Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board

The Apothecary

Summer 2018

The Apothecary is the newsletter of the Newfoundland & Labrador Pharmacy Board.
It contains information on a wide variety of topics intended to enhance the practice of all pharmacists in the province of Newfoundland & Labrador.
All registrants are responsible for reviewing any and all information contained within including documents which are made available on the NLPB website via links throughout the newsletter.
The Apothecary is now circulated electronically and is available in hard copy format only upon specific request.

New Registrants Welcome Reception

On the evening of Friday, May 11th, the NLPB held its first New Registrant Welcome Reception, at the St. John's Comfort Inn Airport. Among the invited guests were new pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who were initially registered in 2017, NLPB board members, and staff.

The attendees were given the opportunity to mingle and connect with friends both new and old while they enjoyed food, drinks, and entertainment including the opportunity to dip their own delicious chocolate truffles provided by The Newfoundland Chocolate Company.

Registrar Margot Priddle and Board Chair Taggarty Norris spoke on behalf of the Board, welcoming the attendees to the pharmacy profession. The night concluded with the presentation of new registrant pins to each attendee and a group picture.

It was an enjoyable evening celebrating the addition of these enthusiastic new registrants to the pharmacy community in our province. The Board intends to make this an annual event and looks forward to welcoming this year's registrants at its event in 2019.

2018 NLPB Symposium

On Saturday, May 12th, the 3rd NLPB Symposium was held at the Comfort Inn Airport in St. John's. The day started with an engaging presentation on the responsible and professional use of social media from Ronalda Walsh of Nine Island Communications.

Ronalda Walsh, Nine Island Communications

This was followed by an Open Forum during which attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions or bring issues to the Board's attention. They were also given the opportunity to offer input into some current practice challenges that have been identified by the Board. The discussion was very dynamic with great suggestions and constructive feedback offered by the attendees.

The Annual General Meeting of the Board followed, during which the results of the 2017 election were announced. This year members were elected from Zones 1 and 4. A Call for Nominations was emailed to all registered pharmacists in these two zones on February 4, 2018 and nominations were received until March 6. Three nominations were received for Zone 1 - Keith Bailey, Jeremy Reid and Andrew Sweetapple - and one nomination was received for Zone 4 - Henry White. Online voting began on April 5, 2018 and the results were reviewed and tabulated on April 30, 2018, with Keith Bailey being elected in Zone 1 and Henry White being elected in Zone 4, by acclamation. The Board welcomes back both Keith, who previously served two terms from 2008 to 2014, and Henry, who is serving his second consecutive term.

Following the Annual General Meeting, the Board elected the Executive for the 2018-19 year:

Chair
Colleen Squires
Vice-Chair
Gerri Thompson
Executive Member
Henry White
Past Chair
Taggarty Norris

Taggarty Norris (L); Colleen Squires (R)

This is a very exciting time for the Board as it marks the first time a Pharmacy Technician will serve as the Chair of the Board. Congratulations to Colleen on this historic milestone.

Awards Luncheon

The day concluded with the NLPB Awards Luncheon, where the achievements of our registrants were celebrated with the presentation of a number of awards. See more on these awards in our story on pg. 3.

We thank the registrants who were in attendance at this year's Symposium and invite all registrants to join us at future NLPB events.

2018 NLPB Awards Luncheon

To close out the NLPB Symposium this past May, the Board recognized a number of registrants for their commitment of time, energy, and leadership to the NLPB and the pharmacy profession.

For more information on these awards and honours and to nominate a deserving registrant in the future, please see the NLPB Awards and Honours Overview at: http://www.nlpb.ca/media/NLPB-Awards-and-Honours-Jan2017.pdf. A call for nominations will be sent out in January for the 2019 Awards.

Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Past Chair Award

Taggarty Norris

NLPB Recognition of Service Award

Jeremy Parsons

NLPB Certificate of Recognition

Ray Gulliver

NLPB Patient Safety Award

John Bautista
Heather Seeley

NLPB Emerald Achievement Award

(35 years of NLPB registration)

Noel Codner	Charles Green	Leona Mercer
Berkley Coish	Zeta Hannaford	Daniel O'Brien
Jacqueline Dale	Perry Humphries	Leslie Phillips
Roderick Elliott	Glenn Locke	Alice Porter
Kelly Fitzpatrick	Debbie Mercer	Perry Warren

Chad Parsons (L); Jeremy Parsons (R)

Ray Gulliver (L); Taggarty Norris (R)

Margot Priddle (L); Leslie Phillips (R)

Gerri Thompson (L); Heather Seeley (R)

May 2018 Board Meeting Recap

New Standards for the Safe and Effective Provision of Opioid Agonist Maintenance Treatment

These Standards, formerly referred to as the "Opioid Dependence Treatment" Standards, were approved by the board and are now available on the Standards, Guidelines, Policies and Positions page of the NLPB website. Registrants should refer to the July 2018 issue of The PostScript for a description of some of the key changes in the revised Standards.

A new orientation program is being developed to accompany the revised Standards. While this program will be available to all registrants to help familiarize them with the Standards, pharmacists who are not already authorized to participate in OAMT services will be required to complete the new program, once it is available.

Interpretation Guide – Ending the Pharmacist-Patient Relationship

In response to an increasing number of requests for information on this topic over the past several months, the Board has approved a new companion document to the Code of Ethics to help offer some guidance to pharmacists on the subject. This Interpretation Guide can be found with the Code of Ethics on the Standards, Guidelines, Policies and Positions page of the NLPB website.

Practice Policy - Registrant Use of Social Media

In recognition of the expanding use of social media use among pharmacy professionals and the many opportunities for information-sharing in a registrant's personal and professional life, the Board approved a new practice policy on registrant's use of social media . In the policy, registrants are reminded that the expectation of professional and ethical conduct is the same whether they are interacting with others in person or through social media, and whether they are interacting in a personal or professional context. The policy can be found on the Standards, Guidelines, Policies and Positions page of the NLPB website.

Board Policy - Social Media Use by Board Members, Employees, Volunteers, and Other Representatives and Providers

Similarly, NLPB Board members, employees, volunteers, and other representatives and providers using social media must understand the public nature of social media and remain diligent in managing the professional and personal risk, as well as the risk of harm to the NLPB and the profession, that is created by participating in and having a presence on social media platforms, whether it is for personal use, business use, or as a representative of the NLPB. This policy will be incorporated into NLPB policy and procedure manuals as well as committee terms of reference.

Committee for Non-Sterile Compounding Standards Implementation

The Board decided to establish a task force to review the new non-sterile compounding standards and determine any local implementation challenges. Board members Brittany Churchill, Taggarty Norris and Colleen Squires will sit on the task force along with a selection of registrants who perform varied levels of compounding. The task force will review the document and provide feedback, in advance of the national working group meeting in September.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Implementation Plan for Sterile Compounding Standards

The Board also decided to establish a task force to develop a phased implementation plan for NAPRA sterile compounding Standards that is aligned with implementation plans in other provinces, with a goal of full compliance with the standards by December 31, 2021. This task force will primarily consist of Board members and hospital pharmacy registrants. The task force will review the implantation plans that have been developed in other provinces and provide recommendations to the Board at their September meeting.

Board Policy - Transparency in Disciplinary Proceedings

The issue of transparency is an important one nationwide with a growing trend towards increasing the public visibility of administrative processes, particularly in disciplinary proceedings. This prompted a review of NLPB's policies, particularly in terms of publication of Complaints Authorization Committee ("CAC") decisions, publication of Adjudication Tribunal decisions, and providing public notice of upcoming disciplinary hearings. Following this review, a new policy was presented to and approved by the Board. It can be found on the Adjudication Tribunal Decisions page of the NLPB website.

Changes to Practical Training Program for Pharmacists

At this meeting, the Board finalized a decision to eliminate the 12 week studentship portion of the practical training program while retaining the post graduate requirement at a reduced time commitment to 6 weeks from 8 weeks. This decision was made in response to the increased number of practice hours in the undergraduate pharmacy program as a result of the change from a baccalaureate program to an entry-to-practice doctor of pharmacy program. See the table below for a comparison of the former program and the new program.

<table>
<tr><th>Year</th><th colspan="2">New Entry-to-Practice Pharm.D. Program</th><th colspan="2">B.Sc.(Pharm) Program</th></tr>
<tr><th></th><th>MUN Component</th><th>NLPB Component</th><th>MUN Component</th><th>NLPB Component</th></tr>
<tr><td>1st</td><td>- Community shadowing (12 hours)
- Service learning (20 hours)</td><td rowspan="3">NONE</td><td>SPE I – Community pharmacy (4 weeks)</td><td rowspan="3">Studentship (12 weeks completed over 3 years)</td></tr>
<tr><td>2nd</td><td>- Communication skills development (6 hours)
- PPE I – Community pharmacy (6 weeks)</td><td>SPE II – Hospital pharmacy (4 weeks)</td></tr>
<tr><td>3rd</td><td>- PPE II – Hospital dispensary (2 weeks)
- PPE III – Direct patient care (4 weeks)</td><td>SPE III – Community pharmacy (4 weeks)</td></tr>
<tr><td>4th</td><td>PPE IV – Hospital clinical experience (2 weeks)</td><td></td><td>SPE IV – Advanced direct patient care (12 weeks)</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>5th</td><td>- APPE – Acute care hospital (8 weeks)
- APPE – Community pharmacy (8 weeks)
- APPE – Direct patient care (8 weeks)
- APPE – Elective – either direct or non-direct patient care (6 weeks)</td><td></td><td>Not Applicable</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Post-Graduate</td><td></td><td>Direct patient care (6 weeks)</td><td></td><td>Direct patient care (8 weeks)</td></tr>
</table>

Complaints & Discipline Update

Case #1

On January 10, 2018, the Complainant filed an allegation ("Allegation A") against a pharmacist ("Respondent") pursuant to s. 37 of the Pharmacy Act, 2012 ("Act"). In Allegation A, the Complainant alleged that the Respondent had practiced pharmacy for three days in January 2018 without having renewed her certificate of registration to practice pharmacy with the Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board ("Board").

On March 9, 2018, the Complainant filed a second allegation ("Allegation B") against the Respondent pursuant to s. 37 of the Act. In Allegation B, the Complainant alleged that the Respondent had taken several bottles of Stanley brand A.C. & C. 8 mg 100 count product, Drug Identification Number 00180041, for herself without recording the dispense. This product contains ASA 375 mg, Caffeine 15 mg, and Codeine Phosphate 8 mg and is a Schedule II drug in the Provincial Drug Schedules.

In her responses to the Allegations, the Respondent acknowledged that she had practiced without a certificate of registration for three days in January 2018 and that she had taken several bottles of Stanley brand A.C. & C. 8 mg 100 count product for herself without recording the dispense.

Following receipt of her responses to the Allegations, the Complainant and the Respondent both agreed to participate in Alternative Dispute Resolution with the Registrar of the Board to attempt to resolve the matter.

The Respondent has acknowledged that her actions constituted conduct deserving of sanction. In particular, she acknowledged that her actions were in violation of:

(i) The Pharmacy Act, 2012:

25 (1) A person other than a pharmacist with a certificate shall not

(b) carry on the practice of pharmacy in the province

(ii) The Standards of Pharmacy Operation – Community Pharmacy ("SOPO-Community"):

3.2 (b) Each time a prescription is dispensed or a Schedule II medication is provided to a patient, it must be recorded in the patient's electronic health record.

(iii) The Standards of Practice – The Sale of Exempted Codeine Products in Community Pharmacies:

2 (c) Filing and Storage. In accordance with section 1.6 of the SOPO-Community, records of the provision of [exempted codeine products] must be filed with prescriptions for other narcotics and controlled drugs in sequence by date and number (either transaction or prescription number).

3.3 (a) Each time a pharmacist provides an [exempted codeine product] to a patient, it must be documented in the patient's medication profile in accordance with section 3.5 of the SOPO-Community.

(iv) the Board's By-Laws:

94. The term professional misconduct for the purposes of considering an allegation or a complaint and the institution of disciplinary proceedings includes but is not limited to including:

(b) breach of the Code of Ethics or Standards of Pharmacy Practice approved by the board;

(e) falsifying or failing to maintain appropriate patient and prescription records;

(v) the Board's Code of Ethics:

2.6 Registrants limit treatment of themselves or immediate family members only to minor conditions, emergency circumstances or when another appropriate health professional is not readily available.

6.1 Registrants obey the laws, regulations, standards and policies of the profession, both in letter and in spirit.

(Continued on page 7)

The Respondent, the Complainant, and the Board agreed to the following disposition of this allegation:

1) The Respondent was cautioned for her admitted conduct deserving of sanction.
2) The Respondent was required to sign an undertaking that she will comply with all requirements for registration, and that she has read and understands the relevant legislation, standards, & the Code of Ethics.
3) The Respondent was prohibited from treating herself or any immediate family members with any Schedule I or Schedule II drug.
4) The Respondent was prohibited from practicing in a patient care setting until she produces an acceptable certification to the Board from a physician confirming that she is medically fit to do so.
5) The Respondent was prohibited from serving as pharmacist in charge or preceptor for a period of two years.
6) The Respondent contributed towards the costs of the Board's involvement in the Allegations.
7) A copy of this Settlement Agreement will be placed in the Respondent's file and noted on any requests for a Letter of Standing from the Board.
8) This summary will be posted in the next issue of the Apothecary.

Lessons Learned…

⇒ Registrants are reminded that they are responsible for ensuring they are actively registered prior to practicing.

⇒ Registrants are reminded that they should limit treatment of themselves only to minor conditions or to situations where another health professional is not readily available.

⇒ Pharmacists are reminded that the provision of all Schedule II medications, including exempted codeine products, must be recorded in the patient's local medication profile as well as the provincial electronic health record and, in accordance with the Standards of Pharmacy Operation-Community Pharmacy, appropriate records must also be kept and be filed with prescriptions for other narcotics and controlled drugs.

Case #2

An allegation was received by the Board that a pharmacy was dispensing a medication in a repackaged form despite the medication being available commercially. The pharmacy was receiving the repackaged medication directly from a pharmacy outside the province without operating through the Board's Centralized Prescription Processing ("Central Fill") Policy. The pharmacy was also not conducting fulsome counselling with patients receiving the medication. The pharmacy had ceased the practice prior to the allegation being forwarded to the Board.

After reviewing the relevant materials and conducting an investigation into the allegation, a panel of the Complaints Authorization Committee issued a caution to the pharmacist in charge at the pharmacy. The pharmacist in charge was cautioned that:

1) With every new prescription, and refill prescriptions as appropriate in accordance with the standards, patient counselling must be undertaken;
2) Practitioners should not dispense repackaged medications that are available in commercial form for financial reasons;
3) Practitioners must ensure that all applicable policies and procedures are followed before dealing with another pharmacy to fill prescriptions; and
4) Where uncertainty arises in the interpretation of laws, regulations, standards, and policies of the profession practitioners must do due diligence in ensuring that their practice is compliant, including, if necessary, contacting the Board for guidance.

All registrants are encouraged to review their practices to ensure that none of the above concerns arise.

Professional Practice Webinars

The next Professional Practice webinar is scheduled for

⇒ **August 14, 2018 – Standards 101 & FAQ - New Opioid Agonist Maintenance Treatment Standards**

We aim to have a webinar either the second or third Tuesday of every other month, going live from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Invitations to each webinar go out via email 2-3 weeks before the scheduled date.

If you are not able to join us for the live session, a recording of the event an a copy of the slides are usually posted to the Professional Practice Webinars page of the NLPB website within a week following the event.

Please visit the NLPB website to view recordings of past webinars or to check the dates of upcoming webinars.

Forgot Your Password?

From the login screen, under **Forgot Your Log In/ Password**, enter the email address associated with your profile and click **Retrieve.**

You will receive an email within a few minutes with your user name and password.

Looking for a Receipt?

Did you know you can view and print your invoices and receipts at any time?
Under **My Profile**, click **Renewal/Other Invoices** to see a list of invoices.
Click the invoice number you want to view. You can print it right from your browser by clicking on the printer icon.

The Apothecary

published by the
Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board
Apothecary Hall
488 Water Street
St. John's, NL A1E 1B3

Tel: 709-753-5877
Toll Free: 1-877-453-5877
Fax: 709-753-8615
E-mail: inforx@nlpb.ca
www.nlpb.ca

Find us on Facebook

FOLLOW US ON twitter

Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board

BOARD STAFF

Margot Priddle, Registrar ..... mpriddle@nlpb.ca
Melanie Healey, Associate Registrar, Professional Practice ..... mhealey@nlpb.ca
Noelle Patten, Associate Registrar, Quality Assurance ..... npatten@nlpb.ca
Natalie Payne, Legal Counsel ..... npayne@nlpb.ca
Gayle Johnson, Complaints and Quality Assurance Coordinator ..... gjohnson@nlpb.ca
Aileen O'Keefe, Registration & Licensing Administrator ..... aokeefe@nlpb.ca
Meghan Handrigan, Office Administrator ..... mhandrigan@nlpb.ca
General Information ..... inforx@nlpb.ca

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elected Members
Zone 1 ..... Keith Bailey
Zone 2 ..... Ray Gulliver
Zone 3 ..... Shawn Vallis
Zone 4 ..... Henry White
Zone 5 (Hospital Pharmacist) ..... Brittany Churchill
Zone 6 (Pharmacy Technician) ..... Colleen Squires
Zone 7 (At Large) ..... Taggarty Norris, Chad Parsons
Dean, MUN School of Pharmacy ..... Shawn Bugden
Public Representatives
Board-appointed ..... Donald Anthony
..... Shirlene Murphy
Government-appointed ..... Ruby Chaytor
..... Gerri Thompson
MUPS Representative *(observer)* ..... Sarah Winsor

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair ..... Colleen Squires
Vice-Chair ..... Gerri Thompson
Executive Member ..... Henry White
Past Chair ..... Taggarty Norris