extended Practice Certifications*

### *Reminder to renew*

Pharmacists practicing expanded scope activities including drug administration and minor ailment prescribing are reminded that their Extended Practice Certifications expire annually on March 31. The Extended Practice Certification in Drug Administration and Prescribing for Minor Ailments must be renewed each year by March 31 by submitting an application for renewal and paying the applicable fees. Please ensure that your renewal applications have been submitted to the College office if you are continuing to administer drugs or prescribe for minor ailments.

### MISSION

*Regulating the practice of pharmacy in the province so as to promote a high standard and safeguard the welfare of the public with regard to pharmaceutical service.*

## *Prescribing Suboxone Physician Authorization Required*

Physicians, in accordance with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of PEI Policy [\*Prescribing Buprenorphine Treatment for Opioid Dependency\*](#), are required to meet a certain criteria as a prerequisite to prescribe buprenorphine for opioid dependency in PEI. A prescriber who holds an exemption under section 56 of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to prescribe methadone is not automatically granted authority to prescribe buprenorphine. Each provincial medical college determines the requirements needed to prescribe buprenorphine. Questions regarding prescriber eligibility should be directed to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of PEI office at 902-566-3861.

## *Tobacco Sales and Access Act*

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Recently, the Legislative Assembly passed amendments to the *Tobacco Sales and Access Act* that will restrict the sale of electronic smoking devices to persons under the age of 19 years of age. Similar to existing restrictions on tobacco sales, the sale of electronic smoking devices will be prohibited in pharmacies. The amendments to the Act will take effect on October 1, 2015. Any pharmacies involved in the sale of electronic smoking devices will need to make arrangements to comply with the amendments to the *Tobacco Sale and Access Act*. Staff from Environmental Health will be visiting retail outlets in the coming months to discuss the legislative changes and answer questions.

## Nurse Practitioners to Prescribe Narcotic and Controlled Drugs

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*Prescribing controlled drugs and substances is considered part of the scope of practice for all nurse practitioners in Prince Edward Island.*

The Association of Registered Nurses of Prince Edward Island (ARNPEI) Council approved revisions to the ARNPEI Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice which include additional standards related specifically to the prescribing of controlled drugs and substances by nurse practitioners. Prescribing controlled drugs and substances is considered part of the scope of practice for all nurse practitioners in Prince Edward Island.

In accordance with the *Nurse Practitioner Authority to Prescribe Controlled Drugs and Substances: Educational Requirements Policy*, nurse practitioners will be required to undergo additional training in prescribing controlled drugs and substances by licensing renewal November 1, 2015 in order to be eligible for renewal as a nurse practitioner in PEI. There are two nurse practitioners who have met the requirements, Lisa Bishop and Laurie Brehaut, who are eligible to prescribe narcotic and controlled drugs. ARNPEI will continue to update the

College of Pharmacists as additional nurse practitioners obtain the required training and are granted the authority prior to the November 1, 2015 deadline. The College of Pharmacists will share this information with members.

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*Nurse practitioners will be required to undergo additional training in prescribing controlled drugs and substances by November 1, 2015, in order to be eligible for renewal as a nurse practitioner in PEI.*

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