



2020-2021

# Annual Report

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# Our Vision, Mission & Values

## Vision

To be a distinguished leader in pharmacy education, practice, and research to improve people's health and well-being.

## Mission

To foster excellence in pharmacy education, practice and research in partnership with the broader community, preparing graduates to be leaders, innovators and inter-professional collaborators.

## Values



**Excellence:** We encourage and promote excellence through innovation and creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving.



**Integrity:** We are honest and ethical in all our interactions, maintaining the highest ethical/moral standards in teaching and learning, research, and public engagement.



**Collaboration:** We engage in respectful collaborations that promote success in education, research, practice, and public engagement.



**Accountability:** We accept responsibility for achieving common goals and objectives.



**Leadership:** We embrace and foster leadership in education, practice, and research, engaging with others to contribute to knowledge and skills that improve people's health and well-being.



**Sustainability:** We act in a manner that is environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable in administration, academic, and research programs.

## Strategic Directions

Teaching  
and  
Learning

Research

Public  
Engagement

Enabling  
Success



# Message from the Dean

Dr. Shawn Bugden

Just like it did for 2019-20, our annual report for 2020-21 is dominated by the impact of COVID-19. We switched to online learning shortly after March 2020 when the pandemic sent us all into global lockdowns. And when the new academic year began In Sept. 2020 we continued with online learning. In fact we did everything online (as you will see), including our annual research day, and Pharmacy Awareness Month, even celebrating our scholarships and award winners in videos posted online.

As 2020 morphed into 2021 (because it really didn't feel like a brand new year), and COVID numbers went up and down, the first sign of real optimism came with approval of vaccines. During winter, spring and summer of 2021 we rolled up our collective sleeves for first and second doses of Astra Zeneca, Moderna or Pfizer, in various combinations.



When did I know that things were headed in the right direction? I'd say when we were actually able to hold our School of Pharmacy Golf Tournament! It's an important fundraiser for student scholarships and initiatives, so we were thrilled that it could go ahead, with health precautions in place.

It was a sign of good things to come! As we planned to welcome back new and returning students to in-person learning, it was yet another sign that we were inching our way back to some kind of normal. Like the old days except for the masks and distancing.

I've said this before and it's certainly worth repeating. I am immensely proud of the efforts of faculty, staff, and students who have persevered through a very challenging time.

And just as they did when COVID-19 first closed us down, the pharmacy community stepped up once again, this time to help get vaccines into arms across the province. I commend each and every one of you for the leadership shown during these weird times. This is a scope expansion that is clearly paying dividends in public health as pharmacies have become key locations for COVID -19 and seasonal flu vaccinations.

Students, faculty and staff were also ready and eager to help get people immunized. Beginning in late spring and continuing through the summer of 2021, we offered first and second doses of Moderna to individuals 18 and over at our Medication Therapy Services (MTS) Clinic. It meant a great deal to all of us, especially to our fifth-year PharmD students who were beginning their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE) as vaccines were being rolled out.

In spite of another tumultuous year, we persevered, adapted and continued making strides under our four strategic directions: **Teaching and Learning**, **Research**, **Public Engagement** and **Enabling Success**. Hope you enjoy reading about our year in review.

# Teaching and Learning

## Scholarships & Awards

Our first-ever virtual scholarships and awards ceremony was chock-a-block with great videos recorded and created by our alumni development officer, Darcy McMeekin! A big shout out to Darcy for the many hours of work he devoted to this project. And thanks so much to donors, friends and award winners for putting themselves in front of the camera this year.



The **Ottawa Pharmacy Alumni Award** for 2019-20 celebrates involvement in extracurricular activities. [Class of '22 PharmD student Rita Huang is winner.](#)



Watch [this video](#) about the **J. Joseph Dicks Memorial Bursary** and be inspired! Congrats to recipient Sandi Shuhmacher.

We are fortunate to have excellent preceptors who play such an important role in the education of our students. Every year we recognize their contributions at our award ceremony.



This year's **Hospital Preceptor of the Year** goes to Samantha Gabriel who works as a clinical pharmacist at Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital in Stephenville.



**Community Preceptor of the Year** is Stephanie Burden, pharmacist and owner of Complete Care Pharmacy in Rocky Harbour.

# Teaching and Learning



Awards season was kind to PharmD students! During the **Pharmacy Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (PANL) Annual General Meeting** in October 2020, some of our students received Canadian Pharmacists Benefits Association (CPBA)/PANL Student Awards, recognizing their involvement in PANL, their contributions to university life, and their career goals.



**Sandi Schuhmacher** earned the **Student Spirit Award** for outstanding contribution to the profession through her activities as a volunteer, committee member or supporter.

**Omar Shogan** (pictured) received the **Ralph J. Harris Future of Pharmacy Award**, presented to a Memorial Pharmacy student who exudes enthusiasm, passion and vision for the future of pharmacy, and involved in community volunteer work.





# Teaching and Learning

It wasn't Dragon's Den but this first-ever School of Pharmacy Business Competition showcased bright ideas and teamwork!

Organized by Dr. Jennifer Donnan as part of her course on pharmacy management skills in the Entry-to-Practice PharmD program, students worked in groups to pitch their ideas and video presentations to an audience that included community business leaders.



The inaugural competition winners, Joe, Lindsay, Mahima, Brooke, and Rebecca, pitched [CalleRx Virtual Care Services with a Pharmacist](#) and earned bragging rights, along with a nice cash prize!

# Teaching and Learning



Teaching and learning online because of COVID-19 health restrictions was a challenge for everyone! To help make learning more fun and authentic, **Dr. Karina Arnold** enlisted **Cathy Balsom** and Senior Administrative Officer, **Ann Marie O’Keefe-Penney**, to help deliver, to help deliver Genuair and Turbuhaler devices, donated by AstraZeneca, to students in her first-year pharmacy practice course. “We have demo medical devices in the pharmacy lab that the students would practice on. I wanted to ensure students could get a similar experience virtually.”



Memorial featured future women scientists from across the university on the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, including PharmD student **Rhadika Verma** of Stephenville, who offered this inspiring quote, “There are so many directions to go. All you have to do is follow your interest and stick to it, even if it comes with challenges.”

[Check out the Gazette article here!](#)



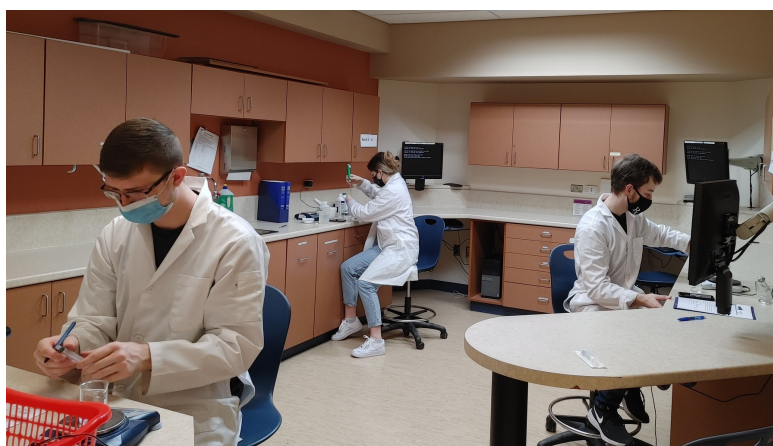
# Teaching and Learning



March was a pretty special month in the School of Pharmacy, with lots of firsts! Read all about our first PharmD graduate, **Danielle Burns** of Nova Scotia, in [this first-person feature article](#).



Being named Academic All Canadian is among the highest honor that an athlete can achieve in Canadian Interuniversity Sport! PharmD students and Sea~Hawks, cross country runner **Keeley Cox** and women's volleyball player **Claire Whiffen** earned that distinction, highlighting the contributions our students make to university life.

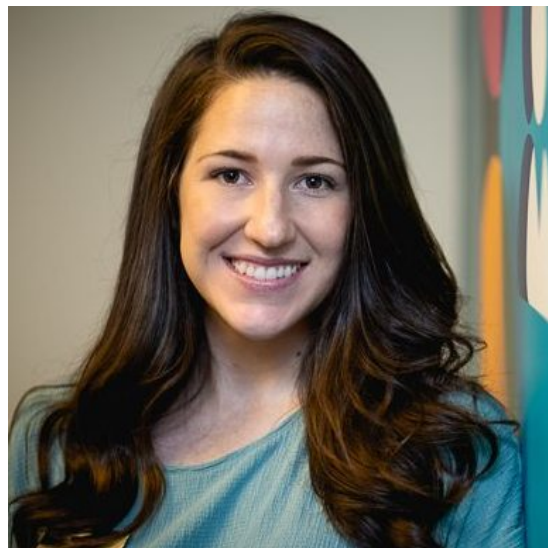


First-year PharmD students were pretty darn excited when **Dr. Lili Wang** and laboratory instructor **Paula Ryan** brought students into the lab for the first time! Proud parents even showed up to snap a few photos!

# Teaching and Learning



Vaccine-mobile to the rescue: Cape Breton pharmacist **Michael Hatt** takes inspiration from Memorial's Working Professional PharmD program and looks for [new ways to reach people](#).



As part of their Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience, the first for doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) Entry to Practice students, like 5th year **Melissa Kieley** were thrilled to [help get people vaccinated against COVID-19](#).

Said Melissa, "I think this will be something I'll look back on and be proud of, since I know it plays a role in beating this pandemic."



"The more I can learn, the better I can be as a pharmacist." SoP alumna and community pharmacists **Kara O'Keefe** and **Vanessa Power** are among our first PharmD graduates. [Read more here!](#)



# Research



**Dr. Hai Nguyen**'s received national [recognition and high praise](#) from the Canadian Centre for Health Research (CIHR) when his article, Association of Canada's Provincial Bans on Electronic Cigarette Sales to Minors with Electronic Cigarette Use Among Youth was named CIHR's 2020 Article of the Year. It's a first for Memorial University and the School of Pharmacy.



In yet another first for the School of Pharmacy, **Dr. Debbie Kelly** and team have [earned an important research grant](#) from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy for work that aims to show "...Comprehensive Medicine Assessments (CMA) provided through a pharmacist clinic for patients with complex medication needs will improve medication-related burden, reduce medication complexity, and increase patient satisfaction.



Binge Drinking and the Brain – **Dr. Matthew Lamont** graduated with his PhD in Pharmacy in November 2020. [His ground-breaking research](#), under the supervision of **Dr. John Weber**, focused on the long-term effects of adolescent binge drinking.



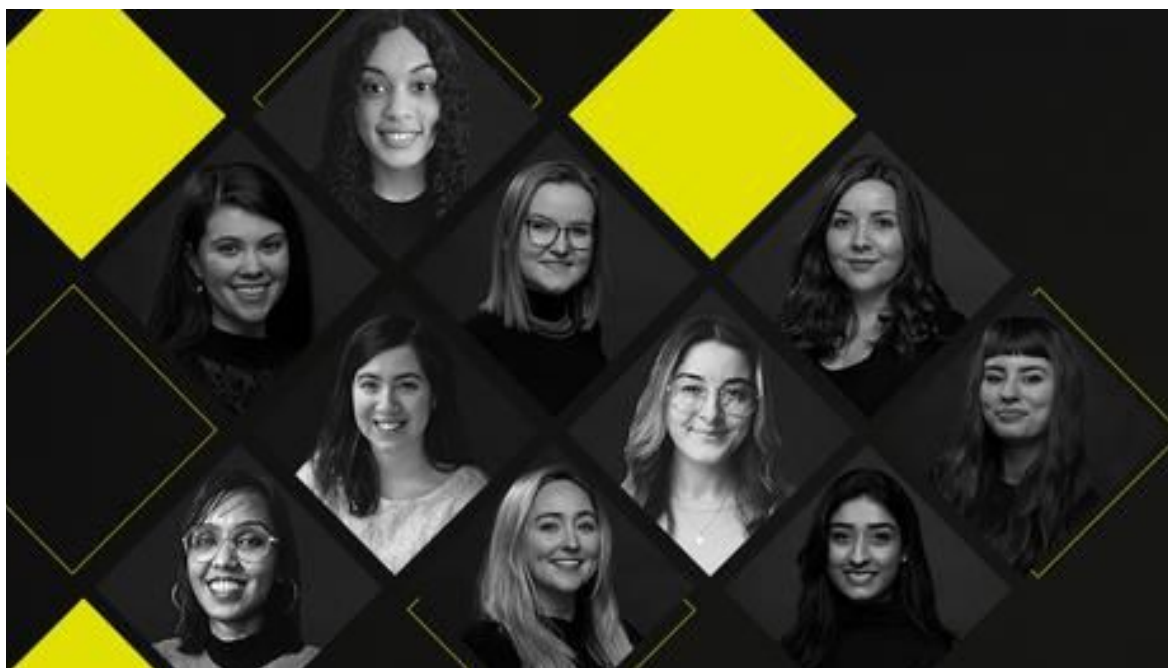
# Research



Thanks to COVID-19, the words pivot, and virtual took on a whole new meaning! Our first-ever virtual [Pharmacy Research Day](#) featured undergraduate and graduate student competitions with [lots of interest and participation](#).



Pharmacy Awareness Month (PAM) highlighted the work of faculty and student researchers, like [4th year PharmD student Taylor Skinner](#) and School of Pharmacy [associate professor, Dr. Noriko Daneshtalab](#).



PharmD student **Radhika Verma** is profiled in [this all-student celebration](#) on Feb. 11, the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

# Research

A look at research by the numbers over the past year:

## MUN School of Pharmacy RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

2020-21

### Did you know?

The School of Pharmacy currently has  
30 faculty (full time, clinical, & adjunct)  
23 staff, 19 graduate (MSc & PhD)  
students, 4 postdoctoral fellows and 195  
PharmD Entry to Practice students.



There are 89 students  
enrolled in the Working  
Professional Program.



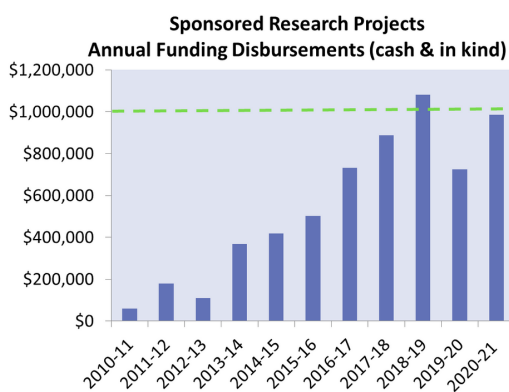
Our 3 research focus areas are:  
HEALTH OUTCOMES  
DRUG DISCOVERY & DELIVERY  
TEACHING & LEARNING

Our average grant  
success rate over  
the last 5 years is

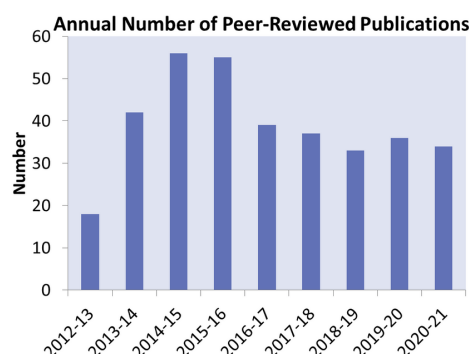
43%



### Research Output



The School of Pharmacy  
has seen a significant  
increase in sponsored  
research funding over the  
last decade.



Over the last 5 years, our  
researchers have published an  
average of 36 peer-reviewed  
papers annually.



To find out more info, visit <https://www.mun.ca/pharmacy/research/> or contact: Kristine Day, Grants Facilitation Officer

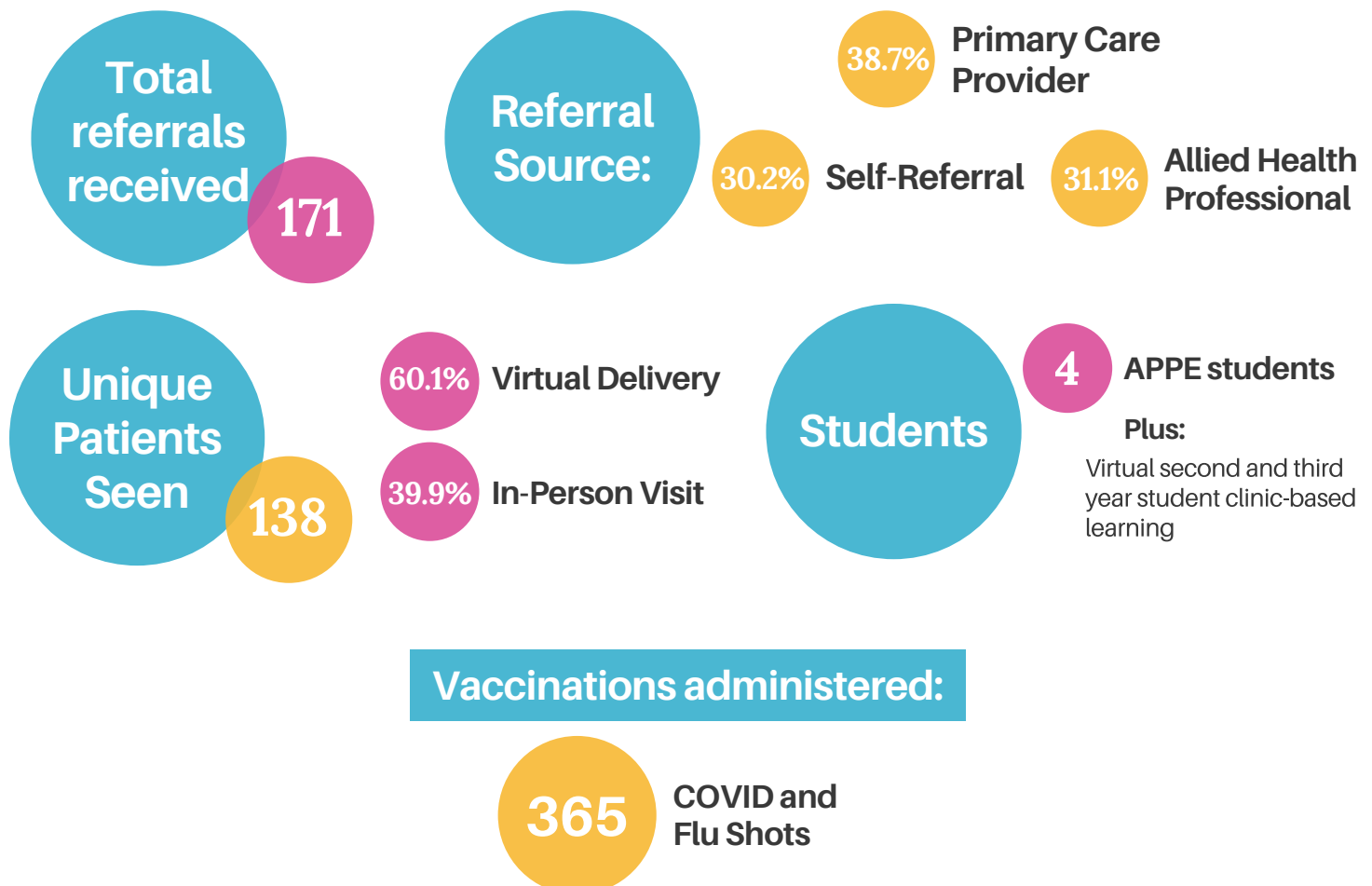


# Public Engagement

## By the Numbers:



An eventful year! This colourful infographic highlights a year of great work at our Medication Therapy Services (MTS) Clinic. To learn more about an eventful 12-months, [read about](#) how the COVID-19 pandemic created challenge, opportunities, and valuable learning experiences.



# Public Engagement



School of Pharmacy alumnus **Ray Gulliver** received the Alumni Achievement Award for 2020, recognizing his commitment and contribution to the pharmacy profession. It's the highest honour we bestow on one of our graduates, and it puts him in great company with past recipients. [Watch the video presentation!](#)



School of Pharmacy-based Safer Meds NL not sheepish about [highlighting the harms](#) of sleeping pills.



Community outreach is a big part of the mission of the Medication Therapy Services Clinic! Check out [this conversation](#) with staff at the MTS Clinic and Memorial University President, **Dr. Vianne Timmons**.



When School of Pharmacy alumna **Christina Tulk** took over as chair of the Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA) last November, the world was, as she puts it, "knee deep in COVID."

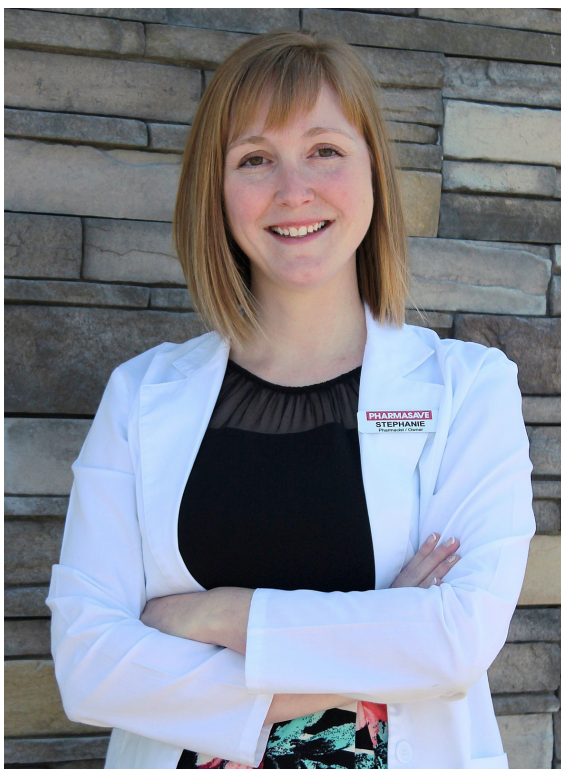
She says her education at Memorial prepared her well for the [leadership and advocacy](#) role she's taken on at a national level. The pandemic has exposed the different scopes of practice for pharmacists across the country, and as CPhA chair she continues to address those issues.



# Public Engagement



Beginning in January, our pharmacists at the Medication Therapy Service Clinic got busy rolling up sleeves and offered free flu shots to anyone with an MCP number. It was a great warm-up for the COVID-19 clinics that came later!



School of Pharmacy alumna **Stephanie Burden** [was recognized](#) as Canadian Pharmacist of the Year by the Canadian Pharmacy Association. It's an honour that, "... recognizes a pharmacist who demonstrates leadership and exemplifies the evolution of the pharmacy profession toward an expanded role in health care." Way to go Stephanie. We are so proud!

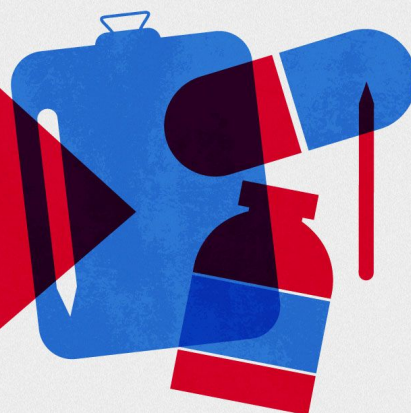
[Here is an interview](#) Stephanie did with the St. John's Morning Show.

# Public Engagement

## THERE FOR CANADIANS

Celebrating pharmacy's extraordinary effort in an extraordinary year

#PAM2021



By March 2021, the global community had marked one year of living with COVID-19. To mark the year that was, and to highlight the extraordinary role that pharmacists have had in keeping us healthy and safe, Pharmacy Awareness Month was renamed, [Pharmacy Appreciation Month](#). Said PharmD and PAM committee member **Erin Matthews**, "When faced with patient and staff worries, extremely hectic workplaces, and the spread of misinformation, pharmacists didn't step aside. They banded together to correct false claims, advocate for their patients, and show up every single day."

Spotlight Sunday	Misconception Monday	Tip Tuesday	Wellness Wednesday	Thankful Thursday	Flashback Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> SHOPPERS DRUG MART International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation	<b>1</b> Virtual PAM Kick-Off Gov. House Glows Green Social Media Contest #1	<b>2</b> MUN School of Pharmacy Instagram Takeover "Sandi in Isolation"	<b>3</b> Virtual Movie Night showing Madagascar via Teleparty at 8 pm	<b>4</b> IPSF Smoking Cessation Presentation by Dr. Genge 12-1 pm	<b>5</b> NLNTP White Coat Runway Video Release	<b>6</b> Virtual Relay For Life at MUN 6-9 pm
<b>7</b> Research Highlight #1	<b>8</b> Social Media Contest #2 International Women's Day Campaign #ChooseToChallenge	<b>9</b> MUN School of Pharmacy Instagram Takeover "Rita on Rotations"	<b>10</b> LIVE Yoga Session with Kate Walsh from Modo Yoga 8-9 pm	<b>11</b> CSHP Symposium 12-2 pm	<b>12</b> NLNTP Mock-Mock OSCE Video Release	<b>13</b> #PAMCOVIDSquad Contest
<b>14</b> Research Highlight #2	<b>15</b> Social Media Contest #3	<b>16</b> MUN School of Pharmacy Facebook Takeover "PharmD For Working Professionals Students"	<b>17</b> Meditation Session with Dr. Bulmer from MUN School of Music to be released at 6 pm	<b>18</b> GlaxoSmith Presentation Acute Pain Topicals 1-2 pm	<b>19</b> NLNTP Spelling Bee Video Release Medisca Presentation - A Virtual Event for our Future Compounding Pharmacists 4:30-7:30pm	<b>20</b> IPSF Blood Drive at Canadian Blood Services 10 am-2 pm (tentative)
<b>21</b> Research Highlight #3	<b>22</b> Social Media Contest #4 Saint Luke's Retirement Home Virtual Presentation 1-2pm	<b>23</b> MUN School of Pharmacy Facebook Takeover "Stephanie Burden - What Pharmacists Have to Offer"	<b>24</b> DAL Cystic Fibrosis Panel (MUN is invited!) 6:30 - 8:30 pm "Power of Art with Emma Power" to be released at 9 pm	<b>25</b> Alzheimer's Society Presentation 1-2 pm	<b>26</b> NLNTP Talent Show Video Release Deadline for Colouring Contest Submissions 5 pm	<b>27</b> CAPSI ACEIP
<b>28</b> Research Highlight #4	<b>29</b> IPSF Fitness Class with Ryan Shea Live 6-7 pm Announcement of Colouring Contest Winner(s)	<b>30</b> MUN School of Pharmacy Instagram Takeover "Ms. Arnold - Teaching Behind the Screen"	<b>31</b> Draw for PAM Passport Winner(s) "Sit and Knit with Meaghan Wilson" to be released at 6 pm	March 20th-27th Together: Canada's Hospital Pharmacy Conference All March Long: -Hygiene Drive in support of St. John's Women's Center -Virtual School Presentations -STEM Presentations for Scouts and Girl Guide Groups All activities are subject to change		

PAM. ALL MARCH. EVERY MARCH

PAM committee members embraced online platforms, and arranged a month of fantastic activities! [Have a look!](#)



# Public Engagement



**PAM21** also featured some excellent social media takeovers, including one by School of Pharmacy alumna **Stephanie Burden**, named by the Canadian Pharmacy Association's 2021 Pharmacist of the Year. She even [offered up some excellent exercise tips](#) to prevent "the dreaded pharmacist's hunch."

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, five participants are visible in small video windows: Janet Harron, John Weber, Sandy Brennan, Jennifer Donnan, and Lisa Bishop. Below them is a large grey banner with white text. The banner features a large green cannabis leaf and a black bottle of cannabis oil. The text on the banner reads: "CANNABIS 101: BURNING QUESTIONS ABOUT THC, CBD AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN", "Presenters: Dr. Lisa Bishop, Dr. Jennifer Donnan and Dr. John Weber", "Moderator & Host: Janet Harron, Office of Alumni Engagement, [jharron@mun.ca](mailto:jharron@mun.ca)", "No audio until the session begins. Please note this session is being recorded.", and "mun.ca/alumni". Logos for Memorial University Pharmacy and Memorial University Alumni are in the bottom corners.

Still working and learning from home, Memorial and the School of Pharmacy found a great way to reach a wide audience. Alumni Engagement and faculty members **Drs. Jennifer Donnan, Lisa Bishop** and **John Webber** joined forces to [talk cannabis](#).

# Public Engagement



MTS Clinic pharmacist **Jeremy MacDonald** teamed up with Alumni Affairs and Development to offer an informative virtual session about vaccines (including the COVID-19 vaccines), that drew a crowd!

Watch here:

[Vaccines 101: What They Are, How They Work and Why You Should Get One](#)



Doing their part! Our MTS Clinic [offered up a shot in the arm](#) to anyone 18 and older who needed a first or second dose of the COVID-19 Moderna vaccine. It was a collaborative effort, and a proud moment for faculty, staff and students who all pitched in.



The School of Pharmacy went all out FORE the return of our annual Golf Tournament that had been cancelled the previous year, PUTTING on a fun day on and off the links in support of student scholarships and initiatives.





# PHARMACY

For more photos and updates throughout the year,  
be sure to follow us on  
Facebook at @schoolofpharmacy and  
Instagram at @mun\_pharmacy!