

**Hamilton and District Pharmacists' Association
to be presented with the Ontario Pharmacists' Association
2010 District Shield Award**

Toronto, ON (June 14, 2010) – The Hamilton and District Pharmacists' Association (HDPPhA) has been named the recipient of the Ontario Pharmacists' Association 2010 District Shield Award. The award, which recognizes an active local association that has rendered outstanding service to the community and the profession, will be presented at the Association's annual conference on Saturday, June 19.

"The HDPPhA promotes and supports professionalism and innovation in local pharmacy practice, highlights the expertise of pharmacists in the community, and facilitates continuing education for its members," said Dennis Darby, CEO of the Ontario Pharmacists' Association.

Active in the community since 1977, today HDPPhA represents more than 400 pharmacists and pharmacy technicians throughout the Hamilton region. The Association has worked hard to increase collaboration with pharmacists from community, hospital and primary care practices by hosting a number of continuing education events throughout the year, collaborating with the Hamilton Academy of Medicine to increase awareness of the Prescription Forgery Alert System, and on a joint immunization clinic to assist in immunizing front-line professionals during the H1N1 outbreak. The HDPPhA helped ensure residents received consistent information about H1N1, decreased possible contact for patients in public areas, and allowed patients to rest at home while prescriptions were being filled. The association also played a key role in educating Hamilton residents about the impact of excess salt in their diet during the "It's Hamilton's Time to Get Healthy...It's Time to Halt the Salt" city-wide campaign.

About the Ontario Pharmacists' Association

The Ontario Pharmacists' Association is the professional association that represents the views and interests of more than 11,000 pharmacists and pharmacists-in-training across the province. The Association works to inspire excellence in the profession and practice of pharmacy, and to promote wellness for patients.

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For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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