

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**  
to the  
**2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**CANADIAN ACADEMY OF THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY**

It hardly seems like a year has passed since our last meeting in Saskatoon. But another year adds even more to history in pharmacy.

An ever growing number of pharmacists are grasping the opportunity to enhance their role and increase their scope of practice. We have gone virtually full circle from the days when Louis Hebert would compound a preparation from the botanicals available to him, and advise a patient of the best manner to treat the ailment. Pharmacists of today are now able to assess patients and prescribe treatments under specific circumstances for a particular list of ailments. And this is hopefully only the beginning in our evolution.

Our Annual Meeting in Saskatoon became an informal gathering as we listened to our speakers and reminisced over their teachings and pharmacy history, and the recollections we brought forward to share in the experience.

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.

As a voluntary organization, our membership numbers remain relatively strong, 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. Unfortunately it is increasingly difficult for organizations to attract these individuals. It may be useful to link with other organizations and their websites in order to increase our profile. I have 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 we do have some followers and hopefully that will increase as time passes. It is my intention to list us on another social medium as my time permits.

In Halifax, we were pleased to visit the Pharmacy Museum created by Honorary Academy Member J. Gordon Duff. It was sad to hear of his passing. I am very pleased that we are recognizing John Webster, a gentleman who I came to know and admire through my career as he developed and marketed the Manrex Controlled Dosage System and its many components.

Once again I acknowledge the efforts of our Secretary-Treasurer for his ongoing efforts on behalf of the Academy. Thank you John!! The membership appreciates your untiring dedication. You wear so many hats yet still find the time to maintain the vitality of this organization. The agenda for this meeting again promises to be enlightening. And I truly apologize for my absence due to circumstances beyond control.

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