



College of Pharmacists
of British Columbia

Board Highlights – February 19 & 20, 2015

Robbery Prevention for Community Pharmacies

The College Board recently approved a new professional practice policy at the February Board meeting that outlines minimum pharmacy security requirements for community pharmacies. As this policy applies to the entire province, the College will be hosting a Town Hall to inform registrants about the policy and its implementation.

Town Hall on Robbery Prevention

Monday, April 13, 2015

Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue – Simon Fraser University

580 West Hastings Street

Vancouver, BC

5:30 p.m. – Sign-in and Dinner

7 to 9 p.m. – Town Hall

You can register for the event through [eServices](#). It will also be broadcast online for those who cannot attend in person. More details to follow.

This will be a closed, internal event for members of the profession.

Strategic Plan moves into Year 2

The Board took the opportunity to review its strategic plan, *Quality of Pharmacy Services to Optimize Patient Outcomes*, at the one-year mark, to receive an update on the progress that has been made and make a number of small amendments to the plan. The revised document is available on the [College website](#).

Privacy Law and the College

The Board was given a presentation from former BC Information and Privacy Commissioner David Loukidelis on BC's privacy and freedom of information law. The presentation focused on evolving regulatory expectations for privacy management by bodies such as the College, disclosure of disciplinary information, and how privacy law interacts with the College's regulatory activities.

Practice Review Program Launch: Update for the Board

Practice Review Committee Chair and Board Member Bob Craigue reported to the Board that the Practice Review Program had officially launched in community practice. He then asked Compliance Officer Jane Xia to provide the Board with some early observations as the



compliance officers began the very first of the practice reviews, as well as provide an overview of the comprehensive training they were provided. More information on the Practice Review Program is on the [College website](#).

Updates on Ongoing Projects

The College received updates from PainBC on harnessing the power of BC pharmacists to reduce the burden of pain, and from the UBC Sequencing Centre on pharmacogenomics in community practice. Both organizations had received a grant from a College-administered fund in previous years and were returning to share any achievements or progress made since then. The Board also received reports from the Extemporaneous Compounding Task Group and the Ministry of Health on ePrescribing.

Posted for Feedback

Proposed Changes to Community Pharmacy Standards of Practice

Standards of practice define minimum requirements that must be met in order to deliver safe and effective care. The 2014-2017 Strategic Plan sets a goal of reviewing standards to ensure that they are current and being met.

Standards relating to the review of a patient's profile and to pharmacist/patient consultation have now been reviewed by the Board, and approved for public posting and feedback is now being welcomed. You can find the draft bylaws on the [College website](#).

PODSA Bylaw Proposal to Create Pharmacy Workload Standards

In 2013, the University of British Columbia's Collaboration for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (CORE) group conducted a province-wide survey on pharmacist working conditions, on behalf of the College. The survey looked at the impact of targets for adaptations, immunizations and medication reviews, in relation to adequate pharmacist and pharmacy technician staffing. While respondents reported feeling pressured from pharmacy managers, owners, and directors to meet targets and numbers of prescriptions, and not having enough time or resources to do this, the College also conducted corporate stakeholder consultation throughout 2014 and learned that, from their perspective, targets were implemented to motivate pharmacist behaviour to provide expanded scope services.

It is important for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, as health care professionals, to be able to practice in an environment that ensures compliance with standards of practice and ethical obligations and does not compromise patient safety.

The College is proposing that PODSA Bylaw Section 3 Responsibilities of Pharmacy Managers, Owners and Directors include a standard regarding pharmacy workload that



requires pharmacy managers, owners and directors to ensure that staffing levels and targets do not compromise patient safety. This bylaw is consistent with what is occurring in other jurisdictions internationally. Review the draft bylaw and find more information on how to provide feedback on the [College website](#).

Revised Professional Practice Policies Now In Effect

PPP-54 Identifying Patients for PharmaNet Purposes

This policy has been changed to ensure alignment with acceptable primary and secondary identification with what is generally accepted by other agencies across the province. [View here](#).

PPP-65 Narcotic Counts and Reconciliations

Changed to provide stronger direction and more clarity on narcotic counts and reconciliations to pharmacy managers. As a result, all pharmacies should have tighter controls in place to prevent and detect diversion of narcotics. [View here](#).

Board Appointments

The Board met on March 16, 2015 to appoint new representatives for Districts 1 and 3. The Board has appointed Oswald Chu as the Board member for District 1 and John Shaske for District 3. They will serve out the remainder of the term, and may seek re-election during the Board district elections in the fall. These Board positions were left vacant with the resignations of Agnes Fridl Poljak and Blair Tymchuk in February.