



Outstanding Pharmacy Owner or Manager

Bob Mehr | Bob Mehr Compounding Pharmacies, Vancouver, BC

2010 winners

A pharmacist in the finest tradition

Bob Mehr, owner of Bob Mehr Compounding Pharmacies, combines a holistic vision of patient care with an advanced knowledgebase and business savvy. Driving his success, though, is the deep-seated passion Mehr has for the pharmacy profession. “The vibrancy and ambiance of his stores and the enthusiasm, energy and helpful attitudes shown by his staff, all reflects on the honesty, trust and accessibility of one Bob Mehr,” says friend and business associate Anil Ram.

Mehr and his wife bought their first pharmacy on Vancouver Island in 1999. Since then, they have built a mini-empire of 12 successful pharmacies. Mehr’s advanced compounding knowledge has become his signature and a key competitive advantage as the demand for personalized medication deliveries grows. He has advanced training from the Professional Compounding Centre of America (PCCA), which named him the top compounding pharmacist on the continent in 2005.

Each of Mehr’s pharmacies is equipped with an on-site compounding area, and every pharmacist on staff has specialized training from the PCCA as well. The compounding pharmacies not only prepare customized options for people, but also their pets. Indeed, veterinary compounding is a significant part of Mehr’s business, accounting for up to 20% of his prescriptions.

What also sets this mini-chain apart is a distinctive read on demographics. While many predictably market to Canada’s aging baby boomer population, the Mehrs have targeted a unique niche segment: people



in their 30s to 40s who are active and interested in looking good and staying healthy. “Our pharmacies are different because we believe in preventative medicine,” says Mehr. “That is why our target group is younger patients and the baby boomers who want to have a better quality of life when they grow old.”

At Mehr’s pharmacies, you can make an appointment for a prevention-oriented health consultation, a sports-activity consultation, a professional beauty consult, or even get advice on honing your photography skills. Even the stores’ decor and ambience is designed especially with their health-oriented target in mind.

Mehr and his staff are also active in their community. Most recently, the pharmacist committed \$50,000 to the B.C. Cancer Foundation’s Inspire the World campaign, which aims to generate \$10 million for an expansion of the BC Cancer Agency’s Vancouver Island Centre. During this fundraiser, Bob Mehr Compounding Pharmacies donated a portion of the proceeds from a number of vitamins and supplements to the campaign.

“Mehr’s ideals and integrity follow those unimpeachable values that we cherish in our fellow healthcare professionals,” concludes Ram. “He is a pharmacist in the finest tradition.”

—Brett Ruffell

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