

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
to the
2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CANADIAN ACADEMY OF THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

To say that the Academy is at a crossroads would be somewhat of an understatement. It is time to take significant steps toward the final development of a succession plan as our esteemed Secretary-Treasurer has announced his desire to step away from the role. But it is also time to determine if there is an appropriate alternative to the current structure and method of operation of the organization..

As an ever growing number of pharmacists are grasping the opportunity to enhance their role and increase their scope of practice, so too must the Academy begin our evolution into an organizational format that will support and enhance our goals and ideals going forward. To that end, preliminary contacts have been made with the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists which had no interest in partnering; the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy which offered no current nor concrete interest in further discussions; and the Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA) which provided a forum for discussion just yesterday, prior to this Annual Meeting.

Although not an immediate priority with CPhA, there were some verbal commitments from Executive Director Perry Eisenschmid to further investigate the possibility of the creation of an information repository over a period of years, assistance with information dissemination and other CAHP communications but only with significant input from CAHP, and even the possibility of an historical corner similar to the one in the APhA offices. John Bachynsky has previously shared information with CPhA for their information and analysis and was afforded the name of a contact person in the CPhA office for possible further liaison and discussion. John offered a number of options for a future partnership with CPhA but it seemed they would prefer to take these options under advisement. There seems to be some possibility of steps toward a future partnership.

As a voluntary organization, our membership numbers remain relatively stable, but can always be better. It should be an ongoing priority to attract a more youthful following in order to maintain our strength in the future. Perhaps a partnership with CPhA will be productive in this area. It may be useful to link with other pharmacy and historical organizations on their websites.

I can report that our website has been functioning at an optimum level this past year, and there have been a number of great additions. I anticipate that it will be further enhanced going forward as a website always seems to be a work in progress.

I had previously created a Twitter account on our behalf under the title "Cdn. Acad. Hist. Phm". Unfortunately our name had to be abbreviated to fit the allotted space. But I am pleased to report that the experiment has been more productive than expected. At last check we had 53 followers so I will continue on this social media avenue. It is my intention to list us on another social medium as my time permits. I am definitely not as creative nor prolific on social media as the younger generation but I will endeavour to keep the account relatively active. To this end, more regular communication from members with news or reports of interest would be a great assist .

Next year our meetings will be in historic Quebec City during celebrations of the 150th Anniversary of Confederation. This should prove to be a very special occasion and CAHP will certainly have a suitable program to celebrate and attract interest.

I must acknowledge the continuous efforts of our Secretary-Treasurer and his dedication to the Academy.

Thank you John!! The membership appreciates your untiring commitment. You wear so many hats yet still find the time to maintain the vitality of this organization.

It has been an honour to once again serve as your President. I enjoy the relationship I have with this organization and I look forward to serving the Academy in any manner necessary going forward.

The present is the living sum total of the entire past. The challenge of history is to recover the past and introduce it to the present.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Gary Cavanagh