

The

The official newsletter of the Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia

# PHARMACIST

November 2011

## Chair's Message

by: Glenn Keeping, Chair, PANS

Welcome to the end of 2011. What a year in Nova Scotia pharmacy, and as we approach 2012, the changes we experienced and are going to experience, are now leading to opportunity. [more...](#)

## From the Desk of the CEO

by: Allison Bodnar, CEO, PANS

Those of you who attended this year's successful Dalhousie Pharmacy Refresher and PANS Annual Conference had the opportunity to receive training on a number of minor ailments. [more...](#)

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### Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia

170 Cromarty Drive, Suite 225, Dartmouth, NS, B3B 0G1  
902-422-9583 (phone)  
902-422-2619 (fax)  
[www.pans.ns.ca](http://www.pans.ns.ca)

Have an interesting story idea or know of a pharmacist we should profile, we want to hear about it. Email [amy@pans.ns.ca](mailto:amy@pans.ns.ca) or call 422-9583, ext 4.

## Partners

### Travel Insurance - Do Your Research

by: Chris Matthews, CJM Solutions+

Seeking sun and warmer climes is a Canadian pastime and with the first big snowfall of the year past us, we're starting to do our research. But when we've finished our research and chosen our getaway destination, we shouldn't stop there. Now it's time to research and understand our travel insurance. [more...](#)

## Partners

### You can help an International Pharmacy Graduate to become licensed in Nova Scotia.

Mohja Alia, Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services (ISIS)

ISIS offers several programs to assist International Pharmacy Graduates (IPGs) in becoming directly involved in a Canadian pharmacy environment. [more...](#)

## Pharmacy Practice

### Patients Just Want to be Themselves - the Rise of Bioidentical Hormone Replacement Therapy in Nova Scotia

by: Amy Wagg, Director of Communication, PANS & Georgie McNeil, PhC, Cochrane's Pharmasave, Wolfville

There are currently only a handful of pharmacists in Nova Scotia who compound for Bioidentical Hormone Replacement Therapy (BHRT) but the demand is on the rise. [more...](#)

## Also in this issue:

(click on link to view each piece)

[Conference 2011 in Pictures - Part 1](#)

[Conference 2011 in Pictures - Part 2](#)

[Conference 2011 in Pictures - Part 3](#)

[Employment Opportunities](#)

[Win an iPad - Winning Submission - A.W.A.R.E.](#)

## You can help an International Pharmacy Graduate to become licensed in Nova Scotia.

Mohja Alia, Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services (ISIS)

**Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services (ISIS)** is a leading community organization that welcomes immigrants to Nova Scotia. Working in partnership, we offer services and create opportunities to help immigrants participate fully in Canadian life.

ISIS offers several programs to assist International Pharmacy Graduates (IPGs) in becoming directly involved in a Canadian pharmacy environment. These programs include:

- **Work placement:** connects employers across Nova Scotia with skilled immigrant professionals. Host Employers would offer an IPG the chance to work in a pharmacy for up to six weeks at no cost to the employer. There is no obligation to hire. The employer also has the added benefit of being able to assess the skills of a potential pharmacist in a worksite setting.
- <http://www.isisns.ca/employment/for-immigrants/work-placement-program/>
- **Structured Practice Experience/Internship Program:** Supports IPGs while they complete the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists' twenty-week Structured Practice Experience Program (SPEP) and the one-week Practice Assessment required for licensure as a pharmacist in Nova Scotia.
- **IPG Communication Skills Lab Training:** This program is facilitated by licensed pharmacists to prepare IPGs for pharmacy practice in Canada. It is also a useful preparatory tool for the PEBC exams. The success of the program is largely dependent on having pharmacist facilitators/assessors share their experiences and expertise with the IPGs. Those who have been involved in the training have found it to be both a professionally and personally rewarding experience and feedback from the IPGs has been overwhelmingly positive.

- **Wage Subsidy for Newcomers Program:** offers an incentive to employers to hire eligible unemployed immigrants, who they may not normally hire in the absence of a subsidy. For those employers who are interested in hiring an IPG as a Pharmacy Assistant while they are preparing for their PEBC exams, ISIS could negotiate a wage subsidy to support our clients and the employer's business.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Host a 6-week unpaid work placement
- Host a structured practice experience internship and volunteer as a preceptor. IPGs bring a great deal of experience, knowledge and diversity – you will help them to become familiar with the Canadian pharmacy work place culture.
- Participate in the Communication Skills Lab as an assessor
- Hire an IPG as a Pharmacy Assistant through the Wage Subsidy Program
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For more information, please contact:

### Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services (ISIS)

**Mohja Alia** - Acting Manager, Employment Services and Workforce Integration

[malia@isisns.ca](mailto:malia@isisns.ca) -

<http://www.isisns.ca/employment/>

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