

## MSP's Statement on International Pharmacy Services February 2003

The Manitoba Society of Pharmacists (MSP) is a not-for-profit voluntary organization whose purpose is to promote and advocate the economic and professional interests of its members.

As MSP has members from many sectors of pharmacy in Manitoba, we have an obligation to minimize any negative impact of one sector on another. While pharmacies providing international services create opportunities for employment for many Manitobans, they also place additional stress on the number of pharmacists available to fill positions in community pharmacies, hospital and long-term care facilities in Manitoba.

MSP recognizes that it is necessary for pharmacies providing international pharmacy services to meet the same standards as all other pharmacies and that the pharmacists practicing in these pharmacies follow the provincial code of ethics and standards of practice as do all other licensed pharmacists.

Pharmacy is regulated on a provincial basis and it is essential that international pharmacy services be considered from both a provincial and national perspective, which is conscious of provincial, national and international impacts.

MSP encourages Canada's provincial pharmacy regulatory authorities to co-ordinate a national policy to regulate pharmacies providing international pharmacy services in order to make the requirements in all provinces uniform.