

**MEDIA RELEASE
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March 10, 2010 – New Westminster, BC. On April 9th of last year, regulations were passed in Victoria which provides naturopathic physicians in BC with the right to prescribe certain pharmaceutical drugs. Prescribing rights for BC naturopathic doctors bring greater healthcare choices to BC citizens and is a bold initiative by legislators to improve BC's overburdened healthcare system.

A course outline that brings naturopathic physicians into line with current pharmaceutical protocols will be taught by professors from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UBC and has been approved by the College of Naturopathic Physicians of BC. The Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine will offer this Pharmacy Upgrade Course beginning March 6 and ending in early July at the downtown BCIT campus. "Prescribing rights for naturopathic physicians will lead to greater collaborative care and a more integrated health care system" says Dr. David Scotten, Dean of Academics at The Boucher Institute.

The public is invited to learn more about naturopathic medicine at The Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine Open House on Saturday, May 8th from 10 am to 4 pm at the Boucher Centre, 435 Columbia St. New Westminster conveniently located above the Columbia Skytrain station. The Open House will feature talks by NDs, a presentation for prospective students, a Product Fair and free screening tests in the public clinic. Media contact: Alannah Wells awells@binm.org,
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