

Professional Notice

To: Pharmacy Practitioners
From: Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists
Date: June 4, 2020
Re: NSCP Response to Racial Injustice

Recent events in the United States have laid bare the reality of systemic racism and deep-rooted inequality. We in Nova Scotia are not immune to these realities, and it was inspiring to see thousands of people recently gather in Halifax to make their voices heard through peaceful, non-violent protest.

We are concerned about this issue and recognize how important it is for our stance on this issue to be clear to pharmacy practitioners. Silence is complacency. None of us can sit on the sidelines.

Being entrusted to protect Nova Scotians in the practice of pharmacy in our province means ensuring that pharmacy care is provided equitably and respectfully to all members of the community. Given that important responsibility, we must be aware of the experiences of all those we serve; we need to understand and respond to their unique experiences, challenges, and realities.

We know it is not enough to simply say that Black Lives Matter. We have been taking the time to listen, reflect and find ways to take action on this. We have been working toward improvement and new perspective in these areas as part of our strategic plan, and these recent events have revealed a need to listen, learn and accelerate these efforts.

We are looking forward to hosting an important conversation on this topic with April Howe, Executive Director, People & Culture, NS Public Service Commission at our upcoming Council Meeting on June 24, 2020. We hope to uncover important blind spots in order to show up meaningfully in this area and do more – and do better – than we are today.

We welcome your perspectives, input, and feedback as we all seek to promote justice, inclusiveness, and unity.