The purpose of the Executive Director’s report is to bring you up to date on CSHP’s finance and administration, human resources, advocacy, and activities of committees, Council, and Executive — all in 500 words or less. Furthermore, so much has taken place since I joined the CSHP staff in mid-April of this year that it is difficult to know where to start my first update. To emphasize our wide-ranging role, I will begin by describing some of our external activities.

CSHP has participated in several stakeholder meetings recently. In May and June, on behalf of Health Canada, the Public Policy Forum (PPF) convened stakeholders from the health care professional community, public interest groups, patient groups, and industry to participate in sectoral and plenary consultations on improving Canada’s regulatory process for therapeutic products. The outcome reports from these sessions can be found on the PPF Web site (http://www.ppforum.ca).

On May 26, 2003, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) held a stakeholder forum on adverse events in Canadian hospitals. The purpose was to facilitate information exchange in anticipation of the release, by February 2004, of their jointly funded research study on the extent and nature of adverse events in Canadian acute care hospitals. Additional information on the study can be found on the CIHI Web site (http://www.cihi.com). As announced previously by President Neil Johnson, CSHP is planning an advocacy campaign to coincide with the release of the CIHI–CIHR report. Stay tuned to find out how you can play a part!

CSHP also participated in a 1-day workshop on the governance of the future Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI), organized by Health Canada and the Interim Patient Safety Committee. The workshop focused on the mandate, major activities, structure, and membership of the proposed CPSI.

This summer has been very productive for the Society’s head office, and our collective success has been the product of many synergistic individual accomplishments. Anna Dudek, Finance Administrator, closed the books on the 2002/2003 fiscal year with a $174,151 operating surplus. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in St. John’s, Desarae Davidson, Conference Administrator, orchestrated a program that involved some 25 speakers, 220 registered pharmacists, and 26 exhibit booths, this in the aftermath of the worst power outage in Canadian history. Janet Lett, Executive Assistant, masterminded 8 business meetings of CSHP’s Executive, Council, and general membership, all held in conjunction with the AGM. In addition to celebrating her 10th anniversary in CSHP’s employ, Gloria Day, Administrative Assistant, shepherded the Canadian Hospital Pharmacy Residency Board through a most productive meeting. Laurie Carquez, Membership Administrator, stepped in at the last minute to assist at the AGM registration desk in St. John’s, temporarily setting aside the quickly accumulating membership renewals (over 1800 as of October 2, 2003). Katral-Nada Hassan, Journal Administrator, produced a special supplement to the Journal on behalf of the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada. This dedication, to the power of 6, made it easy for me to solve the CSHP’s head office operational equation!

If you are interested in additional information about any of the aforementioned issues, please contact the CSHP national office (see page 249 for contact information).