



**DR KAMAL K MIDHA, Address  
Canadian Pharmaceutical Association Centennial  
2007**

Dear Colleagues, Honoured Guests, and Fellow Pharmacists,

I am greatly honoured to be here today to celebrate this momentous occasion with you – the Centennial Celebration of CPhA. It gives me great pride as a Canadian Pharmacist and in my capacity as FIP President, First Canadian to hold this post, I feel even more delighted to be able to bring FIP greetings on this occasion.

I reemphasize your theme: *Celebrating the Past, Building the Future: 100 Years of Pharmacy Leadership*. It is truly gratifying that CPhA is focusing time and attention on celebrating successes that have brought us to today from 1907, when Canadian Pharmacists, in their foresight and wisdom, decided to form a National Association. The first important task they undertook, then, was the rewriting of the Patent Medicine Bill to safeguard patient welfare and public health.

Even today patient safety is the cornerstone of usual Pharmacy practice. You are now nearly 30,000 strong, ensuring “Good Health Care Practices” for more than 30 million Canadians in nearly 8,000 pharmacies and 300 hospitals across Canada. A truly remarkable achievement by any measure!

As FIP moves toward accomplishing its own 100 years in 2012, many similarities can be drawn between CPhA and FIP. We are distinct in governance, yet closely linked in shared vision and concerns. This holds true for our Pharmacists, our Pharmaceutical Scientists, and our Future Professionals.

The Medical Post published a piece regarding this Centennial event. I was struck by strong continuity: the ideals we hold high today were those that essentially sparked the creation of CPhA in 1907:

- Recognition of the Pharmacy Profession as distinct and unique;
- Regulation of the safe medicines and their prices; and
- Advocacy for the skills, knowledge, and the role of the Pharmacist.

These were the issues that brought the pharmacists then together and there was solidarity at the dawn in 1907. Today, these are the issues that now connect and drive Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Scientists worldwide.

And because of this dedication, noticeable changes are happening in our profession in many countries including Canada. I use as an example the IMPACT initiative supported by the Ontario Primary Health Care Transition Fund. Through this venture, Pharmacists are being integrated into primary health care teams to improve the use and outcome of drug therapy. This initiative represents how Pharmacists can achieve their potential of directly improving patient care. I am inspired by and highly commend this initiative, and urge all of us to become similarly dedicated and involved.

Your achievements over the past 100 year are admirable, including CPhA’s contribution to FIP. Through the support and participation of CPhA and national associations alike, FIP is able to successfully advocate and promote the Pharmacy Profession on a global scale. I encourage you, on behalf of your peers in the international Pharmacy community, to continue working both here in Canada and beyond. Please recognize that much still remains to be done in achieving true Global Health, especially in the

underdeveloped and developing regions of the world – which are being ravaged by unusual burden of disease, illness and poverty.

I commend you on your past, and I challenge you for the future to be global leaders in the provision of safe, influential, and invaluable health care. Your efforts have made and will make a difference in Canada and throughout the world. The good health of each of us depends on the “Good Pharmacy Practice” of all of us.

It goes without saying, yet cannot be left unsaid, that the FIP extends its most sincere appreciation and congratulations to CPhA on its successes. Canadian Pharmacists, and in turn Canadian healthcare, are better because of the efforts of all those affiliated with CPhA. FIP looks forward to supporting, in partnership, the next 100 years of your endeavors.

Warm greetings and best wishes from FIP.

Thank you.