

NSCP Update

Date: July 28, 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings fellow NSCP members. I must first apologize for taking so long to get my first message out to you; however the past few months have been busy for me and the NSCP Executive and it would appear that this pace will continue for the foreseeable future.

The College office is undergoing some major operational changes in an effort to improve efficiency, provide better service and keep costs down. Joan will be able to finally focus all of her attention on the Registrar position, we have hired an Executive Director, and the office is going "virtual".

I am very pleased to announce that we have contracted effective July 2, 2009, a new Executive Director. Patrick (Pat) King joins our office after 25 years in Association work with the Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia, (PANS). Pat has a diversified background, with two undergraduate degrees from the UPEI, and a Masters of Business Administration from Dalhousie. Pat also holds the Certified Association Executive designation from the Canadian Society of Association Executives, taught at the School of Business Administration at Dalhousie before joining the PANS, and has lectured in the School of Pharmacy at Dalhousie. Over his career Pat has earned many awards, including the Pillar of Pharmacy Award, which is a national award for outstanding leadership. Even today he continues his work as a key volunteer and sits on the Resource Committee of Capital Health. Pat is married to Sharon a data base manager with Bell-Aliant and they have two cats, Black and Deckher. Pat has already, in a very short period of time, made a positive impact and we look forward to the exciting things that Pat is going to help us achieve. Welcome aboard Pat!

One of things that I have been most excited about is the concept of a virtual office. Not only will this improve communication to members and improve our efficiency, the money spent on rent, can now be used for other purposes.

In addition because of the rent saving the Board has agreed to forego the Levy that was discussed at the AGM in favour of a small deficit and most likely a fee increase for 2010, which was also announced at the AGM.

The other big issue has been reviving the on-line registration system. Joan and Pat are working tirelessly at making sure that it will be ready for the upcoming registration.

Recently I had the opportunity to meet with the new Minister of Health. Pat and I, along with Kristin Taylor and Christine James of the Association, attended a reception for Maureen MacDonald, the Minister of Health/Health Promotion and Protection. In our

brief chat with Maureen, I was pleased to hear that she has worked with Physiotherapists in the past and thus has some knowledge of our great profession and the important role that we play in the health of Nova Scotians!

There is lots of other business occurring and I encourage you to read the Registrar and Executive Director's reports for more details. Look for further communications from me over the next few months.

I ask you to please bare with us over the next few months as we sort out our virtual office, electrify the entire registration process, revitalize the Members Area and the Public Face of the NSCP website, and that is just the start!

Sincerely
Jeff Rooney
President, NSCP

REGISTRAR'S MESSAGE:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome Pat onboard. The division of duties is a good move for the College and enables us to avail ourselves of much needed expertise in the administration of our organization. It has been a rather hectic few months for me; initially running the office with no support staff and now in the midst of packing up yet again, but there is now light at the end of the tunnel! Be assured that we are working at being as efficient and cost effective as we possibly can and still be as accessible as always. I do hope to do some information, question/answer sessions around the province in the fall and there will be another round of portfolios and site visits.

Over the next couple of months we will be revising and updating the website so that many of the forms and news items that you need to keep informed and current will be available online. It is our plans to do renewals entirely online this year, so watch for further information on that as fall approaches. Over the next few months I will try to send out my emails on the same day of each week (Thursday) so that you get used to checking for College mail on a regular basis. Please notify us of any changes in your email addresses, as we continue to have emails bounce back when we send out information. The Board approved new Policies and Standards on Acupuncture, Alternative Therapies, Spinal Manipulation and Physician Remuneration at the last meeting. Look for these in my Thursday email.

Attached are important links for all re: the H1N1 virus, but especially for those in private practice who do not have the benefit of the Department of Health hospital updates. Please share this email and all other NSCP emails, bulletins, etc. with any of your peers who may not have access to them. The links are:

www.ccar-ccra.com/english/pdfs/IPC-BestPractices-June2007.pdf and
http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/Swine_Flu_Information_PNP.pdf

Remember... Strict adherence to hand washing/hand antiseptics is the cornerstone of infection prevention during a pandemic. Planning should include the priority of maintaining adequate resources for infection control such as soap, antiseptic products, masks/eye protection/face shields, gloves, gowns, etc as there may be an interruption to the supply or shortages of these supplies over time.

Sincerely,
Joan Ross
Registrar, NSCP

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

First let me say how pleased I am to have been selected as your new Executive Director; I assure you that I will work tirelessly on your behalf, listen to your concerns, appreciate your offers of assistance and represent the offices of the NSCP to the best of my ability.

Needless to say the "times they are a changing" and that goes for NSCP as well; if you were to suggest the NSCP office is like a "work in progress" you would be on the money. As Jeff indicated in his message the NSCP offices are going "virtual". The Board's desire to operate a "Virtual" office reflects their desire to serve the public of Nova Scotia efficiently and effectively and to manage the needs of all NS physiotherapists as if the College offices were in their backyard, or home or office.

As a good economical start to the virtual concept we will close our rented offices effective July 31, 2009. This action saves the college approximately \$14,000 a year. Because we are going virtual you will receive very little if any Canada Post mail from us; we will rely on email like communications, electronic bulletins, links and NSCP web-site postings. Please be patient, we will make this happen asap. Yes, there will still be phone communications; your calls will be answered by an automatic attendant who will ask you if you wish to speak to the Registrar or the Executive Director and your response will reroute your call to our homes. And if we aren't at home a voice mail box will be.

If on the other hand you must mail something to either the Registrar or the Executive Director then use one of the following:

N S College of Physiotherapists
Joan Ross, Registrar
197 West Old Post Rd,
Smiths Cove, NS B0S 1S0

or NS College of Physiotherapists
Patrick King, Executive Director
15 Brookdale Cres.
Dartmouth, NS B3A 2R3

The virtual office concept also places some responsibilities on your shoulders as well. In order for us to reach you with messages like this and others we need correct and up-to-

date email addresses. And if you have more than one email address we can accommodate that, at present. Please forward any correspondence regarding email addresses to my attention. Our email addresses:

Joan Ross; joan@nsphysio.com. or Pat King: pat@nsphysio.com

And of course the big question, “to who or is it whom do I send what?” For now all questions dealing with the profession, the law, complaints and discipline, registration, and committee work are to be directed to the Registrar. I will handle any others. Joan and I will continue to sort our responsibilities, committee involvement etc. and will advise you of our progress at a later date.

Finally please be aware that the Board has agreed to certain priorities that must be handled first; so over the next number of months I will be working on the closure of our present offices, the virtual office concept, the NSCP website, the office administration; and with Joan the division of duties, the electronic registration process and the committee support.

Sincerely
Pat King
Executive Director, NSCP

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2009 – 2010**

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