

SCOPE newsletter

December 2020



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
PROFESSIONALS

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President's Holiday Message

The holidays are generally a time to reflect on the past year and celebrate what is yet to come. We definitely have a lot to reflect on for 2020, with all that has happened and how far we have come as we continue in our efforts to fight COVID-19.

Pharmacy professionals in this province continue to go above and beyond in order to keep their patients safe and to help them navigate through these unprecedented times, and these efforts have not gone unnoticed. Even with ICUs at maximum capacity and an extremely demanding influenza immunization season, you continue to provide exceptional pharmacy care in extraordinary circumstances.

Now that we are halfway through our mandate, it's also a time for us as a Council to reflect on the past year.

We have had to drastically change the way we are operating to help do our part in reducing the spread of COVID-19 and keep our communities safe. We held our first ever virtual Annual General Meeting in September with huge success, and while our council meetings have moved virtually as well, we continue to have great discussions and build on our efforts to ensure we are "protecting the public interest by building excellence in professional pharmacy practice through regulation."



You may have also noticed that our elections will look a bit different in 2021 as we restructure the Council and move away from the traditional electoral districts to seven new electoral categories. For the 2021 transition year we will be calling for nominations for an Urban Pharmacist and a Rural Pharmacist for two-year terms, as well as a Hospital Pharmacy Technician and another Rural Pharmacist for three-year terms. I encourage everyone to review the call for nominations and the MicroSCOPE Special Elections Edition and consider putting your name forward if you fall under one of these categories and have an interest in joining Council.

I would like to extend a tremendous thank you to Jeana and all of the SCPP staff for the hard work and dedication they have put in throughout this year. While we have faced many challenges and unforeseen tasks, SCPP has still come very far in reaching our goals and objectives for the 2020 strategic implementation plan and that is something to be commended.

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SCPP COUNCIL 2020-2021

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PRESIDENT-ELECT

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The SCOPe newsletter is published by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) and is emailed to active members of the College. Decisions on matters such as regulations, drug schedule changes, etc., are published in SCOPe. All members are expected to be aware of these matters.

On behalf of the entire SCPP Council I want to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season.

May you all celebrate joy, laughter, great food, and good health with your close family circles this year and may you find comfort in one another as we get through these challenging times together.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and all the best in the New Year.

Stephanie Scott,
SCPP Council President



It's the most wonderful FaceTime of the year.

Hang in there, Saskatchewan. You've got this.

Love,

Your Frontline Healthcare Workers
WeAreSickOfThisToo.ca

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Council Highlights

November 2020

Council met for their regularly scheduled meeting the afternoon of Nov. 26 and again on Nov. 27, 2020, using the virtual Webex format.

The meeting began with an environmental scan of the issues which had been brought to the attention of Council members since the last scheduled meeting. This scan allows Council to identify major issues arising from the internal and external environment and determines what implications they may have to the strategic plan and goals of the College. Some issues are common across the province and some were unique to specific areas, and includes the below:

- COVID-19 contact tracing continues to be a challenge in hospitals, with a single unknown exposure resulting in multiple staff members requiring isolation.
- Increase in inpatient census across the province and all hospital staff tired and overwhelmed, but managing.
- Councillors are hearing concerns raised regarding the draft pharmacy manager policy framework to support the pharmacy manager bylaws. In addition, there were concerns about the CPDPP pharmacy manager training being required prior to starting as a pharmacy manager.
- Councillors report that the flu immunization program has been busy with less flu shots per day due to restrictions, but large increases in flu shots over a longer period.
- Pharmacists continue to experience the anxiety and stress that comes with operating their pharmacies during a pandemic.



- The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition is continuing with remote course delivery and assessments and is continuing to monitor the impact of the upsurge of the pandemic on experiential learning programs. Anecdotal reports show students are actively contributing in meaningful ways during their placements despite the challenges.
- Councillors expressed concerns about patients potentially stocking up to six months to a year's worth of medications and the risk of medication shortages.

The Registrar provided a report which included the following highlights:

- As of November 7, there were 252,033 influenza vaccinations provided by all providers in Saskatchewan. The program has been successful so far with a few concerns which are highlighted in this issue's [Spotlight on Prevention](#) feature.
- SCPP continues to meet with the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA), the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS), the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA), the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan (PAS), and the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) twice weekly to discuss urgent COVID matters.

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Yep, your breath really smells like that.

Hang in there, Saskatchewan. You've got this.

Love,

Your Frontline Healthcare Workers WeAreSickOfThisToo.ca

An example of an Instagram story graphic produced by the Saskatchewan Medical Association collaboration to reinforce public health orders – watch for more examples throughout this SCOPE.

Recent updates include:

- ▶ A joint statement to the Ministry of Health (MoH) was created to urge stricter measures to curb COVID-19.
- ▶ A joint social media campaign is in progress to reinforce the importance of following the public health orders.
- ▶ Updates on SCPP's work with the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) include:
 - Work to improve Letters of Standing between PRAs to disclose information while considering the legal implications.
 - Draft compounding competencies to support the NAPRA Compounding Standards were reviewed by the NAPRA Board in November with further work to be done in 2021.

- NAPRA will be conducting a review of licensing and registration processes across the provinces in 2021 and will examine language proficiency requirements.
- NAPRA continues to work on a Cross-Jurisdictional Framework to address issues which impact practice and regulation across provinces (e.g. Saskatchewan pharmacies that provide medications directly to patients outside of the province or pharmacies outside of Saskatchewan that provide medications directly to patients in Saskatchewan).

- An HIV self-test (home test) was recently approved by Health Canada.
- The [HIV 101 and HIV Treatment education](#) modules are available on the CPDPP website.
- Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) exams took place in Saskatoon Nov 8, 9 and 10. Due to COVID-19, MB and a few locations in ON had to cancel their PEBC exams. Results are expected back January 6, 2021.
- Amazon has started offering delivery of prescription medications in the United States.
- The CPDPP Harm Reduction primer and Advanced Harm Reduction training has been well received.
- Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Inspections are occurring in pharmacies. Areas inspected by OHS include but are not limited to COVID-19 procedures, sexual harassment policies, fire drills, WHMIS training and violence in the workplace.
- All but three pharmacies have provided compounding declarations.

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MISSION

Protecting the public interest by building excellence in professional pharmacy practice through regulation.

VISION

Quality pharmacy care for a healthier Saskatchewan.

VALUES

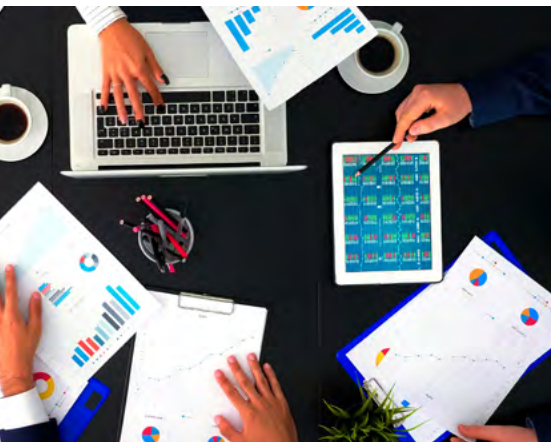
- Professionalism
- Collaboration
- Leadership
- A Culture of Excellence

GOALS

- To have functioning competency assurance and quality improvement programs.
- To align pharmacy regulation with modern pharmacy practice.
- To empower pharmacy professionals to practise autonomously to deliver safe patient care.
- To have enhanced transparency to stakeholders, supported by contemporary governance and management practices.

A short video and survey will be going out in January to gauge where pharmacies are with respect to the Council-approved [implementation plan](#). The results of the compounding survey will be provided at the next Council meeting.

- Membership statistics for 2020 include 417 pharmacies (up from 405 in 2019), 1,879 pharmacists (down from 1,942 in 2019 due to the inability to license new graduates in 2020) and 369 pharmacy technicians (down from 378 in 2019 due to bridging candidates from other provinces not renewing in Saskatchewan).



- The Registrar provided updates on the key objectives of the strategic plan. It was noted that there have been some manageable delays on the strategic plan due to shifting priorities during the pandemic. A very low number of projects will be moved to 2021 due to significant delays.
 - ▶ Despite quality improvement reviews (QIRs) being paused for four months, the Field Operations team accomplished their goal of completing QIRs for 25 per cent of pharmacies.
 - ▶ SCPP's internal staff performance management system is now in place and will go live in 2021.
 - ▶ Council reviewed and accepted the continued efficacy of the five-year strategic plan.

As part of Council's regular business, Council discussed and reviewed the following matters.

- The Council Structure Task Force reported on progress and amendments to the Council and elections process restructuring. Council approved the proposed Administrative Bylaws as amended, including adding a seventh electoral category to the previous six, in order to satisfy the bylaw requirement for not less than seven councillors, thus making the electoral categories one hospital pharmacist, two urban pharmacists, two rural or remote pharmacists, one hospital pharmacy technician, and one community pharmacy technician.

Eligibility rules around residency and place of practice were discussed and Council agreed that:

- ▶ All members in good standing are eligible to vote.
- ▶ Nominees must be practising members in Saskatchewan or reside in Saskatchewan if they are non-practising members.
- Council approved the proposed Regulatory Bylaw amendments to end the awards for member emeritus designations, honorary life memberships, honorary memberships and to correct administrative oversights. These amendments are part of SCPP's ongoing efforts to review practices that may be construed as being in contravention to its mandate as a professional regulatory authority responsible for the protection of the public, and to be proactive in regulatory reform occurring across Canada.
- Council discussed the draft Pharmacy Manager Supplemental Policy framework, which outlines the criteria and circumstances the College will use in implementing the pharmacy manager bylaws recently approved by the Ministry of Health. Council agreed to move forward with a member survey for additional feedback.
- A bylaw and policy change to require University of Saskatchewan Pharmacy Graduates to write the Jurisprudence Exam was approved by Council for submission to the Ministry. This will align Saskatchewan with other provinces, ensuring a standard practice between pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, and ensuring a proper defensible exam is provided for licensure, which supports regulatory excellence. Students will be provided with more information upon Ministry of Health approval.
- Proposed Regulatory Bylaw amendments were approved by Council to add an Extended Internship category and remove the Conditional Practising Member category for pharmacy technicians, which will match the amendments that were approved earlier in 2020 for pharmacists.
- Council approved proposed Regulatory Bylaw amendments and a proposed Private Care Areas Policy for consultation, which establish requirements for private care areas within pharmacies, ensuring a private and accessible space for patients. This complies with the safeguarding requirements for personal health information required within *The Health Information Protection Act* (HIPA). SCPP will prioritize and begin consultations throughout 2021.
- Progress of the PrescribeIT pilot that is currently underway in La Ronge was discussed. Due to concerns raised by various stakeholders, further pilots have been paused until the new year.



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- In 2020, medSask was asked by Council to review and update all of the minor ailments. To date, Council has reviewed and approved 19 of 27 minor ailments with the remainder to be brought to Council in February 2021. SCPP, medSask, the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) and PAS will coordinate communication efforts once the updated minor ailments have been finalized and are ready for publication.
- The Complaints Committee and Discipline Committee reports were reviewed. Complaints increased from 37 in November 2019 to 49 by November 2020 and potential complaints from 40 to 75. These numbers do not include phone calls fielded by the Complaints team. Council discussed the increasing trends and the potential need for additional resources.
- Council was presented with the COMPASS Report which included the following highlights:
 - ▶ 369 pharmacies have completed their first Medication Safety Self-Assessments (MSSAs), with 11 that have started, but not completed, their MSSAs and 34 pharmacies that have not completed an MSSA.



Community Pharmacy Professionals Advancing **Safety** in Saskatchewan

- ▶ 28 have started their second MSSA and 145 are due to complete their second MSSA. MSSAs are part of the [bylaw requirements](#) for pharmacy permits.
- ▶ 393 incidents were reported in October 2020, with a total of 29,600 incidents reported from September 2013 – October 2020 (up 797 since last report in September).
- ▶ The number of users that have submitted at least one incident is 394.
- ▶ Decrease in number of incidents reported per 100,000 prescriptions filled which is a positive trend.
- ▶ Average number of incidents reported has decreased from four to three per pharmacy.
- ▶ Percentage of pharmacies reporting is relatively stable at 35.4 per cent, a slight decrease from 37 per cent.
- ▶ Valuable data trends are emerging with respect to error reporting which the COMPASS Committee will be examining such as trends of increased errors during busy months (e.g. the seasonal influenza program and summer vacation).
- ▶ Harm incidents have been the highest in the last eight months as a percentage of total incidents reported. COMPASS program will continue to monitor whether this is a result of pharmacies having a higher likelihood of harm reporting than other types of incident reporting - meaning, choosing to report the major incidents versus all incidents. ■





Photos of Prescriptions are not Enough

There are mobile apps promoted by pharmacies that allow a patient to forward an image of their prescription to a pharmacy in advance of picking up their medication. SCPP would like to remind pharmacy professionals and the public that, for a prescription to be filled and dispensed, the original prescription must be obtained by the pharmacist.

Images sent using an app, text, or email are not equivalent to an original prescription.

Preparing a prescription before seeing the original increases the risk of error, the risk of releasing medications without a valid prescription, and the potential risk of creating inaccurate or duplicate records.

Pharmacy team members may use the image to check their inventory for stock availability and cost estimates, but individuals must present their original prescription for pharmacy team members to prepare prescriptions, conduct assessments, create patient records, dispense medications, and provide other pharmaceutical care.

The National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) [Model Standards for Canadian Pharmacists](#) refers to pharmacy professionals' responsibility to determine that prescriptions are current and authentic.

Bylaw and Policy Updates

Regulatory Bylaw Amendments

The following regulatory bylaw amendments have been approved by the Minister of Health.

Minor Ailments

Amendments have been made to correct two errors regarding minor ailments prescribing, to ensure that pharmacists are able to prescribe for minor ailments according to medSask Guidelines and remain in compliance with Part K of the SPP regulatory bylaws. [Section 10\(1\)\(b\) of Part K](#) outlines quantity limits of pharmacist prescribing and 10(1)(c) restricts consecutive pharmacist prescribing (i.e. a pharmacist may prescribe if the last prescriber for that minor ailment was a pharmacist).

For example, a practitioner prescribes an inhaler to a patient for seasonal allergies during the month of April. The patient is now suffering the same allergic symptoms during the winter and requests the same inhaler from a pharmacist. If deemed appropriate after the pharmacist's assessment, the patient may be prescribed the same inhaler.

MedSask Guidelines indicate follow-up should be performed two weeks later, and if the inhaler remains effective, the pharmacist may prescribe additional refills (e.g. two more, if appropriate) to last the allergic season.

Section 10(1)(b) and 10(1)(c) of Part K contradicted this guideline in this example because they prevented the pharmacist from prescribing a quantity greater than the previous prescription (i.e. one inhaler) and prevented back-to-back pharmacist prescribing (i.e. the refills) respectively.



The amendments clarify that [Part K section 10\(1\)\(b\) and 10\(1\)\(c\)](#) do not apply to Minor Ailments prescribing done according to medSask Guidelines. This is due to the fact that the medSask Minor Ailment Guidelines are evidence-based and outline requirements for patient assessment, review of symptoms (including any red-flag symptoms warranting referral), treatment options, quantity limits and follow-up timelines.

Due to these safety features built into the medSask Guidelines, the bylaws have been amended to align with the spirit and intent of the Minor Ailments prescribing framework.

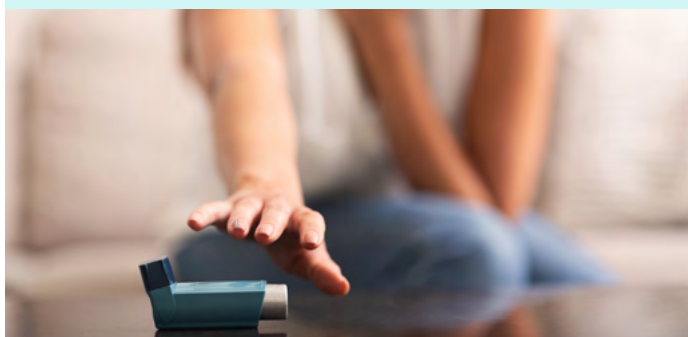
Note: these amendments pertain to prescribing only and do not address billing for compensation. For more information on billing details the DPEBB should be contacted. Please see [Prescriptive Authority for Pharmacists](#) and [Prescriptive Authority for Pharmacists – Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

Pharmacy Manager Bylaws and Policy Framework

SCPP began the work on the Professional Autonomy Framework prior to 2018 and in 2018 began consultations with stakeholders on [eight identified strategies](#). Between 2018 and 2020 several consultations occurred which created new draft bylaws for the eight strategies to support Professional Autonomy.

Due to the complexity of the bylaws it was decided to complete the eight strategies in smaller more manageable sections. Pharmacy managers have a large impact on ensuring quality pharmacy services in Saskatchewan therefore, the first priority for the Professional Autonomy Framework addresses pharmacy manager requirements to support managers in this important role.

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Consultation Paper

Proposed framework to enhance control of pharmacies by pharmacists and restore professional autonomy of pharmacists

INTRODUCTION

One of the most important relationships in pharmacy practice exists between pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and their employers or pharmacy owners. We have reason to believe that the balance within this relationship is shifting where pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are losing more and more control over their practice. We are concerned that such trends compromise public safety. The purpose of this framework is to describe the strategies within our mandate that we propose to implement to re-balance this relationship so that:

- 1) The *Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act's* (the Act) public policy purpose of control of pharmacy practice by pharmacists is fulfilled;
- 2) The professional autonomy of the pharmacist in the practice of pharmacy is restored; and,
- 3) Pharmacy practice and its capacity to safely meet patient needs remain viable.

To summarize, the framework contains the following strategies:

- 1) Re-submit new regulatory bylaws to authorize the Registrar to obtain evidence from pharmacy permit applicants demonstrating pharmacist control over pharmacy practice in the pharmacy.
- 2) Add to the recently approved eligibility requirements for pharmacy managers (Appendix A), a process to evaluate management competencies supplemented with mentorship.
- 3) As a permit requirement, proprietors will subscribe to a code of conduct in support of the professional practice of the pharmacists and pharmacy technicians within the pharmacy;
- 4) Optimize the deployment of human resources in community pharmacy practice, especially the role of pharmacy technicians;
- 5) Move the prohibition on inappropriate unlicensed influence over the pharmacy to bylaws expanded to include influence over pharmacy practice.
- 6) Whistleblower protection for the reporters of inappropriate proprietor or other affiliated entity influence.

On November 13, 2020, the [pharmacy manager bylaws](#) were approved by the Ministry of Health. The bylaws increase the eligibility and education requirements for pharmacy managers, addresses interim pharmacy managers to prevent outgoing pharmacy managers from being on the pharmacy permit after they have left the pharmacy, and speaks to pharmacy managers actively participating in the day to day operation of a pharmacy.

While the bylaws have been approved, SCPP Council continues to work on the pharmacy manager framework that will support the bylaws. Several rounds of consultations have occurred regarding the draft [pharmacy manager framework](#).

In the interest of [right touch regulation](#), Council is seeking to better understand the current day-to-day management practices in Saskatchewan pharmacies, how they support professional practice, and how many pharmacies a pharmacy manager is able to manage while still ensuring their pharmacy manager responsibilities are being met.

A survey has been sent to members to help inform the policy. Members are asked to take the time to respond as the responses will assist Council as they finalize the policy framework. Your voice is important!

The aim of these amendments is to protect the health and safety of the public by ensuring that pharmacy managers are supporting safe pharmacy practices and meeting regulatory requirements, while also ensuring that pharmacy managers are available and present for patients and employees within their pharmacy.

As work on this important initiative continues throughout 2021, SCPP will continue to provide updates and communication to members.

Other Canadian (Not Subject to the Labour Mobility Agreement) and International Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Application Requirements and Migration from One Membership Category to Another

These amendments revise requirements for other Canadian (not subject to the Labour Mobility Agreement) and international pharmacist and pharmacy technician program graduates who are applying for membership with the SCPP.

Photo identification requirements are revised to require an original valid passport or Canadian government issued photo identification (or certified true copies of the same) to ensure that applicants provide SCPP with sufficient and current proof of identity. This replaces the requirement to have photo IDs verified by the Registrar or Secretary of the pharmacy regulatory authority, as this previous requirement is often not possible for out-of-country applicants to obtain.

Appraisal training length for these graduates has been revised from "not less than one month, nor exceeding two years" to "not less than 800 hours (Pharmacists), 600 hours (Pharmacy Technicians), nor exceeding 4000 hours." This ensures that these graduates obtain the appropriate number of appraisal training hours to optimally prepare them for membership and practice within Saskatchewan.

Conversion from non-practicing to practicing membership requirements have also been revised. Individuals who are migrating from non-practicing to practicing membership will now be required to provide evidence of completion of appraisal training and/or an assessment, depending on length of time out of practice.

These amendments will help to protect the health and safety of the public by ensuring that pharmacist and pharmacy technician applicants have the appropriate and current skills to practise as members in Saskatchewan.

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Your Views Needed

To ensure patients receive safe care, SCPP has been entrusted to set standards and requirements for all pharmacies and pharmacy professionals in Saskatchewan.

The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act holds

Pharmacy managers responsible for:

operating a pharmacy according to SCPP standards

- overseeing pharmacy staff (regulated and non-regulated)

The most common risks identified were the complexity of pharmacy operations coupled with unclear understanding of requirements, and absentee pharmacy managers

Federal and provincial government inspections, complaints investigations, and Quality Improvement Reviews, have revealed deficiencies that are a risk to public safety

To address these risks, new bylaws outlining pharmacy manager requirements include:

- No conditions or restrictions on their licence
- Work experience as a practising pharmacist in Canada for a minimum of 2000 hours within 36 months (equivalent to one year full-time experience)
- Successfully complete the educational programs as required
- Actively participate in the day-to-day practice and management of the pharmacy
- Ensuring proper oversight when pharmacy managers are absent

Now we need your help to inform the policies around these new bylaws.

Check your inbox for an email from SCPP with a link to the 5-10 minute survey!

▶ **Survey closes January 4 at 10 am** ◀



Administrative Bylaw Amendments

Council and Elections Restructuring

Council approved amendments for its restructuring and the election process.

The Council Governance Restructure Task Force was formed to conduct a governance review and propose recommendations to optimize the current structure of Council and the election process. This included reducing the size of Council, ensuring a competency-based appointment process and creating an online voting platform.

The proposed recommendations align with the Recommendations to Modernize the Provincial Health Profession Regulatory Framework: Steering Committee on Modernization of Health Professional Regulation, August 2020 report from British Columbia, which states: "Smaller sized Councils with members appointed through a competency-based process help to ensure that Councils are composed of the optimal combination of skills and experience to effectively govern and provide strategic decision-making and oversight, and that the Council selection process is not politicized."

Detailed information can be found in the [MicroSCOPE Special Elections Edition](#) and the [new Council web pages](#). ■

**Who would've thought
you'd even miss the
Blue Bombers?**

Hang in there, Saskatchewan. You've got this. Read our open letter here: wearesickofthistoo.ca

COVID-19 Updates

SCPP continues to add to and develop the [COVID-19 information web page](#), so members are encouraged to check back often for updates.

The SCPP resources section of the page is now divided into relevant sections so that pharmacy professionals can easily find information they may need: Daily Practice; Emergency Preparedness; Infection Control; Prescriptive Authority; and Dispensing.

With increased cases and community spread, it is even more critical for pharmacies to ensure they have Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) policies in place to manage COVID-19. SCPP wishes to remind members that they must have an [emergency preparedness plan](#) for a COVID exposure within the pharmacy.

WorkSafe Saskatchewan has developed an [OHS checklist](#) that may prove useful to pharmacy managers.

Reference Manual Updates

[Emergency Preparedness – Modifications to Pharmacy Operations and Hours \(Revised\)](#)

The revisions include minor changes in response to inquiries from members including:

- Adding examples in text box (p1) that include situations where the pharmacy may lock the doors and restrict the hours open to the public in order to provide “direct care to vulnerable patients (e.g. flu shots to elderly)” in addition to the indirect care previously noted;
- Clarifies that if these changes are expected to be in place for six weeks or less, then it does not require entry into the SCPP pharmacy database, but if the altered operation/hour is in place for over six weeks, then it must be reported to the SCPP pharmacy database; and
- Identifies that when operating outside of regular pharmacy hours – where possible, two or more pharmacy staff (one must be a licensed pharmacist) or otherwise a pharmacist and store employee, are present in the pharmacy when providing direct patient care to ensure safety of the public and the member. (e.g. anaphylactic reactions to vaccines and avoiding unsafe situations such as robbery or assault).

[Social Media Policy \(Revised\)](#)

- Updated to reflect modern and responsible social media use.



UNPREPARED

[Emergency Preparedness Resource Kit for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians \(Revised\)](#)

- Content updated links to help members navigate emergencies.

[Pharmacist Assessment Record \(PAR\) – General \(Revised\)](#)

- The General PAR on SCPPs website has been updated to assist members in ensuring all requirements of prescriptive authority (e.g. rationale, monitoring, follow up, etc.) are performed, documented and retained for record-keeping purposes.
- Page one contains required information for the primary care provider, recognizing the need for concise information flow between pharmacist and primary care provider.
- Page two is for audit and record-keeping purposes at the pharmacy. In addition, it leads members to other related resources. The format is now electronically fillable. Pharmacists may wish to discuss these new requirements with their pharmacy software vendors to ensure compliance.

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Pharmacy Manager Responsibilities (Revised) and Reference Manual Documents – Suggested List for Pharmacy Managers (New)

- Provides a high-level summary of pharmacy manager responsibilities into one document for ease of use by the pharmacy manager (no new content). Also informs those who are considering becoming a pharmacy manager or those recruiting a pharmacy manager.
- The Suggested List of Reference Manual Documents has been created to support managers in accessing key documents that pertain to pharmacy requirements.

Vaccine Storage, Handling and Transport Guidelines (Revised)

- Outlines key policies and procedures that community pharmacies must have in place to ensure the cold chain is maintained and vaccine efficacy is preserved.
- Guides members to credible resources to find specific details of vaccine storage, handling and transport best practices identified by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Saskatchewan Immunization Manual.
- Distinguishes between the Ministry's requirements for seasonal flu program and SCPP requirements.
- Clarifies roles and responsibilities of pharmacy team members, including the tasks that can be delegated to non-pharmacy professionals.



- New resources provided in the appendices, including samples of temperature log, vaccine storage troubleshooting record, checklists for routine and urgent vaccine storage and handling protocols, and a packing configuration for transporting vaccines to off-site clinics.

Refrigerator Compatibility (Revised)

- Title change to: Refrigerator and Temperature Monitoring Equipment Requirements to reflect the requirements for temperature monitoring (e.g. thermometers) to ensure that the fridge temperature has remained within the recommended range.
- Guides members to credible resources for more information on fridge or thermometer equipment (e.g. PHAC National Guidelines). ■



Connect with us to get the latest news and updates from the College, helpful practice tips, key resources, important reminders, and more!





Harm Reduction Training Available


Members (pharmacists and pharmacy technicians) are now able to [register](#) for and complete the [Harm Reduction Training programs](#) through the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) program. See the [MicroSCOPE Special Harm Reduction Edition](#) for more information.

Harm Reduction Education - to be Completed by May 31, 2021

The mandatory harm reduction primer training provides a brief overview of trauma-informed care, stigma in care, culturally safe practices and the recently updated Saskatchewan Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Standards.


The advanced harm reduction training contains all of the mandatory primer content plus detailed management of Opioid Use Disorder and the therapeutics of Opioid Agonist Therapy. **Note:** if the advanced harm reduction program is completed, the mandatory harm reduction primer is not required. PAS will reimburse its members for the fee of the Advanced Harm Reduction Program, please see the [PAS website](#) for details.

See the graphic on the next page for more details on the mandatory primer versus the recommended advanced training.

 The mandatory training is to be completed prior to May 31, 2021.

Exempted Codeine Products - Education

This is mandatory for all pharmacists and pharmacist interns who choose to sell exempted codeine products as a Schedule II drug. Participants will learn to apply tools to provide exempted codeine products to patients, evaluate risk and benefits, and complete the required documentation, among other learning objectives.

 Mandatory Exempted Codeine Products training is to be completed prior to March 31, 2021, if you are involved in selling exempted codeine products as a Schedule II drug.

There are also recommended HIV 101 and HIV Treatment courses available under the harm reduction umbrella.

For more information, visit SCPP's [Training and Development](#) page.

Harm Reduction Primer and Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Standards

Comparison

Advanced Harm Reduction and Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Standards

Online, self-directed course only

FORMAT



Online, self-directed course
Live workshops (virtual during Covid-19)

MEETS SCPP REQUIREMENTS?

Yes



Yes

ONLINE MODULES



- Harm Reduction Introduction •
- Trauma/Stigma/Cultural Sensitivity •
- Introduction to OAT Video •
- Saskatchewan OAT Standards •
- OAT Prescription Regulations •

- Overview of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
- Intervention and Support
- Management of OUD
- Buprenorphine/Naloxone
- Methadone
- Buprenorphine/Naloxone vs Methadone
- Slow Release Oral Morphine
- Trauma/Stigma/Cultural Sensitivity
- Saskatchewan OAT Standards
- OAT Prescription Regulations

LIVE WORKSHOP



No workshop

Presented by an interdisciplinary panel of Saskatchewan experts and persons with lived experience.

- Trauma Informed Practice/Social Determinants of Health/Indigenous Considerations
- Addiction, Treatment and Recovery
- Legal Requirements Specific to Saskatchewan
- Transitions in Care
- Pharmacist – Prescriber Communication
- NAPRA Opioid Communication Tool
- Naloxone Kits
- Crystal Meth Awareness and Resources
- Patient/Family Stories

2.5 hours online, self-directed course

TIME



6-hour online, self-directed course
6-hour workshop

COST



\$35.00

\$75.00 (PAS pharmacist members free)

Notes from the Field

Fridge and Room Temperature Checks

During this flu season, SCPP has been made aware of several incidents where flu vaccines were rendered unusable due to excessive variations in fridge temperatures which were outside the required 2-8 C range.

Pharmacy professionals have an ethical duty to protect patient safety by ensuring vaccine effectiveness is preserved and to be responsible stewards of provincial health resources which includes receiving, storing, and dispensing according to the manufacturer's specifications.

SCPP would like to remind pharmacy staff that it is a requirement to utilize a thermometer which records minimum and maximum temperature ranges and to read and record the current, minimum and maximum refrigerator temperatures twice daily to ensure the temperature in the storage unit has remained within the recommended range. Note: The min/max thermometer must be reset after properly recording temperatures for useful readings. The room temperature must also be recorded twice daily as this information is needed in the event of a cold chain break.

To ensure compliance with SCPP Regulatory Bylaws Part J Section 11(3) (refrigerator in good working order), see

[Refrigerator and Temperature Monitoring Equipment Requirements](#). A best practice recommendation from the Public Health Agency of Canada's National Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines is that investing in a reliable thermometer is less expensive than replacing drugs which have been exposed to a cold chain break. In addition, cold chain breaks are recognized as a public safety risk as exposure to temperatures outside of the allowed range may result in decreased vaccine potency and increased risk of vaccine-preventable diseases.

It is important for pharmacy staff to ensure that the thermometer being used is functional and is not in need of replacement.

SCPP requires that all pharmacies adhere to [Vaccine Storage, Handling and Transport Guidelines](#) to ensure that the cold chain is maintained for all products (e.g. biologics, drugs, vaccines). The guidelines were recently updated by SCPP.

The following [checklist](#), created by Saskatchewan Health, will assist pharmacists in ensuring they meet proper vaccine management protocols. Please note that only in certain circumstances, such as registration for high-dose vaccines, is the checklist required by the Drug Plan.

Continued on next page ►



Non-Pharmacy Businesses Selling Scheduled Products

Although it is uncommon, SCPP has been made aware of a few non-pharmacy businesses selling pharmacy-only (scheduled) products.

After discussion with these businesses, it was determined that the products were either obtained in error from their wholesaler or purchased from a community pharmacy with the intent to resell.

In the cases that were reported to SCPP, the most common products being sold were Gravol, Benadryl and NyQuil.

SCPP is asking members that if they see scheduled products being sold in a non-pharmacy business, to notify the [Field Operations staff](#) at the College so that they can follow up and notify the business that scheduled products may only be sold in a permitted pharmacy.

It is also helpful to provide SCPP with a list of the specific products. It is important for the protection of the public that scheduled products only be available to the public under the supervision of a pharmacist and where a pharmacist can provide assessment of appropriateness and advice.

For a list of the drug schedules, please refer to the [NAPRA National Drug Schedules](#).



Pharmacist Presence in the Dispensary - Follow-Up

In follow up to Notes from the Field “Pharmacist Presence in the Dispensary” SCOPe, October 2020, the College would like to further clarify that no non-pharmacist personnel may be on the premise when a pharmacist is not present unless the dispensary is capable of being physically enclosed against entrance as outlined in both provincial and federal legislation.

SCPP requirements as outlined in Part J, of the Regulatory Bylaws states the following:

Pharmacist Supervision

4 The pharmacy shall be under the personal attendance and supervision of a licensed pharmacist, or a licensed pharmacy technician in accordance with section 5 of Part J, unless it is capable of complete closure to the public and to non-professional staff at such times as there is no licensed pharmacist on duty, in accordance with section 9 of Part J.

This means that any pharmacy that does not operate with a lock and leave permit, cannot have front store personnel, cleaning personnel, contract personnel, etc. within the premises outside of permitted hours without a pharmacist on the premises.

When a pharmacist is not present on the premises and/or a physical barrier is not in place and locked to prevent unauthorized access to the dispensary, any person or employee on the premises would be considered to be unlawfully in possession of any controlled substances on the premises. As per the [Office of Controlled Substances](#), pharmacy barrier alarms are not sufficient and only a physical barrier will meet compliance.

Job Shadowing and Unauthorized Personnel in a Dispensary

Pharmacists have undergone extensive training in privacy and confidentiality as per the *The Health Information Protection Act* (HIPA). In addition, as per SCPP’s Regulatory Bylaws Part H – Code of Ethics, a pharmacy professional shall protect the patient’s right to confidentiality.

The risk to patient information is what makes job shadowing and high school students in the dispensary problematic. It would not be possible for someone to spend time in a pharmacy dispensary or the professional services area and not become aware of personal health information.

While job shadowing may be of benefit to the young person trying to make a career choice, the pharmacy professionals’ main obligation is to the patient and they have a duty to protect the integrity, accuracy and confidentiality of the patient’s information. Therefore, job-shadowing is not permitted.

In addition, in order to be in compliance with [The Saskatchewan Employment Act](#), anyone working in the pharmacy must be a paid employee (i.e. not a volunteer) and must have proper workers’ compensation coverage.

Please see more information in a [previous edition of SCOPe](#) where this was addressed in more detail. ■

Quality Improvement Reviews - QIRs

As of January 2020, SCPP Field Officers have been performing Quality Improvement Reviews (QIRs) with Pharmacy Managers and Quality Improvement Coordinators. QIRs resumed in September 2020 after being put on hold due to COVID-19. Despite the delays, targets for completing QIRs will be achieved in 2020.

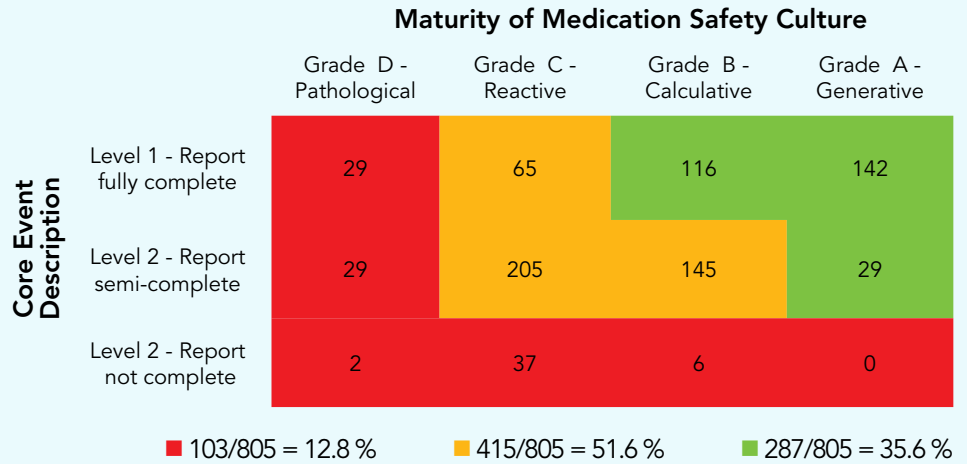
The QIR process is expected to occur in each pharmacy about every 18 months to two years. Approximately, 96 QIRs are expected to be completed by the end of 2020, with the remainder of pharmacies having a QIR by the end of 2021.

The focus of the QIR is mainly on ensuring safety by coaching and assisting pharmacies in their quality improvement efforts. Field Officers also review bylaws and practice standards during the QIR process. Currently, QIRs are being conducted virtually via an internet application called ConnectWise along with a phone consultation. In the future, some QIRs may also be conducted in person.

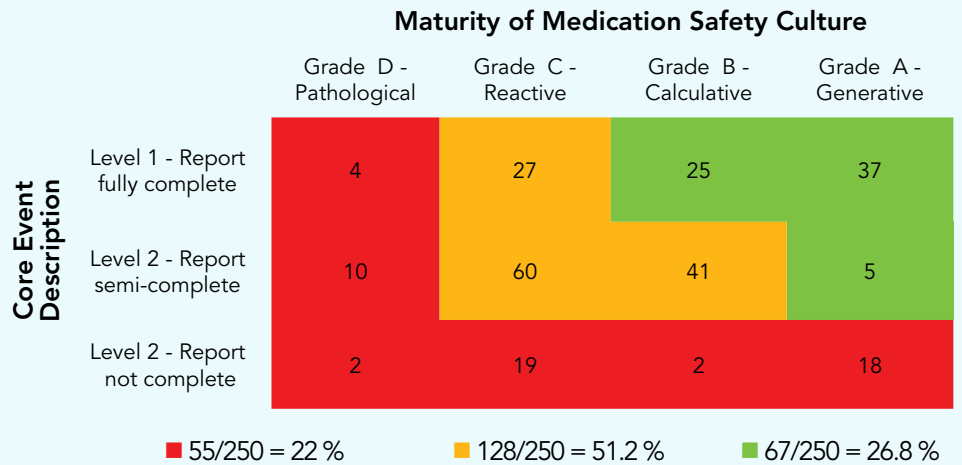
The main goal of the QIR is for all Saskatchewan community pharmacies to achieve the desired culture of safety, which benefits all patients that utilize these pharmacies. During the QIRs, the most prevalent issues that require follow-up are the following:

- Quality Improvement (QI) Plan deficiencies – QI plans are not always developed or monitored and updated at Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) meetings.
- Incident reporting deficiencies – pharmacies report the incident well, but deficiencies are noted regarding identifying the causal or contributing factors and developing a system-based solution.
- Medication Safety Self-Assessments (MSSAs) not completed – some pharmacies have not yet completed their first MSSA or are overdue to complete the second MSSA.

1. MedSCIM Results - January - November 2020



2. MedSCIM Results - Prior to January 2020



- PIP Data Quality Issues – the most common issue is pharmacies not reviewing and resolving their failed transactions daily. Other issues include not completing regular PIP audits and not reviewing the filled prescriptions bin regularly.
- Communication to prescribers – pharmacy staff are not aware of the need to notify the primary practitioner when they have administered any medication. See [section 6\(a\) of Part L](#) of the Regulatory Bylaws.
- Prescribing
 - ▶ Pharmacists generated

prescriptions – some information is missing from these prescriptions including the pharmacists’ signatures. Pharmacists are also using refill requests as their PARs and for new prescriptions which does not contain the required information. SCPP has a [generic PAR](#) as well as specific PARs for [CDSA](#), [methadone](#) and [Suboxone®](#) located within the Reference Manual. See Regulatory Bylaws [sections 2\(1\) and \(2\) of Part K](#).

Continued on next page ▶

- ▶ Minor Ailment documentation – not completing and or documenting the mandatory follow up required as per Council-approved medSask Guidelines. Please see Reference Manual documents [Prescriptive Authority — Pharmacist](#) and [Prescriptive Authority for Pharmacists – Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- CDSA related issues
 - ▶ Loss and Theft Forms – not always being provided to SCPP.
 - ▶ Regular Narcotic Counts/ Narcotic Reconciliation – these counts and reconciliations are not being done regularly (at least quarterly).
 - ▶ Post-Consumer Returns and Destruction – some pharmacies are not aware of the requirements and have no process in place. Please see [Destruction of Controlled Substances](#).
- Other
 - ▶ Min/Max fridge temperatures not being recorded.
 - ▶ Pharmacy not having a sink in the dispensary.
- ▶ Non-pharmacy personnel present outside of operational hours when no pharmacist is on-site and operation of pharmacy during operational hours when no pharmacist is present.
- ▶ Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) - Methadone issues
 - Not storing methadone stock solution and individual doses in the fridge and ensuring against loss/theft.
 - Lack of manufacturing logs and records.
 - Improper disposal of returned carries.
 - Please see [OAT Standards](#) for more information.

The new QIR process has been taking approximately two hours to complete. Prior to the QIR, the pharmacy manager completes a pharmacy self-assessment (PSA), as well as provides the field officer with five to 10 examples of medication incidents to be reviewed using the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada's Medication Safety Cultural Indicator Matrix (MedSCIM) tool.

There have been some encouraging improvements noted during the QIRs, with respect to the maturity of

incident reports. If we compare the ratings from MedSCIM assessment completed prior to Jan 2020 and then since Jan 2020, there has been a shift toward more reports being assessed in the yellow and green areas and less in the red area. See charts for details.

For more information on the MedSCIM tool, please refer to the [COMPASS QI Coordinator Manual](#). During the QIRs, a review of the pharmacy's quality improvement activities is completed. This includes a discussion of the narratives of the medication incidents using the MedSCIM tool, a review of the MSSA and the QI plan. Other safety and practice-related topics are reviewed to assist the pharmacy staff in identifying and resolving potential safety related issues.

For more information on QIRs, please see the [Quality Improvement Reviews](#) document on the SCPP website. If pharmacy managers, quality improvement coordinators or pharmacy staff have questions regarding the new QIR process, quality improvement activities or any of the tools utilized for the COMPASS program, please contact info@saskpharm.ca or 306-584-2292.



E-PIC Certificates

SCPP has reached out to Sterling Backcheck to confirm and coordinate the information provided to members. For clarification, please see steps outlined below. If members have not followed these steps, they will not have uploaded the accurate Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC) document to the SCPP portal.

Reminder

SCPP wishes to remind members that they are to provide an E-PIC to SCPP by March 31, 2021 to meet the requirements of SCPP bylaws and policy.

1 Refer to the Sterling Backcheck Guide and gather what you need:

- ▶ Identity details (i.e. personal, birth, and residential details, social insurance number)

- ▶ Addresses where you have resided in the past

- ▶ Criminal record details

2 If you haven't already done so, go to Sterling Backcheck and complete your E-PIC application.

3 Once completed, you will receive two (2) emails. The first email will be a notification that your criminal record check is complete and will contain your results. This is not the certificate. The police certificate will be sent in a second email.

4 Within 24 hours of receiving a "clear" result, you will receive a second email with instructions on how to access your official certificate. The certificate will be titled "Canadian Criminal Record and Judicial Matters Check" and is the only certificate accepted by SCPP. Refer to the guide to see a sample of what the certificate looks like and follow the instructions to download your official certificate.

5 Once you have received your official police certificate, log in to your SCPP member portal.

- ▶ Under Applications, you will find the Criminal Record Check (CRC) form.

- ▶ Fill out the required information in the SCPP CRC Form and upload the official certificate you downloaded from the second email from Sterling Backcheck.

6 Once complete, expect a confirmation email from SCPP.

In the event you do not receive a certificate because your record may not be "clear," you are still required to complete the CRC form on your SCPP member portal and attach the PDF of the results you received from Sterling Backcheck. SCPP staff will be notified that you have selected "not clear." Our office will then contact you to discuss your results. More [here](#).

Canadian Criminal Record and Judicial Matters Check

Name: [REDACTED]
Other Name(s): [REDACTED]
Gender: [REDACTED]
Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
Place of Birth: [REDACTED]

Date Criminal Record Check Completed: [REDACTED]

Results: Based solely on the name(s) and date of birth provided, and the criminal record information declared by the applicant, a search of the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records did not identify any records with the name(s) and date of birth of the applicant. Positive identification that a criminal record does or does not exist at the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records can only be confirmed by fingerprint comparison. Delays do exist between a conviction being rendered in court, and the details being accessible on the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records. Not all offences are reported to the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records.

Date Local Police Information search conducted: [REDACTED]

Results: Based on the name(s) and date of birth provided by the applicant, a search using National Police Services systems has identified no additional relevant information about conviction(s) or other judicial matters as may be held within local police records.

Verify the Authenticity of this Document

- Go to www.backcheck.net/authenticate
- Enter Document Serial Number: [REDACTED]

*Further details on the reverse of this page.

Police Agency Information

Issued By: [REDACTED] Police Service
Operator: [REDACTED]
Authorized Signatory: [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] Records Supervisor



Discipline Matters

Consensual Complaint Resolution Agreement – Summary – Galloway’s Pharmacy Ltd.

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (the College) considers the primary purpose of an Alternative Dispute Resolution process to be the protection of the public and the pharmacy profession as a whole. The College is conscious of the fact that the public must have confidence in the profession’s ability to regulate itself in a manner that protects the public and has determined that a digest of Alternative Dispute Resolution processes will be published.

Consensual Complaint Resolution Agreement

Where there is evidence to support the allegation of professional incompetence, professional misconduct or proprietary misconduct the Chair of the Complaints Committee, on behalf of the Complaints Committee, shall determine whether there is an opportunity to use an Alternative Dispute Resolution to resolve the complaint. A resolution or remedy may result in a Consensual Complaint Resolution Agreement (CCRA), which is one form of an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

A CCRA process, while not a discipline hearing, will result in an agreement between the College and the signatories of the agreement which meets the public protection mandate. Should the member and/or proprietor not agree to participate in a CCRA the file is referred back to the Complaints Committee, which may result in referral to the Discipline Committee for a hearing. The SCPP Regulatory Bylaws Part P.1 section 3(12) and (13) state the ADR processes.

The Complaint

In July 2020 the Complaints Committee received a complaint concerning numerous allegations, including lack of compliance with COVID-19 recommendations regarding staff, allowing staff in the pharmacy when no pharmacist was on site, allowing the pharmacy to be open when no pharmacist was present, medication errors, frequent pharmacist absences during his shift, narcotic prescriptions being filled early or without a valid prescription,

unprofessional behaviour, and general concern with the daily operation of the pharmacy with respect to patient safety.

CCRA Process

Upon completion of the investigation, the Complaints Committee determined that the concerns identified in the allegations were serious enough in nature to warrant not closing the complaint without further action to address the concerns. The Committee determined that the concerns identified in the complaint and subsequent investigation should be addressed through a CCRA.

The CCRA is intended to address the concerns of the Committee regarding management of the pharmacy and the pharmacy and staff’s adherence to *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act*, the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws, and the NAPRA Model Standards of Practice.

The Agreement

Scott Galloway, Pharmacy Manager, and Proprietor Galloway’s Pharmacy Ltd., agreed to the CCRA in November 2020, which, while an alternative to the discipline process, ensures the ongoing protection of the public through education of the pharmacy manager as well as provides evidence of the competency in the areas of concern as they relate to the complaint through on-site inspections by a College Field Officer.

In summary, Mr. Galloway and the Proprietor have agreed to the following provisions:

1. For a period of one year from the date of execution of this Agreement, the Proprietor shall:
 - ▶ Co-operate with scheduled inspections to be conducted by the College Field Officer. It is agreed there will be a minimum of two inspections throughout a one-year period. The inspections will cover all aspects of pharmacy practice, at the discretion of the College Field Officer.

Continued on next page ▶

- ▶ Pay the costs of inspections which will be fixed in the amount of \$2,000.00 per inspection.
 - ▶ Rectify all deficiencies listed by the Field Officer within a time period set out by the Field Officer.
2. At the conclusion of the two inspections a report will be provided by the Field Officer to the Registrar and Complaints Director.
 3. The Member shall complete the Canadian Pharmacists Association course entitled "Managing Your Pharmacy: The Business Essentials". The Member shall bear any, and all costs associated with the course. The course shall be completed within 6 months from the date of execution of this Agreement, and a certificate of completion shall be provided to the Registrar.

Decision and Order: Kenneth Woo and Park Street Drugs Ltd.

On August 25, 2020, the Discipline Committee convened a hearing to hear charges and determine charges of professional incompetence, professional misconduct and proprietary misconduct against Kenneth Woo and Park Street Drugs Ltd. respectively. The hearing proceeded via an agreed statement of facts.

The agreed statement of facts described the charges summarized below:

- On April 23, 2019, the Discipline Committee issued a decision against Arthur Woo ordering that Arthur Woo's licence to practise pharmacy was suspended pending the successful completion of the Pharmacist Qualifying Examination provided by the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada ("PEBC").
- On April 25, 2019, Jeana Wendel and Lori Postnikoff, the Registrar and Deputy Registrar respectively, attended at Dewdney Drugs and hand-delivered the Discipline Committee decision to Arthur Woo along with a letter written by Ms. Wendel.
- On April 26, April 29, April 30 and May 1, 2019, Arthur Woo, using Kenneth Woo's pharmacist identification number, dispensed and processed numerous prescriptions.
- Arthur Woo admitted to the College that he was using Kenneth Woo's pharmacist identification number to complete the filling of prescriptions at Dewdney Drugs. Similarly, Kenneth Woo admitted to the College that he knew Arthur was doing this.
- On April 30, 2019, the retail portion of Park Street Drugs Ltd. was open and accessible to the public, with a barricade of boxes blocking access to the dispensary. One of the boxes had a hand-written sign which indicated "Pharmacy Closed." There was no pharmacist on duty.

- An employee of Park Street Drugs Ltd., who is not a licensed member, admitted that he released prescription drugs to patients while no licensed pharmacist was in attendance at the dispensary.
- Between October 1, 2018 and September 28, 2019, Park Street transmitted 2,620 transactions of exempted codeine products to PIP under "other medications." "Other medications" was never intended for transaction entries for exempted codeine products.

Mr. Kenneth Woo acknowledged all charges against himself and the proprietor and entered a guilty plea.

Upon reviewing and considering the evidence submitted by way of the Agreed Statement of Facts, the Discipline Committee accepts Mr. Kenneth Woo's guilty plea and finds him guilty of professional misconduct and professional incompetence as defined in *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act* (the "Act").

The Discipline Committee also finds Park Street Drugs guilty of proprietary misconduct as defined in the Act. The Discipline Committee considers their conduct both dangerous and egregious and to have fallen far below the standard expected for the profession. This is particularly so given that Mr. Kenneth Woo knowingly assisted Arthur Woo in breaching a previous order of this Committee.

Having accepted that Mr. Kenneth Woo and Park Street Drugs were guilty of professional misconduct, professional incompetence, and proprietary misconduct, consideration then turned to an assessment of the penalty appropriate in the circumstances.

Upon consideration of the evidence and the submissions of both counsels, the Discipline Committee issued the following Order for the professional misconduct, professional incompetence and proprietary misconduct committed by Mr. Kenneth Woo and Park Street Drugs Ltd. on August 25, 2020:

- Pursuant to section 34(1)(e) of the Act, Kenneth Woo shall be reprimanded.
- Pursuant to section 35(1)(f) of the Act, Park Street Drugs Ltd. shall be reprimanded.
- Pursuant to section 34(1)(b) of the Act, Kenneth Woo's licence shall be suspended for a period of 60 days from the date of the Discipline Committee Order.
- Pursuant to section 36(1) of the Act, Mr. Kenneth Woo's rights and privileges as a member of the College are removed for the period during which his licence is suspended.
- Upon reinstatement and pursuant to section 34(1)(d) of the Act, Mr. Kenneth Woo's licence to practise shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - ▶ Kenneth Woo shall be prohibited from serving as the pharmacy manager for a period of 10 months.

Continued on next page ▶

- ▶ Within 12 months of the date of the Order, Mr. Kenneth Woo shall participate in training developed by the College and provided by a representative of the Drug Plan and/or the College. The training will focus on PIP and Drug Plan transactions. Mr. Kenneth Woo will bear the costs, if any, of the training.
 - ▶ On or before December 1, 2020, Mr. Kenneth Woo shall successfully complete the Canadian Pharmacists Association course “Managing Your Pharmacy: The Business Essentials.” Mr. Kenneth Woo shall bear all of the direct and indirect costs of the course.
 - ▶ On or before January 1, 2021, Mr. Kenneth Woo shall successfully complete the “PROBE: Ethics and Boundaries Program” offered by the Center for Personalized Education for Professionals (“CPEP”). Mr. Kenneth Woo shall bear all of the direct and indirect costs of the course.
 - Pursuant to section 35(1)(g) of the Act, the proprietor’s permit for Park Street Drugs Ltd. Shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - ▶ For a period of three years from the date of the Order, Park Street Drugs Ltd. shall be subject to bi-annual pharmacy inspections and records reviews by the College Field Officer. The costs of each inspection shall be fixed in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be payable within 14 days of the inspection. If the costs are not paid, the proprietary pharmacy permit shall be suspended until the costs are paid. The inspections shall be in addition to any of the routine practice assessments conducted by the College. Park Street Drugs Ltd. and Kenneth Woo shall follow any and all recommendations made by the College.
 - ▶ Pursuant to section 34(2)(a)(ii) and 35(2)(a)(ii) of the Act, Kenneth Woo and Park Street Drugs Ltd. shall be liable, jointly and severally, to pay the costs of the investigation and hearing which costs shall be fixed in the amount of \$26,130.00 to be paid six months from September 1, 2020. If the costs are not paid by the deadline date, Kenneth Woo’s licence shall be suspended, and Park Street Drugs Ltd. proprietor’s permit shall be suspended until payment is made.
 - ▶ A digest of the Discipline Committee decision shall be published in the College newsletter. Further and consistent with College policy, the decision of the Discipline Committee shall be provided to CanLII for their publication as they may see fit.
- The entire Decision and Order is available for review on the following [CanLII link](#). ■

Spotlight on Prevention

The Complaints Team at SCPP has been addressing several issues related to the Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program for the 2020-2021 season this year. The concerns have included:

- Storage of vaccines at temperatures outside of the 2 and 8 C range causing vaccine wastage and requiring re-immunization of patients
- Inadequate documentation of fridge temperatures – min and max values not being recorded as per Vaccine Storage, Handling and Transport Guidelines
- Patients under five years old receiving their influenza immunization at a community pharmacy
- Patients under 65 years old receiving the High Dose (HD) Influenza Vaccine
- Eligible patients over 65 years old NOT receiving the High Dose (HD) Influenza Vaccine
- Patient receiving a syringe of air due to a syringe malfunction, requiring a second injection with the vaccine
- Pharmacies using Inject-Safe and other adhesive bandages, despite not being recommended by the Saskatchewan Immunization Manual (SIM) Chapter 8 (2.2)
- Inappropriate dose intervals for second dose of flu vaccine for children between the ages of 5 and 8 years old. The College

reminds pharmacists that the second dose of flu vaccine for children must not be given any earlier than 28 days. Failure to follow the dosing guidelines can compromise the effectiveness of the vaccine response and is considered an error and an additional dose of vaccine may be required.

Pharmacies are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that they are familiar with and adhere to the requirements of the Saskatchewan Influenza Immunization Program. In addition, the College would like to remind all pharmacies that should any incidents occur, they are to be reported in COMPASS.

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) Examination Dates

Below are the exam dates at time of publishing. For the most up-to-date exam schedules, please visit www.pebc.ca.

Pharmacist Schedule of Exams

Examination Name	Examination date	Application Deadline Date*
Winter Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	Jan. 13, 2021	Deadline passed.
Spring Pharmacist Qualifying Examination	MCQ: May 25-27, 2021	Feb. 19, 2021
	OSCE: May 30, 2021	
Summer Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	June 16, 2021	March 12, 2021
Fall Pharmacist Qualifying Examination	MCQ: Nov. 8-12, 2021	Aug. 6, 2021
	OSCE: Nov. 6, 2021	

Pharmacy Technician Schedule of Exams

Examination Name	Examination date	Application Deadline Date*
Winter Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination	MCQ: Apr. 8, 2021	Deadline passed.
	OSPE: Apr. 10, 2021	
Summer Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination	MCQ: Sept. 13, 2021	June 4 2021
	OSPE: Sept. 19, 2021	

* Applications must be received by the PEBC office no later than the application deadline date.



Contact Information Update Review

The profession of pharmacy is changing rapidly, and SCPP wants to ensure it can successfully reach members in a timely manner to advise of urgent changes about key issues, drug schedule changes or other current matters.

The College also uses member's contact information for other important business.

ACTION: SCPP is asking members to log into their member portals to check that their name, place of employment, email and mailing address are current. Members can click the "Member Login" along the top of the SCPP website. Thanks in advance for looking after this important housekeeping item.

It's also important to ensure that emails from SCPP are not blocked if you are using a company or work email address.



From the Desk of the Dean

Dr. Jane Alcorn
Professor and Dean
College of Pharmacy and Nutrition,
University of Saskatchewan

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition has been a very different place this fall with the shift to online learning, but I've been impressed with how our faculty, staff and students are continuing to adapt.

The university has recently announced that online learning will continue through the winter term, but activity on campus is slowly increasing in a safe, responsible manner. Updates on the university's status are available on the COVID-19 response page. [Read more.](#)

Congratulations to all of our newest graduates who graduated virtually at the fall convocation ceremony. As part of this year's virtual celebrations, a recorded a video message was created for our fall graduates. [Watch the video.](#)

Two of the college's staff received their new degrees at the fall convocation ceremony:

- **Dr. Shauna Gerwing**, Associate Director of Experiential Learning, received her Doctor of Philosophy from the College of Medicine, Health Sciences.
- **Eric Landry**, MAC Coordinator, received his Master of Education from the College of Education.

Dr. Kate Dadachova was recognized as one of the university's Distinguished Researchers for 2020. Her pioneering work in the combined use of radiation and immunotherapy to fight cancer and other diseases has helped enhance USask's reputation as a leader in nuclear sciences and imaging. [Read more.](#)

Dr. Gord Zello is part of the team that found that exercise performance and blood and muscle oxygen levels are not affected for healthy individuals wearing a face mask during strenuous workouts. [Read more.](#)

Dr. Robert Laprairie is conducting studies to determine how a mother's use of cannabis during pregnancy affects the brain of the developing fetus she's carrying. [Read more.](#)

Dr. Kate Dadachova was one of the USask experts to speak with CBC Saskatchewan about how a COVID-19 vaccine could be distributed in the province. [Read more.](#)

The college's faculty and staff are engaged in a number of COVID-19-related activities, including a number of research projects and new initiatives within our professional services, such as medSask and MAC (Medication Assessment Centre). A full listing of these new projects and initiatives is available on our website. [Read more.](#)

This year's Professional Enhancement Day keynote speaker was Joannie Rochette, a six-time Canadian figure skating champion and Olympic medalist. She spoke about her journey and experience in overcoming adversity, as well as her transition from being a competitive athlete to becoming a physician and her experience with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Congratulations to Chelsea Lussier and Kelly Hu for organizing a successful first virtual PED!

For the latest news from the college, visit [our website.](#)

**Don we now our
 face apparel.**

Hang in there, Saskatchewan. You've got this. Read our open letter here: wearesickofhistoo.ca

The *staff* at the
Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
would like to wish our Council, committee volunteers, our members, and
our partner organizations Happy Holidays and a safe New Year.



David Chou, Peleshia Dubidad, Pat Guillemmin, Kathleen Handford, Marlon Hector, Fatima Khan,
Darlene King, Chantal Lambert, Christina McPherson, Heather Neirinck, Lori Postnikoff,
Natalie Rediger, Kim Samoila, Jeannette Sandiford, Tami Schwebius, Brittany Sharkey,
Audrey Solie, Meaghan Underwood, Ingrid Wakefield, Jeana Wendel, and Caroline Zareba



In keeping with the season's spirit of giving, a donation has been
made to a local charity in lieu of sending holiday cards.

*Happy
Holidays*

and a safe New Year!



*Holiday
Office
Schedule*

Closed December 24 until January 1
Regular office hours resume Monday, January 4
8 am - noon • 1 pm - 4:30 pm



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
PROFESSIONALS