

Dear Pharmacy Class of 2027,

I would like to welcome each and every one of you to the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences! Congratulations to you all for achieving this milestone in your academic career. Your dedication and discipline is what got all of you here and you should be incredibly proud of yourselves.

My name is Perna Sharma (she/her) and I am the president of the Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association (APSA). Our APSA team has been planning diligently for this upcoming year and I applaud them for their hard work. APSA creates an environment in which students can thrive academically, personally and socially. We advocate as students for our future as pharmacists, provide opportunities for students to explore different avenues of pharmacy, and are here to support you in figuring out a school-life balance.

Academics are important and I encourage you to do the best you can in all your classes, but also have fun! These four years will go by before you even know it. Pharmacy school has something for everyone - whether that's intramurals, photography, community education and so much more. I'm looking forward to you being a part of our annual traditions such as RxFactor, our Blue and Gold Awards Gala, and our Pharmacy vs Dentistry Hockey game.

As you embark on this 4 year journey, you will see yourselves grow in an abundance of ways. My advice to you, is embrace the change. Take in everything you can from this experience. Pharmacy school is a ride, and the personal development that comes alongside it is so special. Give yourself grace on those days you don't feel your best, be kind to yourself along the process. I promise your hard work will pay off. I'm so excited to see you connect with like-minded individuals and build core memories that will last a lifetime!

I know the first few weeks can be overwhelming so please feel free to reach out with any questions you have. I hope to see you all soon!

Warmest Regards,

Perna Sharma (she/her), President
Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association
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Dear Pharmacy Class of 2027,

Congratulations on your acceptance into the pharmacy program at the University of Alberta. Trust me, the next four years will be a blur to you, but you will experience so much personal and professional growth. Angela and I are very excited to be part of your journey to become successful pharmacists. As your Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI) representatives, we would like to introduce you to the organization that, in partnership with APSA, will provide various opportunities to supplement your knowledge, meet new colleagues, and become further inspired to advance the profession as future pharmacists. With your registration to become an APSA member, you automatically become a CAPSI member as well!

As your CAPSI representatives, it is our personal duty to provide you with the knowledge and the ability to maximize your benefits as a CAPSI member. CAPSI is a national organization that brings together pharmacy students from all across Canada. Our organization strives to provide pharmacy students with educational and practical experiences outside of the pharmacy curricula. At a local level here at the University of Alberta, CAPSI is involved in fundraising for events such as CIBC Run for the Cure and Movember. We also organize professional development activities including CAPSI competitions in October and Professional Development Week (PDW) conference in January. CAPSI also organizes Pharmacists Awareness Month in March to advocate for the profession of pharmacy to the public and other health care disciplines.

The next four years will be very rigorous but also very rewarding. We strongly encourage you to get involved: participate in events; go to lunch and learns, presentations and conferences; network, and meet new people! Please remember that your health and well-being should always remain your first priority and be sure to reach out for help if you find yourself struggling. We truly are one big “pharmily” and we would be more than happy to help you with any questions or difficulties you may have. If you would like to find out more about CAPSI, please visit www.capsi.ca, or reach out to Angela or myself as we are more than welcome to chat over zoom or through email. We are happy to answer any questions that you have and we can't wait to meet you all, in person, at our fall orientation!

Cheers,

Zach Yopek-Stabel, VP CAPSI Sr. Representative
Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association | albertasr@capsi.ca

Angela Zhao, CAPSI Jr. Representative
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Dear Class of 2027:

Congratulations on your acceptance in the Doctor of Pharmacy program here at the University of Alberta! You have all worked incredibly hard to achieve this milestone and are incredibly deserving of this opportunity. I am glad that you have decided to join us and take the first steps towards a promising career in pharmacy!

I have the pleasure of being your CSHP-AB Student Representative for APSA this upcoming year. The Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) is a national organization of pharmacists that devotes itself to the promotion of best medical practice(s), education, and advocacy within the hospital and other collaborative healthcare settings. I will primarily serve as a liaison between the CSHP and the students.

I will also be serving as the head of the CSHP student committee. We plan to bring you a whole host of exciting events this year and I can't wait to show you what we have in store! As your interest in hospital pharmacy grows once you start to make your way through the program, I encourage you to consider investing in a CSHP membership! A CSHP membership will provide you entry to the CSHP-AB Student Members Facebook page where you will receive exclusive access to many CSHP events and programs. I will be sure to highlight some of these events during your upcoming orientation!

As well, if you are interested in getting involved in hospital practice early on in your pharmacy school journey, I would suggest you volunteer with one of our many CSHP student council positions. You will work together with a team of pharmacy students to plan hospital related events, symposiums, and awards. Furthermore, you will be connected with a team of practicing hospital pharmacists who will mentor you through your journey in pharmacy school!

I encourage you all to make the most of your time in pharmacy school because these four years will be over before you know it. Whether you do so through intramurals or engaging in some of the amazing events APSA will be hosting, take the time to get to know your classmates as you will be building relationships that last a lifetime.

I look forward to meeting you all on your orientation day and filling you in about all things CSHP. If you wish to find out more about what the CSHP has to offer, please visit www.cshp.ca or you can contact me directly with your questions.



Sincerely,



Hubert Piatkowski (he/him), CSHP-AB Student Representative
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