Advocacy Committee Report

Annual General Meeting Fredericton, NB May 24, 2008

As Chair of the Branch Advocacy Committee, I am the New Brunswick representative to the National Advocacy Committee chaired by Jennifer Ryan. We have had monthly meetings this past year, and several advocacy campaigns are in the works.

The Pharmacist shortage was the topic of the first campaign rolled out this past fall. A few months ago, a survey of Hospital Pharmacy in New Brunswick was sent to all Directors of Pharmacy in the province. Results will be tabulated and distributed shortly.

A campaign on Medication safety enhanced by drug distribution systems will be launched in the upcoming weeks, and suggestions on how individual Branches can approach key stakeholders to increase awareness of this topic will be developed and communicated to Branch presidents in the near future.

Roberta Baker, the Committee's NS representative, and I are actively working on the next campaign to follow, on Pharmacist's role in patient safety.

I have started to recruit members for the Branch Advocacy Committee, with Erin Clarke of The Moncton Hospital having graciously accepted so far. If any member would like to get involved in this Committee, please contact me. In the upcoming year, the Branch Advocacy Committee will promote National advocacy initiatives at the provincial level.

Respectfully submitted, Chantal Michaud May 2008