



Accreditation Update

2021
Summer/Fall

A note from the Registrar:

Welcome to the CPA Accreditation Panel’s new Newsletter, the Accreditation Update! The goal of this newsletter is to provide timely updates to the Canadian professional psychology training community on the “goings-on” of the CPA Accreditation Panel and Office. The Accreditation Update will include some information about current accreditation processes, recent Panel decisions, as well as anything else that is relevant to training directors and other Canadian psychology training stakeholders.

Readers can expect an update (much like this one) after every Panel meeting, or about three times per year in the Winter, Spring, and Fall. Given the backlog of program reviews caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are launching with a special issue following a rare summer Panel meeting, which occurred in August, 2021.

Without further ado, welcome to our first “new” newsletter!

Stewart

Current Statistics

The Canadian Psychological Association currently accredits **41 Doctoral Programmes** and **42 Internship Programmes** in Clinical psychology, Counselling psychology, School psychology and Neuropsychology. Congratulations to the Concordia University Clinical Psychology PhD program, the University of British Columbia Counselling Psychology PhD program, the University of Western Ontario Clinical Psychology PhD program, the University of Windsor Clinical Psychology PhD program, and the Eastern Health Pre-Doctoral Residency program on their recent reaccreditations in August 2021!

	Doctoral Programmes	Internship Programmes
Clinical Psychology	33	37
Counselling Psychology	5	5
School/Clinical Psychology	4	1
Clinical Neuropsychology	2	2
TOTAL	41*	42*

* The Total does not equal the sum of the number of programmes listed above as some programmes are cross-listed (e.g., school and clinical psychology).

Current CPA Accreditation Panel Members

(see www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources/accreditationpanel for more information on our Panel Members soon!)

- Dr. Deborah Dobson, University of Calgary and Private Practice, Calgary, AB (Chair)
- Dr. Douglas Cane, Nova Scotia Health Authority, Halifax, NS
- Dr. Damien Cormier, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB
- Dr. Vina Goghari, University of Toronto, Scarborough, Toronto, ON
- Dr. Niki Fitzgerald, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), Toronto, ON
- Dr. Anusha Kassin, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC
- Dr. Elaine de Guise, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC
- Dr. Jose Domene, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB
- Ms. Lauren Matheson, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC (Student Member)



Ongoing Accreditation Processes

Standards Revision Update

The process related to the 6th revision of the CPA's Accreditation Standards are ongoing. The Accreditation Panel and Standards Review Committee have completed a number of focused consultations with groups that have formal partnerships with the CPA (e.g., the CPA Sections, the Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs or CCPPP, the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations or ACPRO), and still plan to launch the next phase of our consultation process with groups external to the CPA in the Fall of 2021. The Panel and SRC are hopeful that they will be able to send a final draft of the revised Standards to the CPA Board of Directors in 2022.

For up-to-date information on the ongoing revision of the Standards, please visit:

<https://cpa.ca/accreditation/revisionprocess/>

Revisions to Reaccreditation/Reaffirmation Letters

Following feedback from the CCPPP on the format and content of CPA reaccreditation and reaffirmation letters, the Panel decided to make a slight change to the format of the letters' monitoring items. Starting in August 2021, monitoring items for programs will be divided into two categories: *Clarification and/or Ongoing Monitoring* items and *Remediation* items. Clarification and/or Ongoing Monitoring means exactly what the name implies; the Panel expects the program to report on these items if there are any developments, and/or provide clarification on program processes and other information requested by the Panel. Remediation items, on the other hand, typically require the program to take action in order to comply with a Standard.

As always, if you have any questions or comments about this change, please feel free to contact the Registrar directly at smadon@cpa.ca.

Upcoming Townhall

As part of the Panel's strategy to improve communication with its' stakeholders, the Accreditation Panel Chair (Dr. Deborah Dobson) and the Registrar will be hosting an informal townhall on accreditation related issues this coming October 19th, 2021 from 3:00-4:30 PM Eastern Time. If you are interested in attending, please inform the Registrar at smadon@cpa.ca so you can be added to the email list for the meeting. We will also be circulating the meeting link to the CCPPP and other stakeholder groups.

Our hope is to continue these townhalls in the future, likely timed to coincide with the timing of our Panel meetings in the Fall, Winter and Spring.

Site Visits and COVID-19

The Panel and its exceptionally dedicated roster of site visitors have been conducting virtual site visits and program reviews since December 2020. Although we are still experiencing some delays in setting up virtual site visits, the process is getting smoother as the months go on.

Unfortunately, the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic has precluded the Panel from re-establishing in-person site visits – and thus the review of new programs – until at least the beginning of 2022. The Panel and Accreditation Office continue to monitor this situation, and are consulting with the CPA Head Office regarding the resumption of in-person site visits. New program applications are still being received and evaluated for site visit authorization by the Panel. The Panel decided at their August, 2021 meeting that programs subject to delays due



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to COVID will be able to provide updated information and addenda to their Self-Study applications prior to hosting their site visits.

First Street Accord

The CPA and APA recently completed the re-signing of the First Street Accord, which asserts that the accreditation standards, policies and principles, and processes of each organization are seen as equivalent. The Accord allows for mutual monitoring and information exchange related to accreditation and promotes the communication of the Accord to those groups responsible for educating, training, hiring, regulating, and credentialing psychologists in both countries. Updates to the Accord's schedules 2 and 3 were made.

For more information, and to view a copy of the Accord, please visit:

<https://cpa.ca/accreditation/accreditationthroughoutnorthamerica/>

Changes to Website

The CPA Accreditation website (www.cpa.ca/accreditation) has a new look, and the Accreditation Office would love your feedback on the user-friendliness of the site and the information it contains.

Seeking Interest for New Panel Members

The CPA's Accreditation Panel is continuously seeking interest from members of that community to serve as members. Given the need of the Panel to discuss training issues from a national perspective, they strive to be representative of Canada's psychology training community. If you or someone you know are actively involved in professional psychology training, are a member of the CPA, and would be interested in hearing more about the Panel and functions, please contact the Registrar (smadon@cpa.ca) for more information.



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Site Visitors Wanted!

Site visitors are integral to the accreditation process. The Panel greatly appreciates the time and expertise that site visitors contribute and is continuously looking for ways to best support site visitors in their important role.

Site visitors serve as the eyes and ears of the Accreditation Panel and perform an invaluable service to the continued development of professional psychology training in Canada. Our site visitors come from all areas of practice within professional psychology, including doctoral programmes, internship programmes, school boards, and private practice. These exceptional individuals spend their valuable time travelling to various programmes across the country and using their professional expertise to uphold the CPA's accreditation standards.

With that said, the number of site visitors currently available to perform this vital task has been decreasing over the past few years. As such, we are looking for new potential site visitors of all backgrounds and areas of competence to join their ranks! Should you be interested, please contact Dr. Stewart Madon directly at accreditation@cpa.ca for information about arranging a site visitor workshop at your institution. Alternatively, consider attending the site visitor workshop at our annual conventions!

Contact the CPA Accreditation Office Staff

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