

## Re-Election Statement:

My name is Ruth-Ann Plaxton, and I am hoping that I can count on your vote to re-elect me as a candidate for District T in the upcoming Ontario College of Pharmacists election.

I've had a 2-year term on council, 2017-2019, and attended 4 yearly council meetings, a 3-day Strategic Planning meeting, committee and panel meetings throughout the 2 years. The committees that I sat on were, the discipline committee, where we would hear allegations of professional or proprietary misconduct, and the panel has the authority to take the appropriate disciplinary action; the Quality Assurance Committee, that helps ensure the competency of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, ensuring they maintain appropriate skills and knowledge throughout their career and are practicing to the standard; and Fitness to Practise, is a health inquiry process that considers incapacity matters referred by the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee.

Working on council and the committees has given me experience working with a wide range of committee members, college staff, the public, and I've seen how working together we can make changes that will help protect the public, which is a mandate of the College, through the advancements in our practices and pharmacies.

This is an exciting time in pharmacy, with evolving roles for both Pharmacists and Regulated Technicians in our healthcare system. As Regulated Technicians, we play a vital role in supporting change to help improve effectiveness and efficiencies in our system, that in turn support the Pharmacists on our teams by enabling them to focus on new and expanded scope of practice, that helps ensure improved patient care and outcomes for the patients we serve.

I believe that I have the skills and experience to be a representative voice for Regulated Technicians on Council, to help shape positive change in pharmacy for the betterment of the healthcare system. I have over 35 years' experience in community pharmacy, with the last 7 years as a Regulated Technician. I have worked in a variety of practice sites, including nursing home, independent, chain pharmacy, and also in a corporate pharmacy position, which has given me broad experience that I believe would provide a valuable perspective at the Council table.

I have previous governance experience sitting on a Boards, I have been the elected member sitting in seat T on the OCP council, 2017-2019, a Board member at Calvary Missionary Church, 2004-2011, and President of the Board of the Cindi Black Memorial Fund, 2008-2012, and as part of that experience, being a part of managerial planning meetings.

Through my willingness to step out of my comfort zone, and to continually look for ways to evolve the role of the Regulated Technician, I have had the opportunity to present to both Regulated Technicians and Pharmacists at the Ontario Pharmacists Association (OPA) Conferences in, 2015- 'Optimizing your role in patient care services', 2016- 'Leveraging the role of the Assistant and Technician in your pharmacy' and 2017 - 'Maximizing Pharmacy services through the Regulated Technician'-2019 "Medical Device Training for Technicians". I feel fortunate to be able to present to such broad audience on these topics, and to be able to use this forum to follow my passion; to see the role of the Regulated Technician being embraced and accepted in some way in every pharmacy.

I believe that I would bring to Council a visionary mindset, looking to evolve the future of the pharmacy, but always keeping in mind the fiduciary duty of a Council member, and serving the mandate of the College to ensure that the public receives quality services and care.

I humbly ask for your support by voting for me, and allowing me to represent District T on OCP Council.

If you have any questions about my candidacy, vision, or experience as a Technician, please feel free to contact me at [rplaxton@hotmail.com](mailto:rplaxton@hotmail.com)

Respectfully submitted by

Ruth-Ann Plaxton, RPhT

Biography

Employed: Full time at Loblaw Companies Limited- Regulated Technician in Zehrs Pharmacy Owen Sound