

# Board Highlights



## Our Vision:

*Better health through excellence in pharmacy.*

## Our Mission:

*The College regulates the pharmacy profession in the public interest. We set and enforce standards and promote best practices for the delivery of pharmacy care in British Columbia.*

### **Professional Practice Policy 73 Introduced: Check your hires!**

The College has taken action to ensure that pharmacy owners, directors and managers check the identity and validate the College registration of new hires. There have been a number of unfortunate incidents where individuals have deliberately misrepresented themselves to pharmacy managers or owners and were hired to practise pharmacy when they were not legally permitted to do so. Owners, directors, and managers must now ensure a written policy and procedure is in place to verify the identity and registration status of individuals applying for pharmacist or pharmacy technician positions prior to the start of employment. The new policy identifies requirements that must be included in the hiring process. The College Board also strongly recommended that the procedures are applied to existing staff as well.

[http://library.bcpharmacists.org/A-About\\_Us/A-2\\_Governance/5003-PGP-PPP73.pdf](http://library.bcpharmacists.org/A-About_Us/A-2_Governance/5003-PGP-PPP73.pdf)

### **Robbery Prevention a Top Priority for the College**

The Task Force on Robbery Prevention is working over the summer to develop a policy that it hopes will lead to a reduction in pharmacy robberies in BC. The College is working with and seeking advice from a broad range of stakeholders and have included community and hospital pharmacists as well as law enforcement agencies on the task force. More details on the strategy will be made available in the Fall.

See the current guidelines at [http://library.bcpharmacists.org/H-Resources/H-4\\_Pharmacy\\_Resources/1028-Guidelines\\_Pharmacy\\_Robbery\\_BC.pdf](http://library.bcpharmacists.org/H-Resources/H-4_Pharmacy_Resources/1028-Guidelines_Pharmacy_Robbery_BC.pdf)

### **Moving Forward with the Practice Review Program**

The Board was updated on progress being made on the Practice Review Program as the College prepares for its pilot launch in January 2015. In addition to approving a number of Bylaws that would give the program the legislative framework to operate, the Board also set how reviews would be prioritized based on the previously-approved 6-year review cycle.

For more information on the Practice Review Program please visit [http://www.bcpharmacists.org/about\\_us/key\\_initiatives/index/articles/307.php](http://www.bcpharmacists.org/about_us/key_initiatives/index/articles/307.php)

### **Setting Priorities for the BC Health System**

Barb Walman, Assistant Deputy Minister of Medical Beneficiary and Pharmaceutical Services, gave the Board an update on the Ministry of

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Health's strategic plan, Setting Priorities for the BC Health System. In addition, she also provided an update on progress of various College priorities related to PharmaNet, and gave a brief update on progress being made on the drafting of provider enrollment regulations for Pharmacare that will be included in the *Pharmaceutical Services Act*.

### **Final Audited Statements Approved**

The Board approved the final audited statements for the College, which confirmed the College continues to be in excellent fiscal health. The statements are included with the Annual Report that is now available on the College website at <http://annualreports.bcpharmacists.org/ar2014/>.

### **Budget Approved for 2014-15**

The Board passed the budget for the 2014-15 fiscal year which maintains the streamlined and reduced fee structure put in place during 2013, ensures the College meets its mandated responsibilities to protect the public, and continues to support pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who choose to pursue clinical skills development and allows for other quality initiatives as outlined in the College's strategic plan.

### **Bylaws Posted for Public Comment**

The Board has approved a number of draft changes to Bylaws that have now been posted for public comment. These include:

- Proposed changes to both the Community Pharmacy and Residential Care Facilities and Homes Standards of Practice that would amend the requirements of a prescription to better reflect current practice and provide clarity to practitioners.
- A number of new or revised bylaws to give the Practice Review Program currently under development the legislative framework it requires to operate.
- A small update to Bylaws housed in the *Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act* regarding pharmacy licence requirements and the responsibilities of owners and directors.

The proposed bylaw changes can be accessed at [http://www.bcpharmacists.org/about\\_us/key\\_initiatives/index/articles/32.php](http://www.bcpharmacists.org/about_us/key_initiatives/index/articles/32.php) where information on submitting comments can be found. Comments should be submitted to the College or the Ministry of Health no later than September 25, 2014.