

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Pharmacists gather to collaborate on the future of pharmacy practice May 6 & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at TCU Place, Saskatoon.**

**May 3, 2017:** The annual Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan (PAS) conference brings pharmacists from all over Saskatchewan to Saskatoon this year.

“The conference is a great opportunity for pharmacy professionals to celebrate their profession and to collaborate on health care issues our patients face,” says incoming PAS Chair, Paul Bazin. “We have community and hospital pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy students who attend the two day event.”

The opening keynotes, Diane Smylie and Michele Parent-Bergeron will open with Indigenous Cultural Safety, focusing on culturally safe service provision. Other sessions will include topics such as the opioid crisis, medical assistance in dying, strategies for working with high anxiety patients, and medications for older adults. The closing keynote, Pierre Battah, will end the conference with Strengthening Leaders for a Healthier Saskatchewan, providing tools for achieving better outcomes in the workplace.

Conference discussions will include the expanded scope of pharmacist practice and how pharmacy services can positively impact patient’s health. This reflects the recently released report, *The Value of Expanded Pharmacy Services in Canada*, released by the Conference Board of Canada. The report demonstrates how pharmacist interventions, if implemented Canada wide, could yield a cumulative cost savings of up to \$25.7 billion over the next 20 years. For the full report, see [here](#). This information follows closely on the heels of another report demonstrating how pharmacist interventions specific to high blood pressure could save Canadians up to \$15.7B . This report is also available [here](#)

**For more information on the PAS Conference, or any of the noted reports, please contact:**

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