

# Vote for Aska Patel for District L Council Elections

Dear Colleagues,

My name is Aska Patel, a practicing pharmacist of more than seven years with experience in community, hospital, and government settings. A vote for me during the District L Council elections at the Ontario College of Pharmacists (the College) will represent a balanced voice and experience that understands the growing intricacies of our profession.



My journey as a pharmacy student started around the Bill 102 era, and has since seen our profession adapt, transform, and continue to stand tall against strong winds and changing industry dynamics. After graduating from the University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy, I am grateful to have found work opportunities that have further expanded my understanding of our healthcare system. Through various involvements in regional and provincial level work related projects, I am aware of the challenges that we must address as a profession and opportunities we need to avail to improve patient care and health outcomes.

Drug shortages, government announcements about the expanded scope of practice and changes to funding for current services, are some of the challenges that we all face everyday, to deliver optimal patient care. While there are no shortcomings of the challenges we face, we are also fortunate to have the pleasure of working with patients who remind us daily of how valued we are, as a profession, in their health and wellness journey. Our patients count on us to help meet their healthcare needs and right now, there are opportunities where we can do more for our patients. Having first hand experience of the impact our profession has in a variety of healthcare settings, my interest to serve as a Council member stems from the need to address the existing gaps in healthcare where we, as pharmacists, can actively contribute. I am fully aware of the value we bring for our patients and I can assure you that my passion for our profession and patient care will serve as a strong voice at the Council table.

Apart from work, I am an active contributor in the community and an advocate for our patients and profession. I have a good understanding of the College's mandate and governance framework through my experience of over two years serving as a non-council committee member and more recently as a knowledge assessment writer at the College. I have served as an advisory committee member at Health Quality Ontario, working on developing quality standards for management of chronic diseases. I am hopeful that with my extensive experience and passion, you will have found faith to elect me as a District L Council member in this year's Council elections. I look forward to an opportunity to work with the College as a Council member to create a safe, supportive and sustainable environment for our patients and our profession at large.

Sincerely,

Aska Patel, PharmD., BSc. Pharm., RPh.



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