



CANADIAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION
SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE
DE PSYCHOLOGIE

May 16, 2025

The Honourable Marjorie Michel P.C., M.P.
Minister of Health
Ottawa ON K1A 0K9

Dear Minister Michel:

On behalf of the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), I would like to congratulate you on becoming Minister of Health. This is a unique moment in the country's history that requires strong and steady leadership combined with the urgency of repositioning and transforming our economy.

As you move forward, the CPA believes that from a policy perspective the health and wealth of the country are closely intertwined. In this context, we are pleased that your government has made a number of commitments to invest and improve access to mental health care services and the people of Canada's overall mental health and well-being. This is where good mental health care policy can reinforce and strengthen good economic policy focused on productivity, competitiveness and sustained prosperity.

Given your educational background, you may know that the CPA is the national voice for the science, practice and education of psychology in the service of the health and welfare of Canadians. With more than 7,000 members, the CPA is Canada's largest association for psychology and represents psychologists in the public and private sector, university educators and researchers, as well as students. Psychologists are the country's largest group of regulated and specialized mental health providers, making our profession a key resource for the mental health treatment Canadians need.

The CPA has been a strong advocate for the federal government to play a more meaningful role when it comes to improving and expanding publicly funded access to psychological services so that those in need can get the care they deserve. The time is long overdue to recognize in legislation that we value our mental and physical health equally. There can be no health without mental health. We also recognize the critical role that psychological science can play in understanding the world around us and inform evidence-based policy making.

As you settle into your new role, the CPA would be pleased to meet with you to discuss a number of policy issues where the federal government has a leadership role, including national licensure and the supply of psychologists, medical assistance in dying, gender-based violence, and your newly created Task Force for Public Health Care Innovation.

In closing, I wish you the very best in meeting the challenges that lay before us and look forward to working with you to improve our collective mental and behavioural health – our success as a country depends on it. I can be reached at executiveoffice@cpa.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa Votta-Bleeker, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

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