

PCPSA

Vision and Mandate

History of PCPSA

- Post-consumer Pharmaceutical Stewardship Association (PCPSA) is British Columbia's first (EPR), created in the fall of 1999 in response to a request from the BC Minister of Environment (MOE) to expand the scope of the Post-Consumer Residual Stewardship Program Regulation to include pharmaceutical products in order to ensure a level playing field for all producers through universal participation in the program. The *Post-Consumer Residual Stewardship Program Regulation*, passed on March 27, 1997, required all brand-owners of pharmaceutical products sold in B.C. to provide a way for consumers to dispose of their unused or expired products in an environmentally responsible manner and take responsibility for the safe management of their products.
- The Founding Members of PCPSA, represented on the [Board of Directors](#) are: Canada's Researched-Based Pharmaceutical Companies (Rx&D), the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association (CGPA) and the NDMAC, Advancing Canadian self-care.
- PCPSA is a not-for-profit industry sponsored association that manages product stewardship initiatives for pharmaceutical and self-care health products on behalf of its members across Canada.
- With the enactment of the *Environmental Management Act* (EMA) on July 8, 2004, this legislation combined the *Waste Management Act* and *Environment Management Act* to create a single statute governing environmental protection and management in British Columbia. The Recycling Regulation (BC Reg. 449/04), enacted on October 7, 2004, repealed the existing Post-Consumer Residual Stewardship Program Regulation and incorporated key provisions into the schedule of the Recycling Regulation. The pharmaceutical product category is defined under the Residual Product Categories in Schedule 2 of the Recycling Regulation consists of all unused or expired drugs, including natural health products and nonprescriptions drugs as defined under the Food and Drugs Act (Canada) [British Colombia Regulations](#).
- PCPSA received approval from the MOE for a Pharmaceutical Program Plan and entered into an Agreement for implementation in 2000. In October 2006, an improved Program Plan must be submitted to the MOE for approval.

Vision

- To be the Steward for environmental waste management programs of post-consumer pharmaceutical and self-care health products.

Our Mandate

- To manage unused or expired medications in a cost efficient and environmentally acceptable manner that meets government policy or legislation for our members.

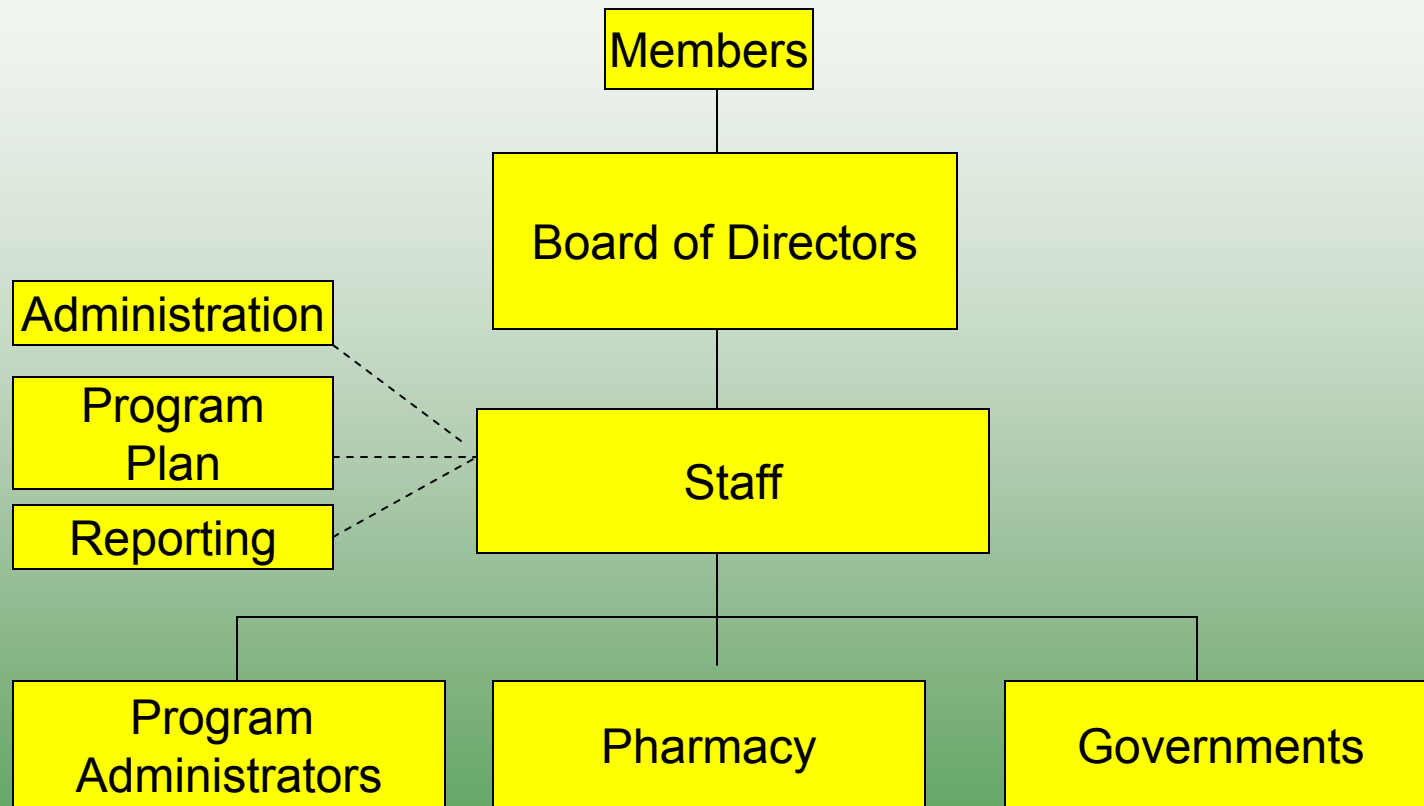
Basic Principles

- Meet stewardship obligations in most cost-effective manner
- Ensure a level playing field among the pharmaceutical and self-care health products industry

Governance

- Representational Board
- Quarterly Board meetings
- Annual Reports

PCPSA Structure



National Program

Our Guiding Principles for Developing a National Program

- *Level playing field for all companies*
Provincial governments must be prepared to put into place sufficient enforcement mechanisms so that all affected companies will be required to participate.
- *Shared responsibility*
Costs of running a provincial program is shared between pharmaceutical (brand name and generic) and self-care health products industries.
- *Post-Consumer waste stream*
The goal is to manage and dispose of products in the consumer (i.e., household) waste stream.
- *Economic and environmental efficiency*
The lowest overall costs must be the goal of the program and to ensure that industry benchmarks for both acceptable costs and effective and safe environmental management are developed.
- *Environmental management*
Disposal of products must only be managed in locations that have environmental and health protection standards for handling household special waste.

British Columbia Program

- PCPSA currently provides stewardship services to its members in [British Columbia](#).
- In British Columbia, there are more than 856 locations across the province where the public may return unused or expired medications.
- There is no charge to the public for safe disposal of medications.
- For information about Medications Return Program ([click here](#)).