"Getting Ready"
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

The "Getting Ready" session is designed to prepare International Pharmacy Graduates (IPGs) and previously registered non-practising pharmacists for the rigours of the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada’s (PEBC) Qualifying Examinations Parts I and II (Multiple Choice Questions [MCQ] and Objective Structured Clinical Examination [OSCE]).

Many candidates, when taking these examinations for the first time, are unprepared for the pressures involved in these exams, particularly Role Plays in Part II (the OSCE). This session will provide information on strategies and coping mechanisms for these examinations. It will also provide the candidates with the opportunity to ‘trial run’ some sample Role Play sessions and receive feedback on their performance.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

8:30 AM  Welcoming Remarks
9:00 AM  What I wish I’d known before I took the exams
          Given by an IPG who has recently sat these exams
10:00 AM Refreshment Pause
10:15 AM OSCE Stations
          Candidates will experience a mock-OSCE. They will rotate through a series of 20 stations that will mimic the type of questions and the time-limited situations experienced during the examination.
1:45 PM  Lunch
2:15 PM  Standardized Patient Feedback
          Candidates will receive a group critique on their performance in the various stations from the patients’ point of view.
2:30 PM  Test-Taking Behaviour
          Students trained at universities in many other countries may find the North American style of examinations quite a stressful surprise if they are unprepared for the format and expectations of the examiners. The various styles and expectations of examinations will be discussed.
3:30 PM  Refreshment Pause
3:35 PM  Debrief and discussion
          Candidates will receive a group critique on their performance in the various stations, as well as individualized feedback of the Role Play stations. There will be a general discussion of the points that the assessors are looking for at each station, common problems or errors and how to correct these errors.
5:00 PM  Wrap-up