

Canadian Psychological Association

Accreditation Update

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2017 CPA Convention Preview

As many of you are aware, the next CPA Annual Convention is only weeks away! It will take place on June 8-10, 2017, in Toronto, Ontario. The Accreditation Panel is planning a number of activities for the benefit of training programs. To help with your conference registration and travel planning, here is a preview of what we have in store:

- *NEW*** Programme Evaluation and Quality Improvement: A Shift from How to Why – This presentation will focus on helping training directors from both doctoral and internship programmes explore the topic of PE & QI more fully, including its use in advocacy, programme management, and accreditation issues. Topics will be addressed using interactive group discussion lead by Drs. Susan Farrell (Director of Training of the Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre and current accreditation panel member), Ian Nicholson (Director of the Mental Health Research Centre at the University of Waterloo, current site visitor, and past accreditation panel member), and Ada Sinacore (Professor at McGill University and current Chair of the accreditation Panel).

When: Thursday June 8th, 2017, 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM
Where: Whistler Room
- Accreditation Panel Conversation Session – the traditional opportunity for programs and the Panel to have an informal dialogue about accreditation and training issues.

When: Friday June 9th, 2017, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Where: York Room
- Site Visitor Conversation Session – an opportunity for site visitors and the Panel to discuss best practices in the site visit process.

When: Friday June 9th, 2017, 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM
Where: York Room
- Site Visitor Workshop – Come join us to learn about the important role of serving as a site visitor! This workshop provides the initial training for anyone who is interested in becoming an Accreditation Site Visitor!

When: Thursday June 8th, 2016, 1:45 PM - 5:45 PM
Where: Whistler Room

Notes from the Field



(Maxime Montembeault)

*This section of the newsletter is intended as a forum to highlight diverse perspectives on the important work of accreditation. This issue's column has been written by **Maxime Montembeault**, currently completing his PhD in Clinical Neuropsychology at the Université de Montréal, and past student member of the Panel from 2013/14 through 2016/17.*

As graduate students in Psychology, most of us do not know about all the work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure the high quality of our training programmes. Being the student member on the Accreditation Panel for the last three years, I had the chance to witness the incredible dedication of our community to education and training in professional psychology and to participate in it in my own way.

My role on the panel mainly involved reviewing Canadian doctoral and internships programmes self-studies, discussing issues related to training and accreditation with the Panel and participating in decision-making regarding these. One of my personal mission was to put forward my student perspective on accreditation related issues. During my time on the Panel, I was very appreciative of how receptive the other members of the Panel were to my ideas. I quickly realized that the work of the other panel members, as well as the Accreditation standards, were all working in the same direction as me: to ensure that students have an appropriate training to take on our careers as psychologists, neuropsychologists, school or counselling psychologists and that their experience in graduate studies are complete, fulfilling and positive.

In addition to attend the biannual Panel meetings in Ottawa, my role on the panel also gave me the opportunity to attend CPA conventions in Ottawa, Victoria and Toronto next June. Participating in events such as accreditation conversation sessions and site visitor workshops allowed me to realize the breadth of the dedication shown by our training community beyond the Accreditation Panel. I was amazed to see that many people (programme directors, site visitors, etc.) were extremely generous of their time and thoughts and put their efforts together towards programme evaluations across Canada. In conclusion, in addition to learning and to gain appreciation of the accreditation processes, I will keep from this experience the insights provided by mentoring from the panel members, the fun times shared with other member of our community in meetings and conventions and a desire to continue to contribute to training in Psychology.

Finally, I strongly encourage all students to put forward their own perspective and to contribute to the Psychology community in Canada, may it range from providing constructive feedback to their training programmes to formally participating in a committee or organization working towards the growth of our profession.

Why become a site visitor?

Pros:

- * *Travel to different parts of the country!*
- * *Meet new and interesting people!*
- * *Gain a better understanding of the accreditation process and standards!*
- * *Help advance the profession of psychology!*

Cons:

- * *Lots of documents to review!*
 - * *Deadlines!*
 - * *Lots (and lots) of emails from the Accreditation Office!*
-

Join us for a site visitor workshop!

Workshops are routinely held at the annual CPA Convention.

The Panel is also happy to organize a workshop at your location— simply gather at least 6 interested colleagues and we will do the rest!

Participants can be from both doctoral and internship programs.

Lunch, CE credits, and a valuable learning experience are provided!

Contact accreditation@cpa.ca for more details.

From the CPA's Registrar

Spring is always a busy time around the CPA offices, and this year appears to be no different!

As you can see from the rest of the news, the Accreditation Office has been involved in a number of projects over the past year, the least of which is not the beginning of the review process for the 6th revision of the Accreditation Standards! The Panel is planning to discuss the timeline for these revisions at the Accreditation Panel Conversation Session at the CPA convention this year, and would be happy to see you there. The revisions are also planning to incorporate suggestions from the recently released Taskforce report on Internship Supply and Demand. You can find more information about that report here: http://www.cpa.ca/docs/File/SupplyAndDemand/CPA_Internship_Residency_SupplyandDemand_TaskForceReport_March2017.pdf

The Panel is also still exploring ways to make online submission of annual reports, public disclosure information, and self-studies more convenient for our accredited programmes. Although these discussions are still in the nascent stages, I hope to have something to report by this coming Fall.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments about accreditation, by phone at 613-237-2144 ext. 333 or by email at: accreditation@cpa.ca. I also welcome any feedback or suggestions you may have about ways to improve this newsletter and the content it provides. Thank you all for your tireless work in improving professional psychology training in Canada.

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 psychology, including doctoral programmes, internship programmes, school boards, and private practice. These exceptional individuals spend their precious 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 consider attending the site visitor workshop at this year's annual convention (see details above), or contact Dr. Stewart Madon directly at accreditation@cpa.ca for information about arranging a site visitor workshop at your institution!

Accreditation Developments

Standards Revision

As some of you may be aware, an initial consultation survey was circulated to training directors of accredited programmes in the Spring of 2017. The goal of this initial survey was to gather information on the effectiveness of the Standards from those members of the training community who use them most frequently. The Panel will use the data from this initial survey, along with feedback received over the past 6 years, to inform a broader public consultation survey to be distributed this Fall. For more information about the timeline of the Standards revision, please consider joining us for our Panel conversation session at the CPA convention!

Important Dates

2017/18 Reaccreditation Cycle

Spring Self-Study Submission
Period: **May 1 - June 15, 2017**

Fall Self-Study Submission Period:
Nov. 1 - Dec. 15, 2017

Winter Self-Study Submission
Period: **Jan. 1 - Feb. 15, 2018**

Annual Reports

Annual reports, public disclosure
tables and updated programme
contact information are due on
September 15, 2017

CPA Convention

<http://www.cpa.ca/convention>

June 8-10, 2017 at the Fairmont
Royal York in Toronto, ON

First Street Accord

The CPA and APA Boards of Directors have approved a revision to the First Street Accord, which recognizes the equivalence of accreditation systems between Canada and the USA. The re-signing of the document is planned for the APA annual convention in August. For more information on the First Street Accord, please visit:

<http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/accreditationthroughoutnorthamerica/firststreetaccord>

Change in APPIC Policy

From the APPIC website. For more information, including an FAQ, please go to <https://www.appic.org/AboutAPPIC/APPICPolicies/DPAPolicy.aspx>

Effective with the 2018 APPIC Match (i.e., the 2017-18 application cycle) for internship positions beginning in 2018 or after: All doctoral programs, including re-specialization programs, that have students who wish to participate in the APPIC Match and/or PMVS and be eligible for acceptance at APPIC-member internship programs must become "Doctoral Program Associates" (DPAs) and pay the appropriate annual fee. DPA status provides a package of services to doctoral programs and students, including lower Match registration fees for students and tools that allow programs to monitor student participation and receive students' Match results.

Newly Accredited Programmes

The Accreditation Panel would like to extend its congratulations to the following newly-accredited doctoral and internship programmes. These include programmes that have been accredited at the last two Accreditation Panel Meetings.

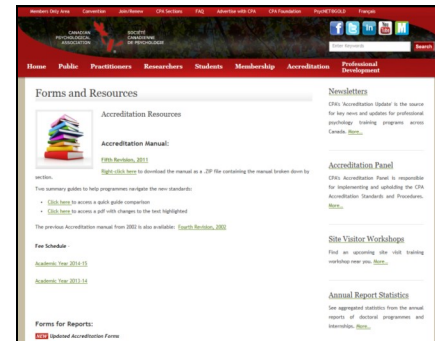
Programme	Initial Accreditation
York University Adult Neuropsychology Doctoral Programme	2015-16
University of Alberta School and Clinical Child Psychology Doctoral Programme	2015-16
Surrey Place Centre Doctoral Internship Program	2015-16
Waterloo Region Psychology Consortium Internship Programme	2016-17

Website Resources

The Panel is always striving to make information about accreditation easily accessible to programs, students, and the general public. Please ensure to bookmark the CPA Accreditation Forms and Resources page so that you can return to it often: <http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources/>

On this page you will find:

- Accreditation standards manual
- Fee guide
- All necessary self-study and annual report templates
- Slides from recent accreditation-related presentations
- Links to related organizations
- Links to information about the Panel and becoming a Site Visitor
- Links to statistics from program annual reports—soon to be updated with data from the **2015-16 training year**
- Links to the most frequently asked questions about accreditation—for both students and programs



Accredited Programs as of May 2017

	Doctoral Programs	Internship Programs
Clinical Psychology	28	33
Counselling Psychology	5	2
School/Clinical Psychology	4	0
Clinical Neuropsychology	2	2
TOTAL	36*	37

* 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).

Contact Us

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