



MEDIA ADVISORY: Premier Ball to Speak at Launch of Pharmacist Awareness Month

March 1, 2017 (St. John's) On Thursday, March 2, the Pharmacists' Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (PANL) will host a reception to launch Pharmacist Awareness Month. Premier Dwight Ball will speak and sign a proclamation declaring March as Pharmacist Awareness Month in Newfoundland and Labrador. Following the proclamation, both Premier Ball and John Haggie, Minister of Health and Community and Services, will have their blood pressure checked by School of Pharmacy student Rachel Ward (Class of 2019). Other attendees will include PANL President Steve Gillingham; Dr. Lisa Bishop, Interim Dean of Memorial's School of Pharmacy; Margot Priddle, Registrar of the Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board; and Kyia Hynes, Senior Representative of the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns.

The event will take place at the Holiday Inn, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Media representatives are asked to arrive by 6:50 p.m.

Each year Pharmacist Awareness Month is celebrated across Canada to recognize, and educate Canadians about, the contributions that pharmacists make in the delivery of health care. The theme this year is *Pharmacists: Doing More. For You.* PAM activities in this province include an advertising campaign focusing on the expanded role of the pharmacist, a continuing education session for PANL members on opioid addiction and harm reduction, and the opening of the call for nominations for Pharmacist of the Year.

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