



Dr. Vivienne Rowan of Winnipeg to receive CPA Humanitarian Award

Ottawa (June 1, 2015) – The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) is pleased to announce that Dr. Vivienne Rowan has won this year’s Humanitarian Award for her work with Médecins sans frontières/Doctors without Borders (MSF) Canada over the last 10 years.

The award is presented to outstanding Canadian individuals or organizations whose commitment and persistent endeavours have significantly and selflessly enhanced the psychological health and well-being of Canadians at a local, provincial, or national level.

Dr. Vivienne Rowan is a clinical psychologist specializing in anxiety disorders and related conditions. She began working with MSF Canada in 2005 in Indonesia as a mental health officer, where she trained local psychologists and community mental health workers in assessing and treating Post Traumatic Stress Disorder for survivors of the 2004 tsunami and civil war. She then became a peer support training specialist with MSF and trained volunteers to provide mental health services to departing and returning expats on missions abroad. Most recently, Dr. Rowan spent three months in India as a project coordinator and mental health officer, training local mental health professionals to assess and treat trauma and grief for survivors and families affected by the 2013 mudslide in northern India.

“We feel that she is the kind of Canadian that we are particularly proud of and who critically contributes to Canada’s positive image in the world,” say Dr. Nicole Aube and Dr. Wolfgang Linden of Vancouver.

In addition to her work with MSF Canada, Dr. Rowan is co-founder of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy Institute of MB Inc., a not-for-profit clinic developed to provide evidence-based treatments and to support research and program evaluation for anxiety disorders and related health problems, and founder and director of Assiniboine Psychological Group, a multidisciplinary group of mental health care specialists providing cognitive behavioural assessments and treatments.

Dr. Rowan will receive her award at CPA’s 76th Annual Convention, taking place at The Westin Ottawa in Ottawa, Ontario from June 4 through 6, 2015. The convention will be attended by researchers, practitioners, students, and policy makers from across the country and will feature more than 2,000 presentations on a wide array of psychological topics.

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About the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA)

The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) is the national association for the science, practice and education of psychology in Canada. With over 7,000 members and affiliates, CPA is Canada's largest association for psychology. For more information, visit www.cpa.ca.

Media at the Convention

Media are highly encouraged to attend. Registered press will have complimentary access to the convention. Badges are required of all convention participants for entry into sessions and must be worn at all times. For more information or to register, please contact the CPA.

Press inquiries should be made to:

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