

# Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists British Columbia Branch



## NEWSLETTER - Spring 2001

*Vision 2003: Setting the course...Partnering with patients...Striving for excellence!*

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### President's Message

Spring has come and with it we find ourselves in full swing with activities in the CSHP BC Branch. 2001 is shaping up to be a very exciting year in the BC Branch with several initiatives well under way not the least of which is the completion of the BC Hospital Pharmacists Shortage Survey. Thanks to the efforts of Past-President, Tammy Coderre-Kells, the BC Hospital Pharmacists Shortage Survey results have been tabulated and analyzed and can be viewed in full at our website.

Our continuing education program is well underway with our first event, the Spring Therapeutics Update, scheduled for Monday, April 9 at the Radisson Hotel Burnaby. Registration has been brisk and space is limited so please register to ensure you do not miss this great program. In addition to our local events the four regional chapters are also in the process of planning events for 2001. Please keep an eye on the website or contact your local chapter chair for dates and times of 2001 events.

Thanks to the efforts of our communication officer, Anna Lau, the branch website and E-nouncement service continue to bring you information of items of importance in the BC Branch as they happen. If you are not receiving E-nouncements or if your e-mail address has changed, please register at the BC Branch website so you can stay in the loop on happenings of the BC Branch.

Finally, it has been a few years since we have conducted a branch membership survey and since a lot has changed both at the national and branch level since that time we plan to do it again. Expect to receive the 2001 Branch Membership Survey in April and please take the time to complete and return the survey as your comments are important to allow the BC Branch to continue to meet your needs.

The BC Branch executive council and committee members are dedicated volunteers committed to meeting the needs of our members, so please do not hesitate to contact me with any suggestions and feedback.

See you at the Spring Therapeutics Update!!

Peter Zed, President  
E-mail: [zed@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:zed@interchange.ubc.ca)  
Tel: (604) 875-4077

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# *Spring 2001 newsletter - cshp-bc branch*

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## **CSHP “Hospital Pharmacist Shortage Survey” Results**

In order to quantify the hospital pharmacist shortage in British Columbia, the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists, B.C. Branch conducted a survey of all hospital pharmacies within the province. We are pleased to announce that the results of a CSHP – B.C. Branch “Hospital Pharmacist Shortage Survey” are available on our website at [www.cshp-bc.com](http://www.cshp-bc.com).

The survey results provide accurate and up-to-date information about the numbers of vacant hospital pharmacist positions in B.C., duration of vacancies, reasons cited for vacating positions, departmental ramifications of the vacancies, and recruitment and retention strategies attempted by Pharmacy managers.

The results of the survey show a total of 39 (60%) of surveyed hospitals had vacant pharmacist positions. Many hospitals also reported a lack of casual staff. Pharmacy managers reported a total of 57 part-time and full-time vacant pharmacist positions on November 30th, 2000. Using data from the College of Pharmacists of B.C., one can conservatively assert that the province-wide hospital pharmacist vacancy rate exceeds 10%.

Positions were reported to be vacant from 2 weeks to 18 months. Many hospitals reported that the duration of the vacancy was expected to continue beyond the survey date.

Reasons cited for pharmacists leaving their positions included relocating (37%), taking other positions (28%), furthering education (13%), and leave of absence (15%). Approximately 13% of respondents stated that pharmacists in their departments had relocated to the United States, and 15% of respondents stated that pharmacists in their departments had taken jobs in the community.

The most commonly reported ramifications of the vacant positions included decreased clinical services (18%), reduced hours of operation (12%), reduced services / cut programs (10%), and increased overtime (10%). Two hospital pharmacies were forced to close due to lack of staffing. A third has no permanent staffing; however, they had secured relief staff until the end of January 2001.

Not surprisingly, the results clearly affirm that there is a pharmacist shortage in B.C. A letter (also available on the website) along with the survey results was sent to the Health Sciences Association (H.S.A.) and the Health Employers Association of B.C. (HEABC) on January 31st, 2001.

Please feel free to share the survey results with peers and colleagues. Thank you to all Pharmacy Managers who took part in the survey.

Tammy Coderre-Kells, Past President

**Visit [www.cshp-bc.com](http://www.cshp-bc.com) to find out more about the hospital pharmacist shortage in BC**



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## **CSHP- BC Branch Awards**

Congratulations to all **PPC Continuing Education Travel Award** Winners:

Ms. Shelagh Martinusen - Victoria General Hospital, Victoria BC  
Mr. Dwayne Kimoto - MSA Hospital, Abbotsford BC  
Ms. Anna Lau - Royal Columbian Hospital , New Westminster BC  
Dr. Shallen Letwin - MSA Hospital, Abbotsford BC

The Awards Committee of the BC Branch of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists is pleased to announce that several branch and national awards are available. Members are encouraged to review eligibility criteria and consider submitting applications and nominations where applicable. Details for the following awards can be viewed, and on-line applications/nominations can be submitted, at <http://www.cshp-bc.com/awards.htm>

### **Pfizer Pharmacy Practice Award**

- Given annually to recognize the best poster presentation at the Clinical Skills Symposium in September.
- Stay tuned for the "Call for Abstracts" for eligibility criteria

### **Maria Machado Memorial Education Program Award**

- Award consists of \$250 and is intended to be used to implement or further a patient education program. Letters of support from the Pharmacy Director must accompany the submission.
- Deadline: **August 31, 2001.**

### **Publication Award**

- Any member whose article has been published or accepted for publication in the past year.
- The recipient is awarded \$250.
- Deadline for submission: **August 31, 2001.**

### **Distinguished Service Award**

- Available annually to a member in recognition of outstanding achievement and long term service to the practice of hospital pharmacy. The Branch will make a donation of \$100 in the recipient's name to the Research Foundation of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists.
- Deadline for submissions: **August 31, 2001.**

### **Pharmacia Residency Award**

- Awarded to a Hospital Pharmacy Resident for best major project. Please see Residency Coordinator for details.
- Deadline for Submissions: **August 31, 2001.**

### **Fujisawa ACLS Award**

- 4 awards of \$350 each are available to be given to active CSHP members. Current BLS "C" certification is prerequisite for enrolment in the ACLS course. A draw will be made from all eligible applicants.
- \$350 is given to the successful applicant upon completion of ACLS certification that is obtained within 1 year of award receipt notification.
- Deadline for submission: **September 30, 2001**



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## **Programs Committee News – 2001 Continuing Education Events**

The 2001 CSHP BC Branch Programs Committee has recently been formed and is gearing up for another phenomenal year of CE events. Unfortunately this year we have a vacant position of Program's Committee Chair on the CSHP Executive, so Richard Slavik as President Elect along with Peter Zed as Branch President have decided to co-chair the committee this year.

BC is one of the most active, dedicated, progressive branches of CSHP. We have another exciting slate of core CE events for 2001, and we hope to surpass the success of last years programs. If you have any exciting ideas for topics or speakers please email them to Peter Zed or Richard Slavik to be forwarded to the Programs Committee. The following is a schedule for the 2001 CE events. The location for the AGM is still tentative at this point. For further information and registration for the Spring Therapeutics Update and all of our CE events throughout the year please refer to our website at [www.cshp-bc.com](http://www.cshp-bc.com).

Event	Date	Location
Spring Therapeutics Update	Monday, April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Radisson Hotel - Burnaby, BC
Residency Presentation Night	Wednesday, May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Hyatt Regency Hotel - Vancouver, BC
Clinical Symposium	Saturday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Four Seasons Hotel - Vancouver, BC
Annual General Meeting	Friday, November 16 <sup>th</sup> Saturday, November 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sheraton Wall Center - Vancouver, BC

## **2001 Poster Presentation**

The poster presentation for BC Branch members will again take place at the Clinical Symposium in September. Posters should encompass clinical research, pharmaceuticals/basic research, case reports, pharmacy practice, pharmacy administration, pharmacoeconomics or drug use evaluation. Posters previously presented at a national CSHP or non-CSHP event will be eligible for submission as an encore presentation. Call for abstracts will be sent out in March so get your abstract prepared so you won't miss the opportunity to share your research with your fellow BC Branch members.

Richard Slavik, B.Sc.(Pharm.), Pharm.D.  
President Elect and Vision Liaison  
CSHP-BC Branch



British Columbia Branch - CSHP Award Application / Nomination Form

The Awards Program of the BC Branch, CSHP is designed to recognize the achievements of the membership through a variety of awards. Detailed descriptions of the awards may vary. Please view the Branch web site at [www.cshp-bc.com](http://www.cshp-bc.com) for details.

When submissions have more than one author, the submitting author **must** be a current CSHP member. Please specify the names and CSHP numbers for any other authors who are CSHP members. When nominating an individual for an award, please place their name as applicant and provide your name and contact address and phone number as nominator.

Name of applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Authors of applicable \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Employment Address \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Education  
(Institution / Degree / Date) \_\_\_\_\_

CSHP Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Award Applied/Nomination made  
For \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of nominator (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Include contact address, e-mail, telephone #)

**Submit this form with your submission attached (if applicable) to:**

Robert M. Balen Pharm.D. (Awards Chair)  
VGH Pharmacy Department - Centennial Pavilion  
855 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 1M9  
email: [awards@cshp-bc.com](mailto:awards@cshp-bc.com)