

SCOPE

newsletter

August 2022



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
PROFESSIONALS

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New SCPP Council President's Address

Fellow esteemed colleagues, friends, and tirelessly unwavering pharmacy professionals,

I am so proud of the hard work and dedication you have given to serving your patients and the needs within your communities over the past year. I know these days have not been easy.

While the Instant Pot pressure cooker which has gained popularity over the past few years might create the prime environment for getting dinner on the table, it's certainly not an ideal environment for providing patient care. I believe the pressure placed on pharmacy environments is greater now more than ever.

There are external pressures that have impacted us all, imposed by political, economic, social, and technological forces beyond our control. As we have seen and felt, the environment we practise in is heavily influenced

by policy, inflation, labor shortages, social media, and changing attitudes and beliefs of the people we serve.

Rather than waiting for these difficult times to end, or waiting for this all to be behind us, we are becoming accustomed to this new normal. While the storm may not have passed as we had hoped, I encourage you to remember that even behind storm clouds, the sky is still blue.

An ancient Greek philosopher is quoted as saying, "change is the only constant in life." Just as a business needs to maintain a vision and pivot in response to a changing environment, so do we as health care professionals – to find the possibility, the hope, and the opportunity to improve care to address the strains on, and gaps within, the system.

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SCPP COUNCIL 2022-2023

PRESIDENT

Amy Wiebe, Saskatoon

PRESIDENT-ELECT, RURAL/ REMOTE PHARMACIST

Tania Schroeder, Warman

PAST PRESIDENT

Rod Amaya, Saskatoon

HONORARY TREASURER, URBAN PHARMACIST

Scott Livingstone, Regina

HOSPITAL PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Tracy Martens, Weyburn

COMMUNITY PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Shauna Nowakowski, Saskatoon

RURAL/REMOTE PHARMACIST

Roxanne Bagnall, Watson

URBAN PHARMACIST

Sarah Kozusko, Regina

HOSPITAL PHARMACIST

Kelsey Dumont, Regina

EX OFFICIO

Jane Alcorn, Saskatoon

DESIGNATE EX OFFICIO

Charity Evans, Saskatoon

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

Bonnie Caven, Regina

Mark Hawkins, Regina

Michael Lummerding, St. Brieux

Karen Efthimiou, Regina

U of S SENIOR STICK

Meagan Kielo, University of
Saskatchewan

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.

As accessible and trusted practitioners within our communities, we have been, and must continue to be, ready to grow and adapt to meet these needs.

The vision established by the College continues to ring true and inspire us to move forward – to deliver quality pharmacy care for a healthier Saskatchewan. As a regulatory body, we have continued to take strides to achieve this vision, by building stronger and more relevant competency assurance processes, and empowering pharmacy professionals to practise autonomously in the delivery of safe patient care. Additionally, we have proven ready to step up to the plate to take on the role of prescribing oral antiviral agents, to help add one more strategy to the COVID-navigation toolbox.

It seems the world has become more polarized, and pharmacy professionals have an important role to play in meeting people where they are at and partnering to understand individual patient values and goals. In order to do this, we are challenged to bring a non-stigmatizing mindset and approach, by striving to make our services safer to access and more inclusive.

As a regulatory body, we take inclusivity seriously, and are taking steps to create foundations which reduce barriers to care. We consider this seriously when developing and updating policy and frameworks, one example of this being the modernization of the Code of Ethics to support gender inclusive language, which was completed this past year. We have made a commitment to continue to emphasize the importance of equity, diversity, and inclusion in daily pharmacy practice through education integrated with the competency assurance process.

We do this as we anticipate the publication of NAPRA's Principles of Professionalism in the coming year, as we believe that professionalism is fundamental to the delivery of quality health care.

In the context of ever-increasing demands on our time and resources, we run the risk of succumbing to escalating stress and the associated professional burnout. For this reason, I encourage us all to acknowledge that moving forward will warrant an abundance of care – not only by considering our contributions to patient care, but also by implementing strategies to engage in our own self-care.

It seems the world has become more polarized, and pharmacy professionals have an important role to play in meeting people where they are at and partnering to understand individual patient values and goals. In order to do this, we are challenged to bring a non-stigmatizing mindset and approach, by striving to make our services safer to access and more inclusive.

I would also submit the importance of participating in another form of care – what I would call, “profession-care.” When I use this term, I am referring to the importance of taking pride in our unique skill sets as pharmacy professionals, as well as respecting the privilege we have to not only fulfill our roles, but also continue to strive to build excellence within them.

We are challenged to do this while also extending care and compassion to our patients and ourselves through trying times. I believe if we actively participate in all three forms of care, we will come out stronger and better positioned to grow in the work we do.

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I am deeply honored to have the privilege of accepting the role of President of SCPP, and I wish to extend my sincerest gratitude for the efforts being made in strengthening the ability for pharmacy professionals to provide quality patient-, self-, and profession-care.

At this time, I wish to acknowledge the outgoing members of Council for their time and energy shared at the board table. I want to thank Past-President, Stephanie Scott, for bringing her perspective and expertise to Council. Thank you also to Rod Amaya for the sincere and collaborative spirit with which he fulfilled the role of President over the past year.

Thank you to Jeana for her resilient leadership through a multitude of changes, to the Council and SCPP staff for their dedication to steering through the shifting landscape, to our stakeholders for their collaboration and support, and to the individual pharmacy professionals across the

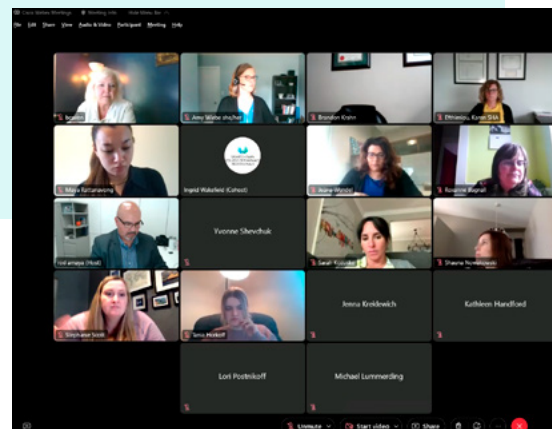
SCPP's 111th Annual General Meeting

SCPP held its 111th Annual General Meeting on June 17, 2022.

Council President Rod Amaya and Registrar Jeana Wendel presented their annual reports and the results of the 2022 Council elections were announced. Newly elected Council members were introduced and will be starting their service on Council effective July 1, 2022.

Amy Wiebe was inducted as the new SCPP Council President effective July 1 and delivered her address.

[View a recording](#) of the virtual meeting.



province for continuing to put your best foot forward while navigating day-to-day changes.

Remember the positive impact we all can have by continuing to bring our best selves to our daily work as pharmacy professionals. ■

SCPP STAFF

Executive

JEANA WENDEL
Registrar

LORI POSTNIKOFF
Deputy Registrar

Executive Assistance

INGRID WAKEFIELD
Executive Assistant to the Registrar

CHRISTINA MCPHERSON
Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Registrar

Administrative Support

DARLENE KING
Reception and Office Operations Coordinator

Registration, Licensing, Permits

ROBERTA BECKER
Registration Administrator – Pharmacy and Member Relations

SHAYNA MURRAY
Registration Administrator – Member Relations

MELISSA WEGER
Registration Administrator – Member Relations

CAROLINE ZAREBA
Manager, Pharmacy Permits and Pharmacy Relations

Field Operations, Professional Practice, COMPASS

JEANNETTE SANDIFORD
Assistant Registrar – Field Operations and Quality Assurance

JENNIFER KOSKIE
Field Officer

BRITTANY SHARKEY
Certified Compounding Inspector – Field Officer

EMILY THOMPSON-GOLDING
Administrative Coordinator for Field Operations and Quality Assurance

STEVE YAKIWCHUK
Field Officer

Complaints and Discipline

CHANTAL LAMBERT
Assistant Registrar – Complaints Director

TAMI SCHWEBIUS
Complaints Manager

JOANNE DEIBERT
Complaints Investigator - Contract

Policy and Legislation

KATHLEEN HANDFORD
Director of Policy and Legislation

DAVID CHOU
Pharmacy Policy and Practice Consultant

NATALIE REDIGER
Pharmacy Policy and Practice Consultant

KIM SAMOILA
Policy Analyst

Database and Systems

MEAGHAN UNDERWOOD
Manager, Database and Systems

Communications

MARLON HECTOR
Communications Coordinator

Council Highlights

June 15-16, 2022

Councillor Environmental Scans

- Concerns about vacancies and staff shortages, in addition to failure rates of new graduates on the PEBC OSCE have been expressed by pharmacy managers.
- Low numbers of retail pharmacy technicians and pharmacy assistants were also identified as a challenge.
- Concerns have been expressed about the risks with the anticipated addition of commercially available methadone to, and the subsequent removal of compounded methadone from, the formulary.
- Public engagement with COVID-19 vaccine fourth doses has seen significant reduction and low engagement with Paxlovid®.
- Concerns were raised about barriers to Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) when pharmacists are not offering OAT at their pharmacies, and not referring patients to a pharmacy which provides OAT within a reasonable radius.

Registrar's Report

- Between May 19 and June 1, there have been 61 dispenses of Paxlovid with eight prescribed by pharmacists.
- Evusheld® launched June 13 and pharmacies are able to dispense and inject if they have the required competency and private care areas.
- **NAPRA Updates**
 - ▶ Work to begin on regulatory instruments around the Cross Jurisdictional Framework, reviewed by Council at present and previous meeting.

- ▶ NAPRA is conducting a review of language proficiency requirements in 2022.
- ▶ NAPRA Board has approved the Model Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians, which has been reviewed by the Professional Practice Committee.
- ▶ Entry to Practice Competencies for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians working group has been established and includes an SPP Field Officer, Sask. Polytechnic, and CPDPP representation.
- **Regulatory Reform**
 - ▶ Recent Provincial Regulatory Authority (PRA) round table discussions indicate regulatory reform is occurring in almost all provinces.
 - ▶ There is a new Bill in Saskatchewan regarding licensing and registration practices that will apply to all health and non-health regulated professions.
 - ▶ At the request of the Saskatchewan Health Regulatory Bodies (NIRO) a *New Health Regulatory Bodies Act 2022* draft bill is planned for legislature in September. This includes nine recommendations including moving Council composition from the Act into the Administrative Bylaws, broader use of Alternate Dispute Resolutions, among others.

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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.

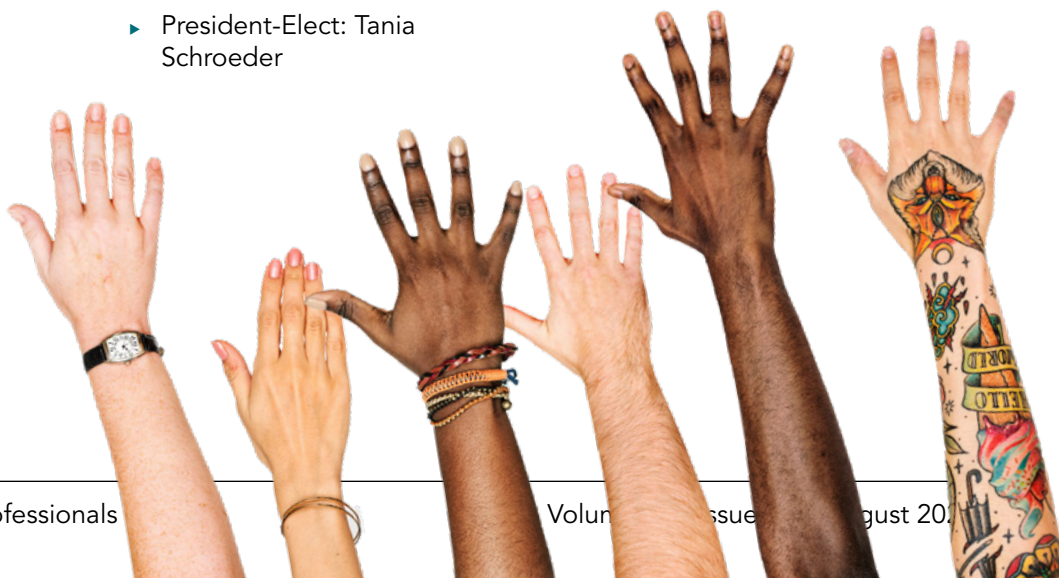
To align pharmacy regulation with modern pharmacy practice.

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.

- Saskatchewan Cancer Agency medications will be added to the Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) and work is underway by CPDPP to create educational material and an official launch in the coming months. See “PIP Integration with SCA” later in this issue.
 - SCPP anticipates the Ministry will be announcing the addition of commercially available methadone to the formulary before the end of 2022; work is underway between the Ministry and CPDPP to create patient and provider education materials to support the transition.
 - **Member and Pharmacy Statistics**
 - ▶ Practising members continue to grow year over year; however, by the end of 2022, 44 new pharmacies will have opened in Saskatchewan over the last five years, which is significant growth drawing on resources.
 - **Strategic Plan**
 - ▶ Depending on the timelines and expectations from the Ministry with regards to *The Labour Mobility and Fair Registration Practices Act* (Bill 81), SCPP will need to pause high priority items that are not on the strategic plan, and it is likely it may impact the ability to deliver on strategic goals this year and into 2023.
 - **Council Elections**
 - ▶ Elections were held for expiring Council positions of President, President-Elect and Honorary Treasurer.
- Council voted in the following individuals effective July 1, 2022:
- Amy Wiebe as President
 - Tania Schroeder (nee Horkoff) as President-Elect
 - Scott Livingstone as Honorary Treasurer
- ▶ From the general Council elections in March 2022, the following are new or returning members of Council as of July 1, 2022:
 - Community Pharmacy Technician – Shauna Nowakowski (three-year term)
 - Hospital Pharmacist – Kelsey Dumont (three-year term)
 - Urban Pharmacist – Scott Livingstone (three-year term)
 - **Appointments and Committees**
 - ▶ **Appointments**
 - Council welcomes Karen Efthimiou, newly appointed public member to Council.
 - After completing Christine Hrudka’s term on the University of Saskatchewan Senate, Rod Amaya was appointed for a further three-year term.
 - ▶ **Committees**
 - Council approved the new Nominating Committee adding the President-Elect, an updated Terms of Reference, as well as a name change to the Human Resources and Governance Committee to reflect expanded governance roles. The new Committee, effective July 1, 2022, will be:
 - ▶ Immediate Past-President: Rod Amaya
 - ▶ President: Amy Wiebe
 - ▶ President-Elect: Tania Schroeder
 - ▶ Public Representative: Bonnie Caven
 - ▶ Member: Stephanie Scott
 - ▶ Member: Lyndsay Brakstad
 - The following were appointed to the Audit Committee, effective July 1, 2022:
 - ▶ Immediate Past-President: Rod Amaya
 - ▶ President: Amy Wiebe
 - ▶ President-Elect: Tania Schroeder
 - ▶ Honorary Treasurer: Scott Livingstone
 - ▶ Public Representative: Bonnie Caven
 - Bill Gerla (practising member) and Ian Rea (public member) were appointed to a second three-year term on the Complaints Committee.
 - Councillor Sarah Kozusko was appointed as a member of the Professional Practice Committee (PPC), an operational committee of the Registrar, which will now fall under the administration of the Director of Policy and Legislation. SCPP would like to thank Kyla Jackson as she ends her service as Chair on the PPC.

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As of July 1, 2022, SSCP Council comprises:

Title	Name	Location
President	Amy Wiebe	Saskatoon
President-Elect and Rural/Remote Pharmacist	Tania Schroeder (nee Horkoff)	Warman
Past President	Rod Amaya	Saskatoon
Honourary Treasurer and Urban Pharmacist	Scott Livingstone	Regina
Hospital Pharmacy Technician	Tracy Martens	Saskatoon
Community Pharmacy Technician	Shauna Nowakowski	Saskatoon
Rural/Remote Pharmacist	Roxanne Bagnall	Watson
Urban Pharmacist	Sarah Kozusko	Regina
Hospital Pharmacist	Kelsey Dumont	Regina
Ex Officio	Jane Alcorn	Saskatoon
Designate Ex Officio	Charity Evans	Saskatoon
Public Representative	Bonnie Caven	Regina
Public Representative	Karen Efthimiou	Regina
Public Representative	Mark Hawkins	Regina
Public Representative	Michael Lummerding	St. Brieux
U of S Senior Stick	Meagan Kielo	Saskatoon

- Council appointed Shauna Nowakowski to the COMPASS Committee.
- Complaints and Discipline Committees
 - ▶ Council Approved updated Terms of Reference that adds responsibility to the Chairs of both committees to participate in vetting candidates jointly with the Human Resources and Governance Committee.
 - ▶ New CASE (Competencies, Attributes, Skills, and Experience) Matrices and Candidate Questionnaires for both committees were also approved.

support the CAP beginning January 2023, and to provide \$22,000 from the reserve funds to support the work in 2022.

- ▶ Consultant Nancy Winslade provided an update to Council on the Competency Assurance Program. Please see the [CAPtivate page](#) for more details.

- Deloitte presented the year-end Report on Audited Financial Statements for 2021, which Council approved.

• NAPRA Model Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians

- ▶ Council adopted the new NAPRA Model Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians to be the minimum standards of practice for Saskatchewan. In response to feedback and recommendations from the Professional Practice

Committee, the standards document has been modified to reflect Saskatchewan scope of practice.

• Time Delayed Safes

- ▶ Council approved that time-delayed safes are made mandatory in all pharmacies with **new pharmacies** to have time delayed safes as of Nov 30, 2022, and **all pharmacies** to have time-delayed safes as of Nov 30, 2023. Please see later article for more details on Time-Delayed Safes.

• COMPASS Committee Report

- ▶ MedSCIM results were reported – see tables below.
- ▶ Council approved the recommendation from the COMPASS Committee that additional Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) training be developed to focus on:
 - developing CQI plans,
 - monitoring CQI plans,
 - choosing MSSA initiatives, and
 - root cause analysis.
- ▶ The recommendation that, once developed, the additional training be mandatory for all current CQI Coordinators and that new CQI Coordinators would be required to complete the initial training and the additional training, was also approved. Development of CQI training will likely occur in 2023, after which Council will consider and communicate timelines for implementation.
- ▶ A draft of a risk matrix to determine in-person Quality Improvement Reviews (QIRs) was discussed, amended, and approved.

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Other Business:

• Competency Assurance Program (CAP)

- ▶ Council approved providing \$65,000 annually to CPDPP to



- **Quality Improvement Review (QIR) Report**

- ▶ As of June 6, approximately 330 pharmacies have had a QIR and about 15 per cent still require their first QIR. The implementation plan for 2022 was to have QIRs completed in all pharmacies by the end of the year so we are still well on track to meet this goal.
- ▶ QIRs will continue until all pharmacies have completed their first review and the new process will start, which will include a hybrid model of virtual QIRs and in-person visits, based on the new risk matrix.
- ▶ There has been positive feedback on QIRs from both Field Officers and pharmacy managers.

- **Professional Autonomy Framework**

- ▶ Three of the eight strategies in the Professional Autonomy Framework are complete or nearing completion:
 - Increased eligibility requirements for pharmacy managers and a CCCEP accredited competency mapped education program (complete).
 - A self-funded alternative dispute resolution process (complete).
 - Amend the continuous quality assurance requirement for each pharmacy that can

inform how these measures and other strategies affect patient and workplace safety (complete).

- ▶ Four strategies are in progress:

- 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.
- 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.
- Optimize the deployment of human resources in community pharmacy practice.
- Move the prohibition on inappropriate unlicensed influence over the pharmacy to bylaws expanded to include influence over pharmacy practice.

- ▶ One strategy not yet started:

- Whistle-blower protection for the reporters of inappropriate proprietor or other affiliated entity influence.

- Council adopted the NAPRA Cross Jurisdictional Framework discussed at the March 2022 Council meeting and agreed to be signatory. Work

will continue to build out regulatory instruments to support the Cross Jurisdictional Framework.

- Terms of Reference for a new Public Engagement Working Group were approved to support Strategic Goal 4 (To have enhanced transparency to stakeholders, supported by contemporary governance and management practices) and Objective 4.5 (The mandate of the SCPP and how it delivers on its mandate has been effectively communicated to the public and other external stakeholders).

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MedSCIM Results Jan. 1, 2020 – May 31, 2022



7.5 %



52.1 %



40.4 %

		Grade D - Pathological	Grade C - Reactive	Grade B - Calculative	Grade A - Generative
Core Event Description	Level 1 - Report fully complete	34	222	467	525
	Level 2 - Report semi-complete	42	686	619	193
	Level 3 - Report not complete	11	98	31	4

MedSCIM Results Prior to Jan. 1, 2020



22 %



51.2 %



26.8 %

		Grade D - Pathological	Grade C - Reactive	Grade B - Calculative	Grade A - Generative
Core Event Description	Level 1 - Report fully complete	4	27	25	37
	Level 2 - Report semi-complete	10	60	41	5
	Level 3 - Report not complete	2	19	2	18

The medication incident provides insufficient information to allow meaningful qualitative analysis.

The medication incident provides sufficient information to describe the medication incident. No information is provided about contributing factors.

The medication incident provides sufficient information to describe the medication incident and contributing factors.

The medication incident is treated as an isolated incident. No solutions are offered to prevent future recurrence.

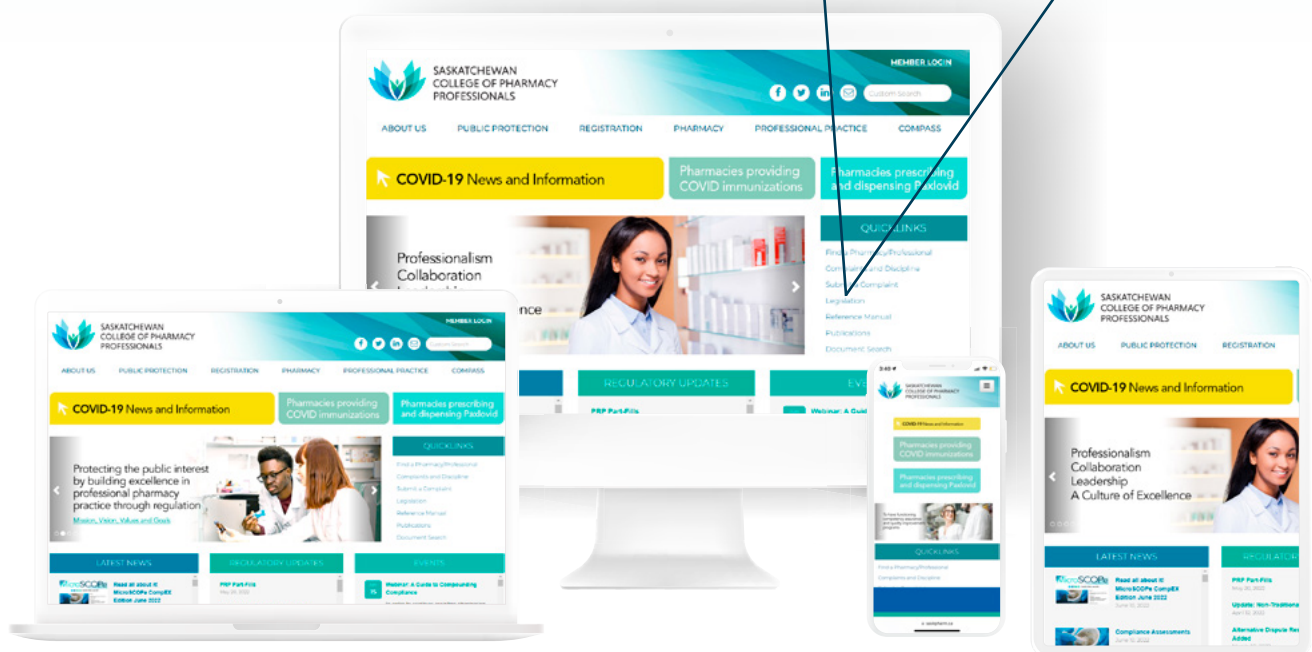
The medication incident focuses on human behaviours instead of a systems-based approach.

The medication incident uses a systems-based approach to describe the root cause. No solutions are offered to prevent future recurrence.

The medication incident uses a systems-based approach to describe the root cause and develop possible solutions to prevent future recurrence.

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standards, policies,
responsibilities,
requirements,
templates, forms
and more...**

the SCPP Reference Manual



Academic Awards



Gold Medal and Robert Martin Prize

Kathryn Neville wins the Gold Medal and Robert Martin Prize, awarded to the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) graduate with the highest grade-point average (GPA). She achieved a GPA of 94.35 per cent.

Kathryn's first experience in health care was working as a receptionist at her dad's medical clinic in Peterborough, Ontario.

"I chose to pursue pharmacy because of the unique role that pharmacists play in helping patients understand their health and medications," says Kathryn. "And the connections that pharmacists can make with their patients."

Kathryn will soon be working in the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy in Royal University Hospital. She is currently enrolled in the combined Doctor of Pharmacy and MBA program, and will be graduating this fall.

"I am interested in pursuing other avenues in the future, such as in health policy, research, and working in interprofessional collaborative practices," says Kathryn.

"As a pharmacist, I look forward to making connections with patients and teaching them about their medical conditions and medications ... and collaborating with other health care providers to offer the best patient-centered care. I also want to give back to the profession through mentoring and precepting pharmacy students."



Campbell Prize

Growing up in Ontario, Natalie Ecobichon always had an interest in health care, but specifically wanted to know how drugs worked. So, when it came time to choose a career, pharmacy was the perfect fit.

With a GPA of 91.13 per cent, Natalie is the recipient of the Campbell Prize, awarded to the second-most distinguished graduate from the U of S.

"It allowed me to combine my interest in science with my desire to make a difference in my community," says Natalie.

As a student, she served as co-president of the Pre-Pharmacy Club and has now accepted a position as a hospital pharmacist with the Saskatchewan Health Authority at the Yorkton Regional Health Centre.

"I am looking forward to moving to a new town and starting my career," says Natalie. "I have met many incredible pharmacists as a student who helped me develop my confidence and skills in pharmacy, and I am excited about being able to do the same."

Academic Excellence Award

Jacquelyn Jheengut is awarded the Academic Excellence Award given to the highest achieving Saskatchewan Polytechnic student – she scored a grade average of 91.73 per cent.



Jacquelyn grew up in Cudworth, SK, a small town one hour northeast of Saskatoon. She took a job in the local pharmacy and "fell in love with the work."

"I have always been interested in health care and felt that preparing and distributing medications was an impactful way to support a patient's health," says Jacquelyn.

Currently completing her practicums, Jacquelyn has noticed how varied the roles of pharmacy technicians can be and she's looking forward to exploring the different areas of practice and developing her skills. Next up are her Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada exams, entering the workforce, and her Structured Practical Training and Assessment (SPTA).

"School is one part of your training; I know that I have a few years of intense learning ahead of me," she says. "I am very grateful for the support I received from my family, friends, and teachers during my schooling. Whenever I was in need, there was always a helping hand, and I am very thankful."

Certificates of Recognition

SCPP Council and staff wish to thank the members and public appointees who generously gave of their time and efforts to ensure that the College fulfills its mission, vision, values, and goals through their participation on Council and the committees of the College.

- **Louisa Chan**, for service as a member of the SCPP Competency Assurance Committee and Task Force.
- **Lana Dean**, for service as the SCPP Appointee to the CRNS NEPAC.
- **Celynn Elder**, for service to the profession and to the public as an Observer on Council as the U of S Senior Stick.
- **Robyn Federko**, for service as a member of the SCPP Competency Assurance Committee and Task Force.
- **Maya Rattnavong**, for service to the profession and to the public as an Observer on Council as the U of S Senior Stick.
- **Yvonne Shevchuk**, for service to the profession and to the public as an SCPP Council Member.
- **Jenna Soehn**, for service as a member of the SCPP Complaints Committee.
- **Linda Sulz**, for service as the SCPP Appointee to the University of Regina Senate.
- **Marilyn Youngmans**, for service as a member of the SCPP Nominating Committee.

THANK YOU

- **Mark Hawkins**, for service to the profession and to the public as an SCPP Council Member.
- **Kyla Jackson**, for service as the SCPP Division 2 Councillor and Council appointee as Chair of the SCPP Professional Practice Committee.
- **Spiro Kolitsas**, for service as a member of the SCPP Discipline Committee.
- **Brandon Krahn**, for service to the profession and to the public as an SCPP Council Member.
- **Michael Lummerding**, for service to the profession and to the public as an SCPP Council Member.
- **Sue Mack-Klinger**, for service as a member of the SCPP Competency Assurance Committee and Task Force.



SCPP Council Approves Time-Delayed Safes for Community Pharmacies

In Sept 2015, BC College of Pharmacists made it mandatory that pharmacies used time delayed safes. In Jan 2022, Alberta College of Pharmacists announced that all pharmacies would be required to have time delayed safes as of July 1, 2022.

Time-delayed safes in Saskatchewan was discussed at the March 2022 Council meeting as it was brought forward by Councillors and the Registrar in their environmental scans. This was put on the Council's risk matrix. Between April and June, the College received several reports from pharmacies about armed robberies in Saskatchewan from out-of-province perpetrators.

Based on these events, research performed in Alberta and BC on the efficacy of time-delayed safes, as well as the urgency of the issue, it was decided to move forward with time-delayed safes as a deterrent in Saskatchewan pharmacies.

An environmental scan was completed and found many pharmacies in Saskatchewan already have time-delayed

safes and post this publicly on pharmacy doors, which leaves those pharmacies that do not at greater risk, which is what occurred with recent robberies.

Robberies and burglaries of pharmacies are an unfortunate reality and can be traumatizing and dangerous for pharmacy team members and patients. In many of the robberies, a significant amount of violence has been used by the perpetrators, and pharmacy team members have reported being bound, threatened with weapons, and physically assaulted.

Creating safer and more secure pharmacies benefits pharmacy team members, patients, and other visitors by reducing the risk of physical and/or emotional harm. A safer environment also helps pharmacy professionals to better ensure the security of the prescription drug supply in their communities; helping to keep drugs "off the street" and potentially reducing issues of non-medical/illicit use and contributing to substance misuse.

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Police data and results from similar policies in Alberta and British Columbia demonstrate that time-delayed safes in pharmacies to store controlled drugs and substance as per the *Controlled Drug and Substances Act* (CDSA), along with other drugs of misuse combined with other measures, significantly reduce robberies, increases drug security, and enhances the safety of pharmacy team members and the public. Statistics show that robberies are reduced by up to 50-80 per cent when time-delayed safes and associated signage is used.

SCPP Council has approved a new policy that:

- All new pharmacies store CDSA and other drugs of misuse in time-delayed safes as of Nov. 30, 2022.
- All pharmacies store CDSA and other drugs of misuse in time-delayed safes on or before Nov. 30, 2023.
- Signage must be displayed on the external entrance doors for the public to see and at the pharmacy counters.

Printable signage can be found at the links below:

- [Narcotics Stored in Timed-Delayed Safes](#)
- [No Narcotics on Site](#)

Additional Tips:

- Try not to keep large amounts of opioids on site. Keep opioids and all drugs being targeted in the time-delayed safe.
- The door of the time-delayed safe must remain closed and locked except for times when pharmacy team members need to open the safe as part of the process to fill a prescription or to re-stock the safe. Once the drugs are accessed to fill the prescription or added to the safe, the safe door should be closed and locked again.
- Pharmacies should follow police and RCMP recommendations on what time-delay locks should be set at but must not be less than five (5) minutes.
- For pharmacies that handle any quantity of cash, there should be a drop safe near the till. Floats should be the absolute minimum.
- A reminder that legislation requires that keys and/or lock combinations be held by pharmacists only.

ATTENTION

All Narcotics (Controlled Drugs and Substances) in this pharmacy are stored in a time-delayed safe.



ATTENTION

Narcotics (Controlled Drugs and Substances) are not stored on site.



SASKATCHEWAN
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PROFESSIONALS

Additional Resources

Below are some external resources SCPP has received permission to use to assist pharmacies with background, additional detailed information, and frequently asked questions. Note that SCPP's Policy and Legislation Unit is working on a full update and refresh of the suite of CDSA documents which will include information on secured storage of controlled drugs and substances.

- Alberta College of Pharmacy [Council Approves Policy Requiring Community Pharmacies Install Time-Delayed Safes](#)
- Alberta College of Pharmacy [Pharmacy Robberies and Burglaries](#)

*Adapted from information published by the
Alberta College of Pharmacy*



PIP Integration of SCA Medications

In the coming months eHealth will begin capturing all patient medications dispensed by the Allan Blair Cancer Centre (ABCC) and Saskatoon Cancer Centre (SCC) pharmacies into the Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) record and the eHR Viewer for healthcare professionals. This is part of a patient safety initiative to improve the completeness of provincial medication profiles.

An exact launch date will be communicated when finalized. Only new medication records dispensed after the launch date will populate the PIP profiles. Historical dispense records prior to launch date from ABCC and SCC pharmacy will not exist on the patient profile.

Many professionals utilize the Pre-admission Medication List available in the PIP or the eHR Viewer in workflow processes. Cancer medications will display as per normal business rules on the Pre-admission Medication List. No changes on the Pre-admission Medication List have been made to differentiate these medications.

Please be advised that cancer medications will be displayed in downstream applications such as My Sask Health Record (MSHR). Therefore, residents of Saskatchewan will be able to view these new medications on their existing MSHR drug profile.

CPDPP is providing a webinar, which covers details of what pharmacy staff can expect with this change and their professional responsibilities when viewing medications used to treat cancer. [Register here.](#)

Organizations involved:

- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
- College of Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan
- eHealth Saskatchewan
- medSask
- Government of Saskatchewan
- Saskatchewan Cancer Agency
- Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals

CAPtivate

[Competency Assurance Program Updates]

As SCPP develops its new Competency Assurance Program (CAP), it's mindful of the available evidence and best practices that encourage health care professionals to be engaged in and value competency assurance activities. Our new CAP must have meaning to members and respect their daily practices.

Understanding the Current Continuing Education Requirement

Currently, beyond targeted required continuing education courses, SCPP relies on members' own insights as to where they should focus their continuing education.

Ideally, this would lead to members identifying their practice strengths and weaknesses and selecting continuing education (CE) that focuses on effectively addressing weaknesses. However, evidence from the health professions is clear that such self-selected CE is not effective at improving practice.

This is due to a number of reasons, including that health professionals do not accurately self-assess their practice strengths and weaknesses; they tend to select CE based on existing interests or availability, and they selectively retain new information that supports their current understanding, while discounting contrary information.

Both paths, led by limitations in accurate self-assessment, challenge a health professional's ability to truly learn and apply new information to change and improve practice. These realities have led to regulatory changes in competency assurance programs across the health professions.

Pharmacy professionals are no different and face these same challenges. SCPP is therefore revising its CAP to align with best practices.

Continued on next page ►

Timeline to Date

- May 2019 – Members participate in a Competency Assurance Survey to assess pharmacy professionals' needs and preferences in continuing professional development.
- June 2019 – First meeting of the newly formed CAP Task Force (formerly Competency Assurance Committee/ Working Group) tasked with revamping the College's Competency Assurance Program (CAP).
- 2020 – Delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- March 2021 – Consultant Nancy Winslade is contracted to lead the working group in developing a comprehensive, supportive CAP.
- May 2021 – Research and development by the Task Force gets underway.
- September 2021 – Draft program is formulated and reviewed.
- Updates presented to Council at the December 2021 meeting.
- April 2022 – A five-year plan is presented to Council and recruitment for a Competency Assurance Director begins.
- May 20, 2022 – The posting closes for the Competency Assurance Director position.
- June 2022 – The Task Force composition is reviewed and is transitioned from research and design to feedback, consultation, and implementation.
- June 2022 – New Competency Assurance Director is hired and set to on-board Sept. 6, 2022 (see Staffing Comings and Goings later in SCOPe).
- July 2022 – Planning takes place for robust virtual stakeholder consultation to begin in the fall with members and other key stakeholders.

Guiding Principles

In developing the new CAP, the priority has been on developing a program that supports pharmacists' and pharmacy technicians' provision of the care and services that matter most to patients, in the way patients need.

SCPP also recognizes the challenges facing pharmacy professionals in daily practice and is focusing on making the CAP manageable, feasible, and engaging. This means reasonable time requirements, achievable daily practice expectations, no routine pass/fail knowledge tests, and a focus on what is important to patients and pharmacy professionals.

SCPP's Proposed Solution

If pharmacy professionals can't assess their performance accurately, where can they go for meaningful and accurate feedback on the quality of their daily practice?

Best practices in other professions in Canada and internationally prioritize patients' perspectives on the quality of care they experience, often provided as one component of multi-source feedback:

- Patients can give feedback on whether, for example, sufficient time was spent with them, whether their questions were answered in an understandable way, whether they were treated in a manner that respects their culture and gender, and their confidence in knowing why and how they should take their medications. These Patient-Reported Experience Measures (PREMs) provide valuable information on the quality of daily practice from the patient's perspective and can be used by pharmacy professionals to guide changes in daily practice that improve patients' experiences.
- Peers and non-pharmacy colleagues can also provide feedback on their confidence in a pharmacy professional's expertise or management of patient's important drug-related issues, their feelings of

being respected, and effectiveness of interprofessional communication. This feedback can also guide improvements in daily practice.

Essentially, patients, peers and colleagues provide feedback on the aspects of pharmacy professionals' practice that they experience on a regular basis, and this feedback is provided to the pharmacy professional in a way that is anonymous, respectful, understandable, manageable, and that aims at improving practice. In community pharmacy, the feedback would focus on the team's daily practice, with the team working together for improvement. Use of this feedback will be supported through structured professional development modules provided by the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP).

Such standard use for multi-source/360 feedback has been integrated into competency assurance and practice improvement programs across other health professions, and evidence from these programs is guiding SCPP's development of their revised CAP, the feedback they will be asking pharmacy professionals to obtain from patients, peers and non-pharmacy colleagues, and the professional development modules being developed.

What's Next?

In the coming months, keep a watch for more details through MicroSCOPE, webinars, and town-hall Q-and-As. SCPP will be providing detailed proposals, answering questions, and seeking feedback on the revised CAP.

Stay tuned for dates for the following:

- Introductory Webinar for Proposed Changes to CAP
- Member Q-and-A on Proposed Changes to CAP ■



Staff Comings and Goings



Simeon Areoye, Administration and Office Operations Coordinator

Joining SCPP in August is Simeon Areoye, with degrees in Civil

Engineering from the University of Benin in Nigeria and Construction Management from City University in London. Most recently, he graduated from Sask. Polytech with a postgraduate in Business Management.

Simeon's previous role was as Client Engagement Officer with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Immigration and Career Training.



Shauna Gerwing, Director of Competency Assurance

Shauna Gerwing will be joining SCPP in September and comes with extensive experience in competency-based education and assessment.

She graduated from the U of S in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. In 2014, she completed her Master's in Educational Administration, with a focus on Health Sciences and earned her PhD in 2020. Her research was primarily in the area of experiential learning and preceptors.

Shauna has worked in community pharmacies around the province as well as at the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, and helped facilitate the curriculum development process for the transition to the PharmD program; later becoming the Associate Director of Experiential Learning.



Darlene King, Reception and Office Operations Coordinator – Retirement

SCPP expresses sincere thanks to Darlene King for ten years of dedicated service as Reception and Office Operations Coordinator, and wishes her well on her retirement.

SASKATCHEWAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY PROFESSIONALS

MEMBER LOGIN

ABOUT US PUBLIC PROTECTION REGISTRATION PHARMACY PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE COMPASS

Custom Search

Meet the Staff

The staff at the College support the work of Council and the committees as well as the College's statutory obligations such as licensing, registration, entry to practise competencies, continuing competence, and complaints and discipline.

Executive	Region	Contact	Phone
Jana Vendei BSc, BSc Pharm, MBA, PhD	Region	jana.vendei@saskpharm.ca	306.584.2292
Lori Postnikoff BSc	Deputy Registrar	lori.postnikoff@saskpharm.ca	306.584.2292

For information on the College, Practice, Complaints, Permits, Licensing and more...

saskpharm.ca

[Staff](#)

[Publications](#)

[Complaints](#)

Bylaw and Policy Updates

Prescription Review Program Part-Fills

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS) has amended section 18.1 of their Regulatory Bylaws that pertain to the Prescription Review Program (PRP). SCPP is a partner to the PRP.

The amendments allow physicians to prescribe refills for Prescription Drug List (PDL) medications monitored by the PRP (baclofen, chloral hydrate, gabapentin, oxybutynin, pregabalin, lemborexant and zopiclone) without complying with the following requirements for part fills:

- the total quantity;
- the amount to be dispensed each time; and
- the time interval between fills.

For further clarification, [please click here](#).

Compounding Pursuant to a Prescription

All pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must adhere to Health Canada's Policy on Manufacturing and Compounding Drug Products in Canada ([POL – 0051](#)), which describes activities that are out of scope, as they are considered manufacturing.

Federal policy also identifies the following as manufacturing, not compounding:

- when health care professionals cannot demonstrate that a patient-health care professional relationship exists;
- when health care professionals produce products intended for distribution or sale outside the demonstrated patient-health care professional relationship; and
- when health care professionals produce products in such a quantity, time, and/or frequency to fall outside of a patient-health care professional relationship.

In accordance with Health Canada's policy, batches of compounded products must only be prepared in very limited quantities in anticipation of future prescriptions based on prior history. Pharmacies must be prepared to demonstrate that the compounds they prepare comply

with the limitations of the Health Canada policy, and that the product will only be dispensed pursuant to a prescription for a patient, will not be resold otherwise, and generally are not of such quantity that may constitute as manufacturing.

To establish an appropriate quantity, the community pharmacy's historical prescription volume and the beyond-use date (BUD) of the compounded preparation may be useful considerations. Remember, assigning BUDs appropriately requires critical appraisal of available literature on the stability, compatibility, and degradation of ingredients.

These considerations are useful to determine and demonstrate the preparation of appropriate quantities.

The same considerations apply when a compound is provided "for office use." In the absence of a patient-specific prescription, compounders may only prepare a compounded product in an appropriate quantity, time, and/or frequency to ensure it is being used within a patient-health care professional relationship. This is meant to be infrequent and for small drug quantities only.

All pharmacies are required to meet the non-sterile compounding standards and be prepared to accommodate a minimum Level A non-sterile compounding in accordance with the [Model Standards for Pharmacy Compounding of Non-sterile Preparations](#) and accompanying [guidance document](#).

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Those pharmacies providing non-sterile compounding associated with higher levels of risk (Levels B and C) must meet the requirements of the type and level of compounding being provided. Pharmacies must ensure compounds are provided in an appropriate quantity, time, and frequency pursuant to a prescription.

Pharmacy teams must ensure compounding is completed in accordance with relevant standards and guidelines, within the context of a person-centred care model. If a pharmacy receives a prescription for a compound that is considered a higher-risk level than which they are compliant with, that prescription must be transferred to a pharmacy compliant with the requirements for the level that compound is deemed to be.

Transferring of the prescription must also comply with the patient consent and the patient's right to choose their pharmacy.

*Adapted from an article published by the
Alberta College of Pharmacy*



Pharmacy Manager Policy Launches

In October 2017, the SCPP Council first approved the Professional Autonomy Framework to ensure the health and safety of the public by facilitating appropriately controlled and resourced practice environments in community pharmacies.

The first priority of the Framework was to continue the work on addressing pharmacy manager requirements to support managers in this important role (see [SCOPE December 2016](#)).

Due to the large-scale impact that pharmacy managers have on the delivery of quality pharmacy services across the province, the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws were amended to address the challenges identified for the role through:

- increased eligibility requirements including the Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy (CCCEP) accredited Community Pharmacy Manager Course;
- physical presence and oversight requirements;
- criteria on the number of pharmacies a pharmacist may manage;
- requirements for interim pharmacy managers; and
- continuing professional development opportunities specific to the pharmacy manager role.

In support of the bylaws, SCPP is proud to introduce

the new Council-approved [Pharmacy Manager Policy](#). The new policy applies to all pharmacy managers of proprietary pharmacies, and contains critical information and resources for pharmacy managers and proprietors as they fulfill their responsibilities as identified in *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act*.

SCPP is also excited to introduce the [Community Pharmacy Manager Course](#), developed by the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP), a learning-objective mapped Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy (CCCEP) accredited course and the first of its kind in Canada.

Key Dates for Implementation of the Policy:

- **All new complaints received as of July 5** that proceed to a Discipline Hearing will be subject to clause 11(1)(a) of Part I of the Bylaws which state that to qualify to become and remain a pharmacy manager, a licensed practising pharmacist must have no conditions or restrictions on his or her licence arising from a decision of a Discipline Committee.
- **Applications for new pharmacy managers and new interim pharmacy managers** (i.e., currently not a manager) received July 25, 2022 or after, will be required to complete the [Pharmacy Manager Course](#) prior to being approved as the pharmacy manager of record.

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- **Minimum Physical Presence Requirements:** In force Nov. 1, 2022.
- **New applicants to manage more than one pharmacy:** May be approved until Nov. 1, 2022, after which approvals will follow the [Pharmacy Manager Policy](#).
- **Current pharmacy managers:** [Training](#) is to be completed on or before April 30, 2023.
- **Current pharmacy managers of more than one pharmacy approved on or before Nov. 1, 2022:** Will be able to manage existing pharmacies until Nov. 1, 2023, to allow enough time to secure a new manager who meets the requirements.

This policy was developed through extensive consultations with a large variety of stakeholders, including members, pharmacy interns, proprietors, the SCPP Registration and Licencing and Professional Practice Committees, the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan, pharmacy regulators from across Canada, other regulatory bodies within Saskatchewan, and the Ministry of Health. SCPP appreciates the thoughtful input provided by these stakeholders, which significantly shaped the policy.

For more detailed information, please see the [Pharmacy Manager Policy](#) and the [SCOPE Special Pharmacy Manager Edition](#). ■



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New NAPRA Publications

NAPRA Publishes Model Compounding Competencies

The National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) announced the publication of its latest practice resource document: [Model Compounding Competencies for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians in Canada](#).

The document defines the Model Compounding Competencies required of compounding pharmacy professionals in Canada to ensure safe, quality compounding of non-sterile, sterile, and hazardous preparations.

The intent is that all pharmacy professionals who are involved in a given category of compounding, including pharmacy professionals with supervisory or management responsibilities for compounding, must be able to demonstrate the defined competencies.

NAPRA developed these Model Compounding Competencies for the following objectives:

- to provide competencies against which compounding educational programs can be mapped to ensure that individuals taking the educational programs will be able to meet the NAPRA compounding standards; and
- to provide competencies for compounding that pharmacy regulatory authorities can map assessment initiatives against.

This document serves as a model that may be used for mapping of compounding educational programs or may be applied as seen fit by the pharmacy regulatory authority in each province or territory, based on the needs in that jurisdiction.

Given the variability of authorizations across jurisdictions, compounding pharmacy professionals are responsible for knowing and adhering to the regulations of their province or territory of practice.

From NAPRA

Model Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians

Council adopted the new [NAPRA Model Standards of Practice for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians](#) to be the minimum standards of practice for Saskatchewan. In response to feedback and recommendations from the Professional Practice Committee, the standards document has been modified to reflect Saskatchewan scope of practice.

The 17 new Standards of Practice do not introduce new standards to the profession, but present the same principles in a manner that is easily applied to all areas of pharmacy practice.

Detailed standards of practice for specific authorized practices that must also be followed are found in SPP's Reference Manual for the respective authorized practice (e.g., [Administration by Injection](#), [Prescriptive Authority](#)).

Principles of Professionalism for the Profession of Pharmacy

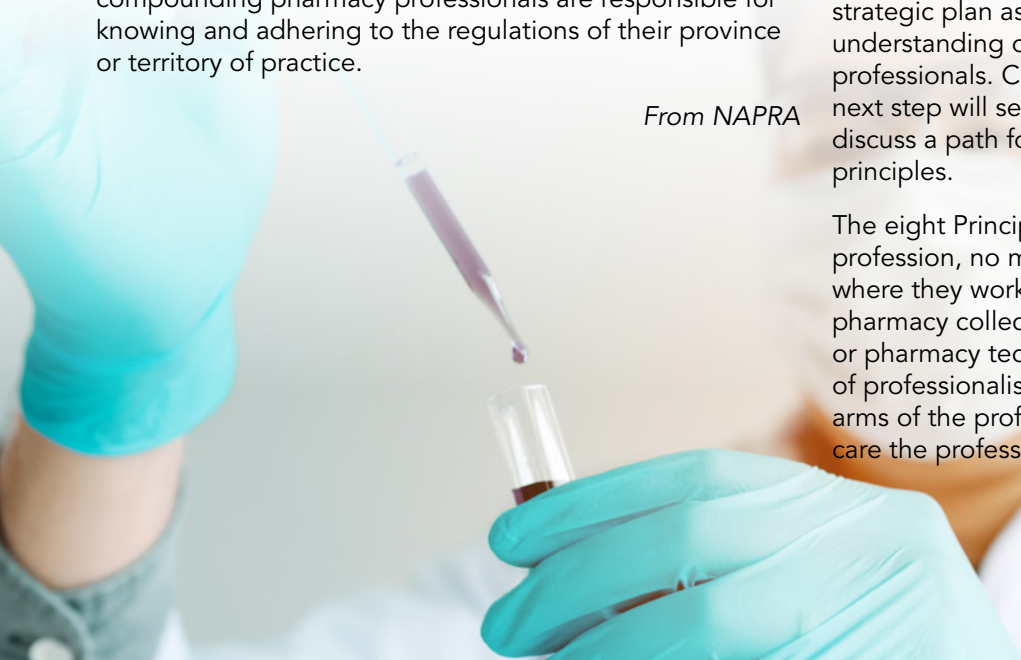
On July 18, NAPRA announced the publication of the [Principles of Professionalism for the Profession of Pharmacy](#).

Marking a first step in NAPRA's longer term project to enhance the culture of professionalism in pharmacy, the goal of this document is to define the Principles of Professionalism that the profession of pharmacy agrees to strive toward and to open the dialogue around professionalism with stakeholders across the profession. Next steps will include working with stakeholders to identify ways to uphold these principles in each of our respective day-to-day activities.

The [Principles of Professionalism](#) was included in the SPP strategic plan as one of the objectives to build a greater understanding of professionalism amongst pharmacy professionals. Council approved the Principles, and the next step will see NAPRA engaging stakeholders to discuss a path forward and a mutual understanding of the principles.

The eight Principles of Professionalism apply to the entire profession, no matter what role each individual plays or where they work. Framing professionalism by defining what pharmacy collectively (and not only individual pharmacists or pharmacy technicians) can do to enhance the culture of professionalism provides opportunities to integrate all arms of the profession and to strengthen the quality of care the profession of pharmacy provides to Canadians.

With notes from NAPRA



Cleanliness in Pharmacies: Pest Infestations and Mold

The SCPP Complaints team has been fielding a number of calls and complaints recently from the public related to concerns over pest infestations in pharmacies, including mice and cockroaches.

As a reminder, the onus is on the pharmacy manager and proprietor to ensure that the pharmacy premises are kept clean and safe for both their staff and the public. If the pharmacy is a tenant within a building, the pharmacy manager and/or proprietor must contact the building landlord to report the concerns and ensure appropriate remediation occurs in a timely fashion.

In addition to pests, pharmacies should watch for and have cleaning protocols to prevent and eliminate mold. Mold, which may not be visible, can grow in water within five days. With added ingredients in the container, this can be reduced to as little as two days.

Pharmacies are providing products to Saskatchewan's vulnerable populations, and the Saskatchewan public must have full confidence that pharmacies are keeping their medication safe to consume.

Any location that handles items destined to be swallowed should be treated at least as effectively as a food

processing facility. It's recommended that pharmacies have a written plan specifying the protocols and frequencies for crawling, flying, and scurrying pest control, hand washing, and sanitizing equipment and counters, and contact information for the building proprietor and landlord.

In addition, consider other areas that may be prone to pests or molds and include in the pharmacy's written protocols and cleaning frequency:

- Tang/diluent dispensers
- Residual liquid in empty/consumed medication containers
- Fridges, sinks, washrooms, and other areas that are prone to moisture
- Air vents in the ceiling and floors

It's also important to note if a tenant within the building sells food or drink, Saskatchewan Health Authority Public Health may need to be informed as these businesses may be under the jurisdiction of Public Health.

Key resource: [Pharmacy Manager – Responsibilities](#)

Lock and Leave Enclosures

A lock and leave enclosure is a physical enclosure/barrier that separates the dispensary including all Schedule I drug products, and all Schedule II and III products from the remainder of the premises. These barriers/enclosures allow the remainder of the premises to remain open when the pharmacy is closed.

The types of barriers considered a lock and leave enclosure are:

- a wall, composed of transparent, semitransparent or opaque materials, or any combination thereof, at least six feet high surrounding the dispensary.
- a sliding wall, in accordance with the height and material specifications under (1) above, which will completely surround and secure the dispensary; and
- enclosures or cabinets which enclose all Schedule II and III products.

[Current legislation](#) does not distinguish between whether the Lock and Leave Enclosure is used or not used. If you have any of the above types of barriers that separate Schedule I, II, or III products located in the pharmacy from the remainder of the premises, you are required to have a Lock and Leave Permit.

Any pharmacy which has installed lock and leave barriers and fixtures requires a Lock and Leave Permit from SCPP regardless of whether it is used to prevent access of non-pharmacist staff or the public.

Information on how to apply for a Lock and Leave Permit can be found in the [Pharmacy – Lock and Leave](#) section of the SCPP website.

Please see [section 9 \(Lock and Leave\) of Part J of the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws](#) and the [Pharmacy – Lock and Leave](#) section of the SCPP website for more information.

National Drug Schedule Updates

Brimonidine Update

The following has been removed from the Health Canada Prescription Drug List and the National Drug Schedules have been updated accordingly.

- Brimonidine tartrate ophthalmic solution in concentrations up to and including 0.025%, used for the relief of redness of the eye due to minor eye irritations caused by environmental allergies, dryness and fatigue for adults of 18 years granted Schedule III status.

Note that Brimonidine or its salts, except when sold as brimonidine tartrate ophthalmic solution in concentrations up to and including 0.025%, will remain in Schedule I (as per the Prescription Drug List).

Final Recommendations for Topical Diclofenac Diethylamine

The interim recommendations made by the National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) on June 5, 2022, that:

- **Diclofenac diethylamine** – for human use – when sold as a single medicinal ingredient for topical use on the skin in concentrations greater than 1.16 per cent and less than or equal to 2.32 per cent for not more than seven (7) days – in package sizes containing greater than 2.6g of diclofenac diethylamine be granted Schedule III status
- **Diclofenac diethylamine** – for human use – when sold as a single medicinal ingredient for topical use on the skin in concentrations greater than 1.16 per cent and less than or equal to 2.32 per cent for not more than seven (7) days - in package sizes containing no more than 2.6g of diclofenac diethylamine be granted Unscheduled status
- **Diclofenac diethylamine** – for human use - when sold as a single medicinal ingredient for topical use on the skin in concentrations of not more than 1.16 per cent for not more than seven (7) days remain Unscheduled

were finalized effective July 26, 2022. Final approval of the interim recommendations was made by NAPRA's Board of Directors, in consideration of comments received during the 30-day review period. The National Drug Schedules will be revised accordingly.

From NAPRA





NAPRA Language Proficiency Standard Setting Exercises

The National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) recently initiated a project to review and update its recommendations related to assessing language proficiency in English and French for safe and effective pharmacist and pharmacy technician practice in Canada.

One of the most crucial project activities is standard setting. Panelists, typically made up of qualified practitioners, educators, and regulators, participate in standard-setting activities where they collaborate to set cut-off scores (or pass scores) on accepted tests. The cut-off scores are used to determine if candidates have achieved the language proficiency standard required for licensure as a pharmacist or pharmacy technician in Canada.

NAPRA needs your support to find qualified panelists to participate in these standard-setting exercises. We are looking for experienced, practising pharmacists and pharmacy technicians from all across Canada, who are proficient in either English, French or both languages. Front-line practising pharmacy professionals, as well as educators in pharmacy or pharmacy technician programs, are invited to submit their expression of interest to participate in these important sessions.

We anticipate that the workshops will be held sometime between January 2023 and March 2023, but the exact dates and locations will not be available until closer to the sessions. At this time, we are looking for potential participants to submit their expression of interest, so that we can create a pool of candidates from which to select the final panelists. To allow for diverse, representative standard setting panels, candidates will be selected based on language (EN/FR), demographic representation, geographic location and relevant experience/expertise.

Prospective panel members may participate in more than one standard-setting workshop. The French standard-setting workshop will be delivered in French.

Costs associated with travel to the workshop locations will be reimbursed in accordance with the NAPRA Board and Volunteer Expenses Policy. An honorarium will also be provided to participating panelists.

If you are interested in participating in these vital sessions, we ask you to complete the Expression of Interest Survey. Please do not hesitate to share this recruitment notice with others who may also be interested in participating in this project. Selected panelists will be informed by email and receive an information package via email at least one week before the standard-setting workshop to review the workshop agenda and general introduction to the standard-setting process. During the workshop, panelists will be working alongside other panelists to review test materials and sample performance and decide on the pass scores for minimally competent candidates. Each workshop is expected to last approximately 2.5 days.

We recognize that these last few years have been highly demanding, both professionally and personally, and we know that time away from your work and family may be challenging. Our work on this project is not achievable without support from selfless members of the profession who are willing to volunteer their precious time to initiatives such as this. NAPRA greatly appreciates all candidates who submit their expression of interest and warmly thanks candidates in advance for their willingness to commit to this endeavor.

Interested candidates should complete the following expression of interest survey. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at lshaver@napra.ca.

Thank you very much for your interest.

I am interested in participating in the standard-setting workshop(s). Please take me to the Expression of Interest Survey.

From NAPRA

Notes from the Field

Eszopiclone, Brand Name Lunesta

A question came up in a recent Quality Improvement Review (QIR) whether eszopiclone, brand name Lunesta, must follow the same prescription requirements as other PRP medications.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS) bylaw 18.1 states:

The Prescription Review Program shall apply to all dosage forms of the following drugs, their salts and/or enantiomers, in all dosage forms, as a single active ingredient or as a combination product, except where indicated otherwise.

This includes drugs like eszopiclone.

Practice Alert: Administration of Expired Vaccines

SCPP has been advised by DPEBB/Public Health that there have been instances of patients receiving administration of expired vaccines. **Note:** this does not include instances where Health Canada has communicated a shelf-life extension of a particular vaccine or drug for a specific LOT#.

The administration of expired vaccine/medication is to be treated as a medication incident and as such reporting and a review/root cause analysis must occur.

As required in the standards of practice (see [Administration by Injection](#), and [NAPRA Standards of Practice](#), Standard 1.3):

- Pharmacy professionals must take steps to ensure the injection is administered safely. This includes verifying the vaccine/drug, dose, route of administration, and expiry date **before each injection**.

- All vaccines (as well as all medications in the pharmacy) must be checked routinely and any which will be expiring should be flagged for removal from inventory. Any expired medication must be immediately removed from inventory.

Vaccine inventory management is the responsibility of all pharmacy team members; however, pharmacy managers may consider designating a primary vaccine coordinator at each site to ensure that expired vaccines are removed from the inventory, that cold chain is maintained at all times, and that other best practices for inventory management have been implemented (e.g., physical storage solutions to manage stock).

For more information also see:

- [Administration of Drugs by Injection and Other Routes FAQs](#)
- [Vaccine Storage, Handling and Transport Guidelines](#)
- [Refrigerator and Temperature Monitoring Equipment Requirements](#)
- [Saskatchewan Immunization Manual Chapter 9](#)

Requests for Assistance with Providing Medications

With the situation in Ukraine, pharmacists may be asked to assist in providing medications for various charities or humanitarian causes.

By law, pharmacies aren't permitted to dispense or provide Schedule I medications without a valid prescription written by a physician for a particular patient.

Medications (antibiotic creams, numbing agents, etc.) can be dispensed for medical clinics to use within their facilities if a physician writes an "office use" prescription, but physicians wouldn't be able to use the medications outside of their clinics.

In addition, Health Canada requires a permit to import or export medications into or out of Canada as per the *Food and Drugs Act* and *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and their corresponding regulations.



Discipline Matters

Consensual Complaint Resolution Agreements

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.

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 Consensual Complaint Resolution Agreement (CCRA), which is one form of an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).

An ADR 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 an ADR the file is referred back to the Complaints Committee, which may result in referral to the Discipline Committee for a hearing. The SCCPP Regulatory Bylaws Part P.1 section 3(12) and (13) state the ADR processes.

CCRA Summary – Kingsley Chukwu

The Complaint

- In December 2021, the Complaints Committee received a complaint regarding an incident concerning Mr. Chukwu's administration of a COVID-19 vaccination, hygiene and masking practices, and immunization technique and knowledge.

- Upon completion of the investigation, the Complaints Committee determined that the concerns identified in the allegations were warranted and recommended that the concerns be addressed through a Consensual Complaints Resolution Agreement.

The Agreement

The Committee recommended an Agreement to:

- Ensure Kingsley Chukwu is up to date on proper injection technique.
- Ensure that pharmacy staff are up to date on relevant COVID-19 and hygiene policies, standards and guidelines, and ensure they have been implemented in the pharmacy practice.

Kingsley Chukwu agreed to a CCRA in April 2022, which, while an alternative to the discipline process, meets the mandate of the College and provides general deterrence for the profession.

In summary, Kingsley Chukwu has agreed to the following provisions:

1. Kingsley Chukwu will complete the Injection Refresher Workshop offered through Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) within six (6) months from the date of the signed agreement and provide certificate of completion to the Registrar. Kingsley will be responsible for all costs required to complete the course.
2. Kingsley Chukwu and all pharmacy staff will review a list of documents related to COVID-19 and hygiene policies and procedures and provide proof of each staff member having read the documents by the deadline stipulated.
3. Kingsley Chukwu will provide a letter of apology to the complainant, including an explanation of the changes made to his personal and the pharmacy's practice to address the concerns raised in the complaint.

Continued on next page ►

CCRA Summary – Constantinos Furlas

The Complaint

- In February 2022, the Complaints Committee received a complaint concerning allegations that on several different occasions Mr. Constantinos Furlas had collected the banner's patronage points using his personal member number for sales of non-member or other member sales. These actions were considered a form of internal theft by the banner.
- The Complaints Committee agreed that Mr. Constantinos Furlas' actions demonstrated a lack of judgement, professionalism, ethical principles, and professional integrity.
- Upon completion of the investigation, the Complaints Committee determined that while Mr. Constantinos Furlas was contrite and remorseful in his response to the Committee, the lapse in professional and ethical judgement was serious.

The Agreement

Mr. Constantinos Furlas agreed to a CCRA in June 2022, which, while an alternative to the discipline process, meets the mandate of the College and provides general deterrence for the profession.

In summary, Constantinos Furlas has agreed to the following provisions:

1. Mr. Constantinos Furlas will complete the PROBE Ethics & Boundaries Program – Canada within eight (8) months of the date of signing the agreement. Mr. Constantinos Furlas shall bear all costs associated with the course and provide verification to the Registrar that he has successfully completed the course by obtaining an unconditional pass before the eight (8) months has passed. ■





From the Desk of the Dean

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition has returned to an in-person learning and working environment. While things have not quite returned to normal, all the activity in the college has been positive for our students, faculty and staff. The university's current safety measures can be found on the COVID-19 response website. [Read more.](#)



Terry Damm

The college is proud to have three staff receive [2022 USask Staff and Faculty Awards](#), including:

- **Terry Damm**, Provost's College Awards for Outstanding Teaching
- **Danielle Larocque**, Staff Excellence Award
- **Mackenzie Malo**, Staff Excellence Award



Danielle Larocque

Courtney Charles and **Terry Damm** received 2021-22 University of Saskatchewan Students' Union Teaching Excellence Awards. Selected by students, the Teaching Excellence Award recognizes those who have demonstrated enthusiasm, organization and fairness in evaluation, providing exceptional commitment and support to their classrooms. [Read more.](#)



Mackenzie Malo

Nutrition student **Jordyn Grantham** won first place in the "Nutrigraphic": 2022 CNS

Infographic Awards at the 2022 Canadian Nutrition society Annual Conference. Jordyn is supervised by **Dr. Jessica Lieffers** and **Carrie Verishagen**. [Read more.](#)

PhD candidate **Ayat Zagzoog** is the winner of the Best Basic Science Paper at the 2022 Life and Health Sciences Research Expo. Ayat is supervised by **Dr. Robert Laprairie**. [Read more.](#)

Professor Emeritus **Dr. Dennis Gorecki** was named the recipient of USP's Beal Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service. The award recognizes a person who has made outstanding contributions to public health while serving as a USP volunteer. [Read more.](#)



Dr. Dennis Gorecki

The CPDPP and medSask teams were recognized with the 2022 Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Award of Merit. The award recognizes pharmacists, individuals, or organizations, who through their active participation have promoted the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan. [Read more.](#)

The new program Advancing Interprofessional Management of Substance Use Disorders in Saskatchewan (AIMS-SK) will improve health outcomes for individuals with substance use disorders, including people misusing opioids and alcohol. The AIMS-SK program is developed and coordinated by the College of Medicine's Division of Continuing Medical Education and CPDPP. [Read more.](#)

We are currently recruiting pharmacists to act as instructors in the professional skills labs. You do not need to be an expert in any particular area. Your predominant role is to observe and provide feedback to the students so they can improve their skills. [Read more.](#)

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

*Dr. Jane Alcorn,
Professor and Dean*

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*
October-November Pharmacist Qualifying Examination	MCQ: Oct. 31 – Nov. 4, 2022	Aug. 4, 2022, 12 pm (Eastern Time)
	OSCE: Nov. 5, 2022	
January Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	Jan. 11, 2023	Sept. 22, 2022, 12 pm (Eastern Time)

Pharmacy Technician Schedule of Exams

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
September Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination	MCQ: Sept. 7, 2022	Deadline passed
	OSPE: Sept. 11, 2022	

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

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

