

Discipline hearing conducted

November 2003

On September 29, 2000, the registration of Nina (Shaheena) Mawani (diploma 06888) was suspended by the Inquiry Committee. This suspension was conducted pursuant to the extraordinary suspension provisions in the *Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act* (s. 51(1)). This information was previously reported in the November/December 2002 issue of the *Bulletin*.

On June 20 and June 24, 2002, while her registration was suspended, Ms. Mawani misrepresented herself as another pharmacist and worked at a pharmacy. While she was at the pharmacy, 25 x 1 mL ampoules of meperidine 100 mg/mL were stolen from the pharmacy safe.

On September 23, 2003 Ms. Mawani appeared in provincial court and pleaded guilty to the charge of theft of narcotics from a pharmacy, a value not in excess of \$5,000. She was placed on probation for two years with conditions.

On November 13, 2003 the College of Pharmacists of British Columbia conducted a discipline hearing to inquire into the conduct of Ms. Mawani.

The citation alleged two counts of practising pharmacy while her registration was suspended, two counts of misrepresenting herself as another pharmacist, and one count of theft of 25 x 1 mL ampoules of meperidine 100 mg/mL.

Ms. Mawani chose not to attend the proceedings.

In reviewing the matter, the panel noted that Ms. Mawani's theft of injectable narcotics demonstrated that she was a danger to the public and herself. She blatantly disregarded ethical and professional practice standards when she used another pharmacist's identification to enable her to practise while suspended. These actions also harm the standing of pharmacists as professionals.

The Discipline Panel found Ms. Mawani guilty of conduct unbecoming a registrant and professional misconduct and ordered the immediate cancellation of Ms. Mawani's registration as a pharmacist.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Wayne Rubner

Responsibility. As I begin my term as President, I feel a deep sense of responsibility to both the public and my fellow pharmacists. Two years ago, I joined Council with the desire to bridge the gap between where we are and where we need to be as a profession.

Have we arrived yet? I don't think so. I can say that the journey so far has been rewarding and rich with angst. With progress and change comes resistance and apprehension. Finding the right path often involves a few stumbles along the way. I am thankful for a dedicated and passionate group of Councillors who are always up to the challenge.

What's ahead on our journey? The Council sees a need for a higher profile for the profession. Pharmacists do so much, so often, for so many people and are so seldom recognized for their contribution.

The mission of the College is to ensure British Columbia pharmacists provide safe and effective pharmacy care to help people achieve better health. We know we are doing it. We have a responsibility. Let's tell others.