



**Neighbourhood
Pharmacy**
Association of Canada

Association canadienne
**des pharmacies
de quartier**

Office of the Chief Executive Officer

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December 14, 2020

Hon. Scott Moe, MLA
Government Caucus Office
Room 203, Legislative Building
2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

RE: Congratulatory Letter and Introduction to Neighbourhood Pharmacies

Dear Minister Moe,

I would like to congratulate you on your recent re-election to the Saskatchewan Legislature as the MLA for Rosthern-Shellbrook. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the [Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada](#) (Neighbourhood Pharmacies).

Neighbourhood Pharmacies represents Canada's leading pharmacy organizations, including chain, banner, long-term care, specialty pharmacies, grocery chains, and mass merchandisers with pharmacies. We aim to advance healthcare for Canadians by leveraging close to 11,000 pharmacies conveniently located in communities throughout the country as integral points of patient care. We develop and offer innovative solutions to help advance needed change in our healthcare delivery system.

We advocate for pharmacies' role in caring for Canadians, both behind and in front of the counter. We are focused on the business of community pharmacies to ensure our members can continue to deliver the convenient, professional patient care, products and services on which residents of Saskatchewan rely. The total economic footprint of the pharmacy sector in Saskatchewan is estimated at over \$558 million in GDP and 8,300 jobs. Our commitment to our communities and to our patients is repaid in trust, as 80 per cent of Canadians consult their pharmacists for professional healthcare, at nearly 400 neighbourhood pharmacies across the province.

Pharmacies work collaboratively to prevent admissions to the hospital, prevent premature admissions into long-term care, help patients have more timely discharge from the hospital, and maximize the time patients can live independently in their homes. Improved transitions between the community and hospital will help patients regain independence and reduce the number of hospital readmissions, and help ensure people get the right healthcare, from the right providers, at the right time, and in the right location.

Going forward, we continue to offer our support to do more, including an expanded role in immunizations (beyond flu, and including pneumonia, COVID-19, and other routine child and adult immunizations), expanded support for the opioid crisis through naloxone programs, as well as broader roles in the health system, public health and primary care.

We would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the need for the continued integration of community pharmacies into Saskatchewan's Connected Care Strategy, as well as for pharmacies to help support Care Transitions. Including pharmacy as an integral partner in these strategies will benefit all Saskatchewan residents, in healthcare institutions, in the community and through transitions in care.

A strong and sustainable pharmacy sector underlie the sector's ability to continue to drive value for the health system and to be an accessible and reliable healthcare destination for residents of Saskatchewan.

Once again, congratulations on your re-election. The people of Saskatchewan will continue to be well served under the strong leadership and vision of a Saskatchewan Party government. Thank you again for your time and we look forward to working with you on these important issues over the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hanna', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sandra Hanna, RPh.
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Dawn Martin, Chief Executive Officer, Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan