

CPA'S HUMAN RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE IN PSYCHOLOGY COMMITTEE

Volume 1 / Issue 1

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Once again, we want to Welcome everyone to the Human Rights and Social Justice steering committee and working groups. We value each of your ideas and input to make this a meaningful and productive process. To that end, as we embark on our work in human rights and social justice, we wanted to create a communication system that provides updates on what the CPA is doing across the association, in a range of areas related to human rights and social justice. As each of the working groups begin, this platform can provide updates on the work that is being done by each of the groups and offer an opportunity for shared ideas, to offer things people have learned through the process, and celebrate achievements. We look forward to our continued collaboration and hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Ada L. Sinacore, Ph.D. and Kerri Ritchie, Ph.D., C.Psych.

CPA IN ACTION

Below a few highlights of the CPA's activity to and application of psychological principles, knowledge, science, and practices to promote human rights and social justice.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30th, the CPA honoured this day of Truth and Reconciliation with a series of resources offered to our membership, as well as through events across the country that contribute to increasing awareness, knowledge, and action among psychology and the public in creating allyship with Indigenous Peoples.

Response to Accessible Canada Act

Accessibility in Canada is about creating communities, workplaces and services that enable everyone to participate fully in society without barriers. Drs. Karen Cohen and Ada L. Sinacore filled out the government survey related to the act on behalf of CPA.

“Accessibility...is about creating communities, workplaces and services that enable everyone to participate fully in society without barriers”

HRSJ WORKING GROUP UPDATES

The HRSJ Committee is comprised of six working groups, led by various members of the HRSJ's Steering Committee, which itself meets quarterly. The working groups are focussed on the following areas: 1) Homelessness, Poverty and Food Insecurity; 2) Ableism and Accessibility; 3) Climate Change; 4) Decolonizing and Systemic Racism; 5) Immigrant, Refugee, Ethno-cultural and Racialized Peoples; and 6) Societal and Sexual Violence. The working groups have been populated with members from the larger committee. The groups have had initial meetings and are in the process of developing workplans.

The Steering Committee will next meet on October 29th to discuss the working groups' workplans and how best to bring their identified action items to fruition.

HRSJ IN MOTION: CPA RELEVANT RESOURCES

Below a snapshot of some CPA resources of relevance to one or more of the HRSJ Working Groups.

CPA Webinar

To recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada, Dr. Stryker Calvez, Chair of the CPA's Indigenous Peoples Section and Dr. David Danto, Chair of the CPA's Standing Committee on Reconciliation, created a webinar entitled "How can the field of psychology honour this day and the survivors, their families, and communities?" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61SZ1vmSYs8&ab_channel=CPAVideoChannel

Council of Clinical Health Psychology Training Programs (CCTC) Social Responsiveness Toolkit for Health Service Psychology Education and Training

<https://cpa.ca/docs/File/Education/CCTC%20Socially%20Responsive%20HSP%20Ed%20Training%20FINAL.pdf>

CPA Psychology Works Fact Sheet: Racism

https://cpa.ca/docs/File/Publications/FactSheets/20_165_160_PS_Racism_Revised-FactSheet_EN_Oct13-2020.pdf

Psynopsis Issue on Human Rights and Social Justice: Addressing Systematic Discrimination, Oppression and Marginalization

<https://cpa.ca/docs/File/Psynopsis/2020-Vol42-4/index.html#p=1>

CPA PodCasts

Dr. Maya Yampolsky spoke to us about the intersection of the pandemic and both structural and overt racism. It was too much to put into just one profile, so we are sharing the whole conversation on Mind Full. <https://cpa.ca/an-interview-with-maya-yampolsky/>

Dr. Helen Ofosu is a Work and Business Psychologist who runs I/O Advisory Services, a HR Consulting, Career and Executive Coaching firm. She has spent a lot of time solving problems in the workplace and joins us to discuss the dual crises of COVID-19 and anti-Black racism. <https://cpa.ca/audio-update-racism-in-the-workplace-with-dr-helen-ofosu/>

Dr. Anusha Kassan is an Associate Professor at UBC. She helped launch an innovative program to increase diversity in the counselling psychology program when she was at the University of Calgary and is carrying it over to her new location. We discuss the lack of diversity in mental health professionals, and what psychologists can do to be prepared to help people dealing with racial trauma. <https://cpa.ca/?s=anusha+kassan>

Contact Us

CPA Human Rights and Social Justice in Psychology Committee

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