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November 21, 2006

The Honourable Gary Doer
Premier of Manitoba
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
Via email: premier@leg.gov.mb.ca

The Honourable Theresa Oswald
Minister of Health
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
302 Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8
Via email: minhlt@leg.gov.mb.ca

Dear Premier Doer and Minister Oswald:

RE: Canadian Pharmacists Association's Support for Bill 41 – The Pharmaceutical Act

On behalf of the Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA), we are writing to congratulate the Government of Manitoba on bringing forward Bill 41, the Pharmaceutical Act, and to express our strong support for this Bill.

CPhA is the national organization of pharmacists, committed to advancing the profession of pharmacy so as to contribute to the health of Canadians. CPhA represents the national views and interests of Canadian pharmacists and advocates for the profession to position pharmacists as the drug expert members of the health care team.

Bill 41 is progressive legislation that will serve to protect the interests of the citizens of Manitoba, by ensuring high professional standards, appropriate safeguards and oversight. We particularly applaud that this legislation will create an expanded role for pharmacists, permitting them to practice to their full potential and contribute to improving the safety and effectiveness of drug therapy. Pharmacists, working in collaboration with physicians and other health care professionals, will be better able to manage drug therapy to optimize outcomes.

The legislation is bringing the regulation of pharmacy in Manitoba into line with the regulation of pharmacy in other provinces and with other health professions. In addition, the provisions for an expanded role are very progressive and make Manitoba a leading province; they are also in



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line with what is happening internationally, in particular in the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand. The Bill also includes a significant requirement for the Council of the Manitoba College of Pharmacists to consult with members. This ongoing consultation will be particularly important during the development of regulations.

In summary, the Canadian Pharmacists Association supports Bill 41 and encourages the Legislature to pass this bill in its current form during this 5th session of the 38th Legislature.

If you have any comments or questions regarding CPhA's position, please do not hesitate to contact Elmer Kuber, CPhA Board Member for Manitoba (204-785-8777; ekuber@mts.net), or Janet Cooper, Senior Director, Professional Affairs (613-523-7877 x 255; jcooper@pharmacists.ca).

Sincerely,

Brian Stowe
President

Elmer Kuber
Board Member for Manitoba

cc:

Hugh McFadyen, Leader of the PC Party of Manitoba
Myrna Driedger, Opposition Health Critic
Jon Gerrard, Leader of the Liberal Party
Ron Guse, Registrar, Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association
Scott Ransome, Executive Director, Manitoba Society of Pharmacists