



# Board Highlights



## BOARD MEMBERS

Photo: clockwise from top left

### **Bruce Beley**

District 7 - Community Hospitals

### **Michael MacDougall**

Government Appointee, West Vancouver

### **Allan Greene**

District 3 - Vancouver Island/Coastal

### **John Scholtens**

Government Appointee, Langley

### **John Hope** (Vice-Chair)

District 6 - Urban Hospitals

### **Doug Kipp**

District 4 - Kootenay/Okanagan

### **Randy Konrad** (Chair)

District 1 - Metropolitan Vancouver

### **Chris Hunter**

District 5 - Northern British Columbia

### **Margaret Cleaveley**

Government Appointee, Kamloops

### **Penny Denton**

Government Appointee, Prince Rupert

### **Bev Harris**

District 2 - Fraser Valley

### **Bal Dhillon** (not pictured)

Pharmacy Technician Observer

The Board of the College of Pharmacists of BC met for their regularly scheduled Board meeting at the College office in Vancouver, BC on June 18, 2010. The following highlights, which were approved by the Board, summarize the key initiatives discussed.

## **Board Reaffirms its Commitment to Speaking with One Voice**

Following an in-camera session the Board brought forward a motion, to be recorded in the Board minutes, reaffirming their legislative commitment to speaking with one voice:

*Whereas, the Oath of Office states: "I will act in the interest of the College as a whole". Be it resolved: The Board will not tolerate individual Board members speaking out against policy or direction set by the Board as a whole.*

## **Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal 2009 – 2010 Approved**

The Board approved the College's audited financial statements for the fiscal year, (March 1, 2009 – February 28, 2010). The financial statements will be included in the College's Annual Report which will be circulated to registrants electronically and posted on the College website shortly. As required by legislation, a copy of the Annual Report will also be forwarded to the Minister of Health Services.

## **Timeline for Upcoming Board Elections – Districts 2, 4 and 6**

This year's Board elections, which involve districts 2, 4 and 6, will take place on October 22, 2010 with the first notice and 'call for nominations' scheduled to be mailed to registrants, in those applicable districts, on August 6 with the deadline for nominations closing at 5:00pm on August 30, 2010.

In addition to elections this fall in the three required districts, the current terms for each of the four government appointees expire on October 1, 2010. The College is currently awaiting confirmation from the provincial government's Board Resourcing and Development Office whose mandate it is to reappoint or newly appoint government appointees to regulatory College boards. It is anticipated that these appointments will be made prior to the next Board meeting on September 24, 2010.

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COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
*Safe and Effective Pharmacy Care*

## OUR VISION

*As the medication experts,  
pharmacists are professionals  
who apply their full knowledge,  
skills and abilities to their clinical  
practice and continue to evolve  
their scope of practice to provide  
better healthcare outcomes.*

## Our Mission

*To ensure British Columbia  
pharmacists provide safe and  
effective pharmacy care to help  
people achieve better health.*

## Extraordinary General Meeting set for July 13, 2010 at 6:30pm

The College has received a request from a group of registrants calling for the Board to convene an extraordinary general meeting to present a resolution asking for the College to reconsider the regulation of pharmacy technicians in community practice.

As the request meets the criteria set out in *Health Professions Act (HPA) Bylaw 30. (5) (b)*, the meeting has been set for Tuesday July 13, 2010 at 6:30pm at the Executive Hotel and Conference Centre in Burnaby (4201 Lougheed Hwy). A written notice, including pre-registration details and a copy of the resolution, has been mailed to all College registrants.

*Note: While the College Board will give careful consideration to resolutions brought forward the Board cannot be bound by the outcome of the resolution [HPA Bylaw 33 (4)] due to the potential for conflict with the Board's overriding duty to serve and protect the public*

## Board Approves QAC's Recommendation for a Renewed PDAP

As scheduled, the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC), following their extensive review and analysis of a comprehensive and collaborative internal and external evaluation (2004 – 2010) of the current Professional Development and Assessment Program (PDAP), which included the results of the piloted continuing education component (CE-Plus), presented their recommendation for a renewed PDAP which was approved by the Board.

The QAC's recommendation was formulated based on the following considerations:

- PDAP, as per legislation [*HPA Bylaw 54 (2)*], must have both a continuing education and an assessment component, and
- although the CE-Plus tool tested well as a continuing education tool, as agreed to by both the CE-Plus Task Group and the External Program Evaluator, it is not a valid assessment tool, and
- each of the current PDAP assessment tools are valid assessment tools and there are not any alternative assessment tools being used internationally which should be considered by the College, and
- previous registrant feedback and results from PDAP must be considered and where possible, incorporated into the renewed program.

The details of the renewed PDAP, which are now being formalized, will be communicated to registrants beginning early this fall. Implementation is not scheduled to begin in earnest until 2012 which will allow sufficient time for registrants to become aware of and comfortable with the renewed program.

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## Official Appointment of Pharmacy Technician Observer to the College Board and Key Committees

Following a call to pharmacy technicians across the province for candidates interested in filling the position of 'observer' to the College Board (i.e. full Board participation with no voting authority) the Pharmacy Technician Task Group's (PTTG) recommendation that Bal Dhillon assume this position for a 1-year term was approved by the Board.

In addition, given that there were a number of other interested and qualified candidates, the Board approved the PTTG's further recommendation to appoint a Pharmacy Technician 'observer' to each of the following College committees: Inquiry, Discipline, Registration, Quality Assurance, Community Pharmacy Advisory and Hospital Pharmacy Advisory.

## Board Approves Revised Bylaws Inclusive of Pharmacy Technician Regulation

The mandatory 60-day public posting period concluded on April 30, 2010 and all comments, including those submitted anonymously through an online petition were reviewed in detail with the Ministry of Health Services.

In general the concerns raised were found to be primarily based on misconceptions and misunderstanding with respect to the actual accountability, responsibility and liability that a regulated pharmacy technician will have under the *HPA Bylaws* and those that remain the sole responsibility of the pharmacist. Based on the concerns raised minor revisions were made to the draft bylaws to ensure clarity of scope of practice between technicians and pharmacists.

Upon review of these minor changes the Board approved the draft bylaws by way of a resolution that essentially repealed and replaced all current bylaws made under the *Health Professions Act (HPA)* and the *Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act (PODSA)*. The new bylaws will be posted on the College website shortly.

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### Board Approves PPP-65 – Narcotic Counts and Reconciliations

Given that routine inspections conducted by the College's quality assurance processes have identified that many pharmacy managers are not completing regular narcotic counts and that this lack of accountability has the potential to significantly increase the risk of drug diversion, the Board approved Professional Practice Policy 65 (PPP-65) – Narcotic Counts and Reconciliations.

The policy, ([click here](#)), requires that pharmacy managers, as a minimum, conduct a narcotic count and reconciliation every 3 months, and after a change of manager, and after a break-in or robbery. The policy takes effect October 1, 2010 which means that by this date all pharmacies must have completed a baseline count of their narcotics.

### Board Approves Revisions to PPP-3 – Pharmacy References

Primarily done to clarify the growing list of electronic references acceptable to the College, the Board approved the revision of Professional Practice Policy 3 (PPP-3) – Pharmacy References.

The policy, ([click here](#)), includes the acceptable electronic references and 2 additions to the textbook choices for the Pregnancy and Lactation category.