



**Neighbourhood
Pharmacy**
Association of Canada

Association canadienne
**des pharmacies
de quartier**

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD PHARMACY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA CREATED
TO DRIVE GROWTH OF PHARMACY SERVICES,
HELP SUSTAIN CANADIANS' ACCESS TO QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE**

- **Represents approximately 6,500 neighbourhood pharmacies**
- **Delivers trusted, professional healthcare advice to almost 80% of Canadians**
- **Employs approximately 500,000 Canadians**

TORONTO, September 17, 2014 – Today, the Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada (Neighbourhood Pharmacy), a strong voice for pharmacy's contribution to Canada's healthcare delivery system, was introduced. The association represents approximately 6,500 neighbourhood pharmacies from coast to coast to coast, in rural and urban communities.

"Neighbourhood pharmacy is an essential and increasingly important healthcare service provider, that is enhancing patient outcomes, reducing overall healthcare costs and improving access to care by delivering services closer to where Canadians live, work and play," said Neighbourhood Pharmacy's Board Chair Frank Scorpiniti, Chief Executive Officer of Rexall.

The organization draws strength from Canadians' strong and increasingly positive view of neighbourhood pharmacies. According to a recent national survey, overall favourability has increased to 76.1%, from 68.9% in 2013. Canadians also see pharmacies as being friendly (90.5% agree or somewhat agree) and providing advice that is accessible (89.5%) and affordable (84.2%) – and more Canadians attribute all three of these characteristics to pharmacies in 2014 than in 2013.

“Neighbourhood Pharmacy exists to help connect our members with governments and others in healthcare to identify, research and develop proposals that deliver tangible health and economic benefits for Canadians,” said Denise Carpenter, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Association. “Our healthcare delivery system faces significant challenges from rising costs and an aging population. Access to healthcare, closer to home, plays a significant role in driving better patient outcomes and reducing overall healthcare costs.”

Neighbourhood pharmacies employ approximately 500,000 Canadians in settings ranging from independent retailers to larger chain pharmacies. In 2013, the broader pharmacy industry unveiled “9000 Points of Care,” a policy platform to improve access to affordable healthcare.

“Our public policy platform, “9000 Points of Care,” identifies strategies to make better use of the broader pharmacy community’s capabilities. We are poised to work with governments and others in the healthcare community to demonstrate the efficacy of these strategies so that they can be implemented around the country,” concluded Carpenter.

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