



College of Pharmacists
of British Columbia

College Board Elections Biography Guidelines for Prospective Candidates

As part of the College's upcoming Board Elections, nominees are required to submit a brief biography describing their background in pharmacy, as well as any relevant education, experience in public boards or governance, or other skills and attributes that would enable them to contribute to an effective regulatory board. Candidates are also invited to provide an Indigenous land acknowledgement

Accountable to the Public

It is important that candidates understand the College's mandate of public protection.

Board members, whether pharmacists, pharmacy technicians or public appointees, bring diverse points of view to the table and work as a team to make sound policy and governance decisions in the public interest.

The College **does not** exist for the enhancement or advocacy of the pharmacy profession.

While Board members do play a role in bringing regional perspectives to the Board table, and in communicating decisions to their respective regions, Board Members are not accountable to the registrants in their district. The College Board is responsible for protecting the public and upholding the legislation and guidelines governing the College.

[Learn more about the important public protection responsibility College Board members hold.](#)

Your Biography

Your biography should generally reflect how your background and experience would make you the best representative from your district to join the College Board and help make decisions in the public interest.

Biographies should be no longer than 500 words.

Public-Safety Focused Messaging

Nominee bios should focus on promoting the health and wellness of the public through the regulation of pharmacy practice, and not on advocating for pharmacy professionals.



Examples of Acceptable Public-Safety Focused Messaging

- ✓ *“The high level of trust that patients instill in their pharmacist has significantly resonated with me and I value that this trust is not to be abused.”*
- ✓ *“I believe I will provide a thoughtful and considered voice to the Board, ensuring public safety is protected by allowing pharmacists to make the right decisions for patients.”*
- ✓ *“Accountability is a very important issue for us to consider in providing quality pharmaceutical care. For example, it will be beneficial for all to have pharmacists included in the discussion of medication error reporting.”*

Examples of Non-Acceptable Advocacy-Focused Messaging

- ✗ *“[Candidate] is an advocate for enhancing the role of the Pharmacy Technician and for bringing more educational and professional development opportunities to the North in order to promote the Pharmacy Technician practice.”*
- ✗ *“I would also advocate for access to lab work for community pharmacists, in order to enhance their clinical decision making. I believe this will provide more job satisfaction for pharmacists”*
- ✗ *“I can bring a helpful breadth of professional experience and can bring the voice of registrants to the College Board.”*

All candidate bios are reviewed by the College prior to publication. Those containing any statements related to advocacy for the profession of pharmacy will need to be revised.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The College believes that cultural safety and humility are vital for the provision of fair and equal health services, as well as the creation of a healthcare environment free of racism and discrimination, where individuals feel safe and respected.

[The College has apologized to the Indigenous people and communities who have experienced racism while engaging with us and with the health professionals we regulate and made a pledge to be anti-racist.](#)

To demonstrate leadership and public acknowledgement of the candidate’s commitment to addressing Indigenous-specific racism in BC’s health system we strongly encourage all candidates to recognize the Indigenous lands that they live and practice pharmacy on through a land acknowledgement.

For more information on the College’s commitment to cultural safety and humility and pledge to be anti-racist and visit bcpharmacists.org/humility and bcpharmacists.org/apology.



For resources on how to provide a land acknowledgement:

- [Doing Land Acknowledgements](#) – A guide and collection of many resources around land acknowledgments developed by UBC.
- [Respect, Sincerity & Responsibility: Land Acknowledgements @ UBC](#) – A free course intended to guide you in the process of creating your own land acknowledgement.
- [Territory Acknowledgements](#) – A guide to meaningful territory acknowledgements.
- [Whose Land](#) – An interactive map of Indigenous territories.
- [Native Land](#) – An interactive map that includes Indigenous territories and languages with many on the history of colonialism and Indigenous ways of knowing.
- [University of Victoria Welcome and Territory Acknowledgement](#) – A University of Victoria video featuring a welcome to the territory and an acknowledgement.

Note: The Indigenous Land Acknowledgement is not included in the 500-word maximum for candidate biographies.