

Post-Consumer Pharmaceutical Stewardship  
Association

Medications Return Program News Bulletin



PCPSA October 2004

The *Medications Return Program* is an e-bulletin by PCPSA published on a quarterly basis with information on recent developments. All members can subscribe or unsubscribe by following the instructions at the end of this document.

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### **AGM**

An Annual General Meeting was held in September in Toronto. Though attendance remained low, we had more members attending or completing their proxy form than in previous years. The financial statements were accepted and two board members (Colin Simpkin and Norma Pirie) were re-elected for a two-year term to the Board of Directors. Congratulations to both of them. A report from our Executive Director was presented with some discussion on invoicing, procedures against brand owners not participating in the B.C. program, other existing provincial programs and the sectors' survey with Residuals Management Group. Please note that the next AGM is tentatively scheduled for June 2005.

*N.B.: There is a vacancy on the board for a representative for the Rx&D sector, if you are interested, please contact the office.*

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### **ANNUAL REPORT**

- We secured some office space with NDMAC in Ottawa, and proceeded with setting up PCPSA membership database using a system already in place through existing computer network.
- We currently have 48 brand owners officially registered and approximately 231 individuals representing 89 companies. Many companies choose not to complete a membership application form, although they are paying their share to the Medication Return Program in B.C.
- Contributions collected to date are approximately \$230,000.00 for the Medications Return Program. Considerable efforts were spent on identifying all brand owners selling medicines in B.C. and contacting those with a significant volume of sales.
- We launched a website and distributed a bilingual electronic newsletter to all our members and non-members currently participating in the program.

## ***BC MEDICATIONS RETURN PROGRAM QUARTERLY REPORT***

The following is an update on the program in British Columbia for the July-September 2004 period.

<b>Collection Summary (actual):</b>	<b>Q3 - 2004</b>	<b>YTD 2004</b>	<b>Q3-2003</b>	<b>YTD 2003</b>
<b>Containers Shipped to Pharmacies</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>768</b>
<b>Containers Received from Pharmacies</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>588</b>
<b>Weight of Pharmaceuticals (kg)</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>11,831</b>	<b>3,079</b>	<b>7,214</b>

The 381 containers shipped in the quarter included the 70 sample containers.

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### ***FORTHCOMING FROM THE OFFICE***

- Distribution of information on BC Medications Return in local newspapers
  - Contacting brand owners with outstanding accounts
  - Results of the survey of collected medicines in B.C.
  - Meetings with Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Waste Diversion Ontario to discuss Pharmaceutical Stewardship projects.
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