



Discipline Hearing Conducted

On 5 October 2000 a panel of the Discipline Committee inquired into the conduct of Mr. Diamonaldi Tejani, Diploma # 03342, pursuant to Section 58 of the *Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act*.

On October 1999 Mr. Tejani was convicted in Provincial Court of an offence contrary to paragraph 239(1)(d) of the *Income Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.), namely, willful evasion or attempt to evade compliance with the *Income Tax Act* by understating income in his T1 Individual Income Tax Returns for the taxation years 1992 to 1994 inclusive and by understating income in the T2 Corporation Income Tax Returns of Diamond Drugs Ltd. for the taxation years 1993 and 1994.

The Panel was presented with a Statement of Facts agreed to by both the College and the member, including recommendations for penalty. The Agreed Statement of Facts confirmed the fact of the conviction in Provincial Court and Mr. Tejani's guilty plea to the charge of misconduct as a pharmacist. Mr. Tejani submitted letters of reference from colleagues and members of his community attesting to his good character.

The Panel stated that tax evasion cannot be tolerated in the profession of pharmacy, as trust is the foundation of the profession. The Panel wishes to demonstrate to the public the seriousness with which they view this crime and deter other members from similar conduct that may compromise the integrity of the profession.

In considering the penalty, the Committee took into account the member's guilty plea at both criminal court and before the College and the fact that the Registrant has already been subject to considerable penalty through the criminal process. They also considered the reference letters that described the registrant's good character, and the fact that he had no prior disciplinary record.

The penalty assessed was:

1. The Registrant shall be suspended for three (3) weeks.
2. The Registrant shall pay to the College the costs of these proceedings in the amount of \$5,000.



Assessors Needed For New PEBC Exam

Beginning in the spring of 2001, the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) is implementing a new practice-based examination component to complement the written examination for certification. The new exam is based on the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). The competencies to be assessed by the written and practice-based exams are those adopted (or adapted) by all member provinces of the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities. For the first time, these provinces will have a common basis for licensure of pharmacists.

PEBC invites pharmacists who are involved in providing or directly supervising patient care services (including dispensing, clinical and drug information services) to participate as assessors in the new examination. Practising pharmacists' involvement as assessors is both personally and professionally rewarding. We hope that many of you will respond to this invitation.

For more information and to receive a PEBC Assessor Interest Survey form and Guidelines for Assessor Selection, please contact Sharon Kerr at the College office, or visit the PEBC web site at <http://www.pebc.ca>.

Providing Pharmacy Care For American Patients

Pharmacists are not permitted to dispense prescriptions authorized by physicians who are not registered or licensed in a Canadian province. American patients coming to Canada to obtain prescription drugs need to obtain a prescription from a Canadian prescriber.

Some Canadian prescribers are inviting American patients to attend their special or regular clinics to obtain prescriptions for Canadian products. The prescribers are requiring that the patients provide them with letters from their American physicians, outlining their medical condition and confirming the medications prescribed by the United States-based physician.

If a BC pharmacist discovers a drug-related problem, which requires attention and which cannot be resolved by discussion with the patient, the pharmacist needs to contact the BC prescriber to resolve the problem. It is not appropriate to attempt to resolve a drug-related problem with the patient's US-based physician when the prescription has been authorized by a BC prescriber.

Pharmacists are also expected to meet the provincial standards of practice and legislative requirements when providing Schedule I, II or III drugs to American patients.