



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

The Board of the College of Pharmacists of BC met for their regularly scheduled Board meeting at the College office in Vancouver, BC on November 20, 2009. The following highlights, which were approved by the Board, summarize the key initiatives discussed.

Oath of Office and Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair:

As this was the first regularly scheduled Board meeting following the October 23rd elections, all 7 newly elected Board members began the meeting by taking their required Oath of Office. The Oath affirms Board members commitment to . . . *“uphold the objects of the College and ensure that they are guided by the public interest in the performance of their duties . . .”*

Following the Oath, the Board elected Randy Konrad (District 1) as Chair and John Hope (District 6) as Vice-Chair who will assume these positions until the beginning of the November 2010 Board Meeting.

Pharmacy Technician Regulation:

Continuing with the Board's direction to pursue the regulation of pharmacy technicians following the national model, the Board approved the following:

- The addition of a pharmacy technician, approved by the Pharmacy Technician Task Group, to the College Board as an observer with full participation, but no voting authority, beginning with the next scheduled Board meeting in January 2010.
- The purchase of the Bridging Program, which is currently being utilized by the Ontario and Alberta College of Pharmacists and is a requirement for all current technicians wishing to pursue regulation. The Bridging Program will now need to be modified to reflect provincial legislation and is expected to be available in the Spring of 2010.

For more information regarding the regulation of pharmacy technicians, please refer to the Key Initiatives section on the College website at: www.bcpharmacists.org

Health Professions Act (HPA) Bylaw Revisions Approved for Public Comment:

As the first step in the process to revise HPA bylaws, the Board approved, for public comment, revisions that include bylaws pertaining to *'Pharmacy Technician Regulation'* and a revised definition of *'Duty to Report'*. Within the coming weeks, the College, as required by government, will post these revised HPA bylaws on the College website (an e-blast will be sent to registrants once this has been done). The typical posting period is 90 days and during that period anyone may submit their comments, for consideration, to both the College and the Ministry of Health Services.

Board Highlights



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.*

Health Professions Act (HPA) Bylaw Revisions continued . . .

Any additional revisions required, based on the comments received, will be determined by consultation with the College and the Ministry and the final bylaws will then be presented once again to the Board for their final approval.

Online Registration Renewals for Pharmacists Mandatory Beginning April 2010:

With approximately 60% of pharmacists currently utilizing eServices to renew their annual registration online, the Board has approved the move to make this mandatory for all registrant renewals as of April 2010. The online process is automated, updated in real time and available 24/7, resulting in reduced resource requirements and increased efficiency for the College and convenience for registrants.

Public Awareness Campaign:

The Board approved the recommendation to pursue a partnership, through to the end of the 2010 – 2011 fiscal year, with the Alberta College of Pharmacists (ACP) to leverage budgeted advertising dollars in a media campaign throughout BC designed to increase public awareness and understanding of the role and value of pharmacists. The ACP is currently in the 2nd year of their campaign which has similar objectives and messaging and has been achieving positive measurable results.

Professional Practice Policy 63 (PPP-63) – Hospital Pharmacist Role with Respect to Drug Distribution Systems, Drug Administration Devices, Products and Services:

The Board approved PPP-63 which was proposed by the College's Hospital Pharmacy Advisory Committee and is intended to provide direction for hospital pharmacy managers to minimize practice errors, omissions and unsafe practices in hospital pharmacy as it relates to drug delivery systems, drug administration devices, products and services.

PPP-63 - Policy Statement(s):

A hospital pharmacy manager must have in place:

1. *Organization-specific policies and procedures to ensure patient safety and effectiveness of drug delivery systems, drug administration devices, products and services.*
2. *Organization-specific policies, procedures, training and certification as appropriate, to ensure safety and effectiveness of persons assuming responsibilities for the provision of drug delivery systems, drug administration devices, products and services.*
3. *A system to monitor and evaluate the safety and effectiveness of drug delivery systems, drug administration devices, products, personnel and services. Quality assurance checks should be conducted and documented.*
4. *A system to investigate unsafe practices in accordance with professional requirements. Practices resulting in actual or potential risks are to be stopped immediately.*