

Looking Back with Pride

Régis Vaillancourt

Over the past 3 years, I have had the pleasure of serving you as a member of the CSHP Council. Over this period I have been responsible for the Vision portfolio of the Society, and I thought it was time to share with you what I perceive as the significant milestones achieved by CSHP.

One of the first milestones during my tenure was the permanent appointment of CSHP Executive Director Myrella Roy, who had filled this role for 6 months on an interim basis. Although the accomplishments of the Society are not linked solely to Myrella, she has provided a solid and reliable base on which we have built many achievements.

During this period, Council has optimized the financial health of CSHP through responsible fiscal planning. As a result, our budgets have been balanced or have shown a surplus, which has enabled us to reach our targeted financial reserve. This reserve gives us the flexibility to face unforeseen situations. The foundations of your Society have been strengthened both in the abstract and in a very physical manner as we have gone from being a tenant to owner of our own offices. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the executive director, the office staff, and the Finance Committee for the tireless efforts that have led to these accomplishments.

To foster a healthy membership outlook for the future, CSHP has implemented a multifaceted plan to promote hospital pharmacy as a career for current pharmacists and students and to highlight the benefits of CSHP membership to pharmacy students. The input and dedication of branches, office staff, and Council have been instrumental in developing and implementing this plan.

Last summer, CSHP Council approved a position statement on pharmacists as heads of hospital pharmacy services. This leadership statement has generated a lot of

healthy discussion within the Society and has led to the creation of a task force that will assess the ways in which CSHP can champion the leadership agenda.

During its February 2006 meeting, Council reviewed a 12-month trial of an additional professional staff position in the CSHP office and, on the basis of the positive impact analysis, rendered the position permanent. The presence of a second pharmacist in the office has proven to be of significant value in increasing services to members and in facilitating timely responses to external consultations. The foresight of Council in creating this position clearly demonstrates the type of vision and leadership that will continue to advance the Society and improve services to you, the members.

At the 2006 Professional Practice Conference earlier this year, CSHP initiated a strategic planning process to ensure the success of *CJHP*. This session has already led to improvements in business processes for the Journal.

All of these achievements and more demonstrate the power of teamwork. Being part of Council and working with Council members has been both professionally and personally rewarding, and I am sure that I will look back on this experience with great fondness.



Régis Vaillancourt, OMM, CD, BPharm, PharmD, FCSHP, is Past President and Vision Liaison of CSHP.