

**CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**  
**SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PSYCHOLOGIE**  
International Relations Committee

Annual Report of the Chair to the CPA Board of Directors

2022-06-05

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**2021-2022 Membership:** Jennifer Veitch (Chair), John Berry, Gira Bhatt, Cristina Busila, Janel Gauthier, Shelley Goodwin (CPA Board Liaison), Naomi Koerner, Gary Latham, Lindsay McCunn, David Nussbaum, Saba Safdar (Head of CNP/IUPsyS), Don Saklofske, Randal Tonks (Secretary)

In the program year 2021-2022, the committee has accomplished all of its immediate goals, and began new endeavours to raise awareness among CPA members about psychology representation, news, and events outside Canada.

### 1. Psynopsis articles

Three articles from the International Relations Committee have been published in *Psynopsis* since June 2021, and one more has been submitted.

- “Inspiring psychologists to respond to global issues” (Vol 43 (4), pp. 20-21, by J. A. Veitch, D. B. O’Connor, S. L. Shullman, J. Tan., C. P Zalaquett, and N. Koerner)
- “A report on the virtual International Union of Psychological Science General Assembly, 2021” (Vol. 43(4), pp. 34. 38, by S. Safdar & J. Berry)
- “The 30th International Congress of Applied Psychology is rescheduled to 24-28 July 2023!” 2022, Vol. 44(1), pp. 28-29, by J. Gauthier
- “International Professional Development and Career Opportunities for Canadian Psychologists”, submitted for Vol. 44(3), by S. Goodwin, L. McCunn, & N. Koerner

Future articles are likely to be submitted for the new member newsletter platform that we hear is in development.

### 2. Canadian National Panel for the International Union of Psychological Science (CNP/IUPsyS)

2.1 The current members of the CNP are:

CNP/IUPsyS Head: Saba Safdar  
Chair of the CPA International Relations Committee: Jennifer Veitch  
Chair of the CPA Scientific Affairs Committee: Jean Saint-Aubin  
Two CPA Canadian delegates to the IUPsyS General Assembly: Saba Safdar & \_\_\_\_\_  
Three members-at-large: Lindsay McCunn (Environmental Section), Thomas Teo (History Section), Stryker Calvez (Indigenous People's Psychology)  
Student Rep: Christopher Hinbest (MA student, Ontario Tech University)  
The CPA Chief Executive Officer (CEO, observer): Karen R. Cohen

2.2 Drs. Safdar and Berry represented Canada at the virtual General Assembly GA of the IUPsyS in July 2021. This was the end of Dr. Berry's term as a Delegate – a year late because the 2020 GA had been postponed because of the pandemic.

2.3 Dr. Safdar ran a nomination process to recruit a replacement Delegate. This resulted in one nominee. The CNP/IUPsyS met to discuss the nomination on May 5, 2022, and unanimously recommended *Dr. Lindsay McCunn* (Vancouver Island University) be appointed by the CPA Board as a Canadian delegate to IUPsyS for a four-year term (2022-2026).

2.4 The next General Assembly will take place in July 2022, with an online option. If appointed, Dr. McCunn will attend for Canada (Dr. Safdar is unable to attend because of a prior commitment).

2.5 Dr. Safdar, with Dr. Veitch and Dr. Votta-Bleeker, responded to the annual performance review from the National Research Council of Canada. Results of the 2022 review are pending, but are expected to be positive.

2.6 Dr. Safdar has been taking an active role in the NRC's Canadian Committee for International Scientific Affiliations, which is an umbrella group made up of the leadership of the various Canadian national committees whose membership in scientific unions is paid by the NRC. Under that aegis, we have nominated Prof. Janel Gauthier for consideration as a Canadian representative on the International Science Council Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science.

### **3. Contributions to the CPA Strategic Plan**

The IRC began a discussion in January 2022 about the place of international affairs in the CPA strategic plan. These discussions will continue at the committee's June 2022 meeting. The outcome will be reported in a future report to the Board.

### **4. Keeping CPA Members informed**

A task force of the International Relations Committee has developed proposals for revisions to the committee page on the CPA website. The basic principles have been agreed by the IRC, but we have not yet developed the content for implementation.

### **5. IRC meetings**

The IRC met virtually in January 2022, the second time that it has held a mid-year meeting. This was effective, as it sparked consideration of how international matters can contribute to the achievement of the CPA's goals, and also contributed to relationship-building among committee members.

The June meeting will be held virtually on June 14, 2022. The convention slot for the committee meeting will provide an informal opportunity for those members who are present to meet in person.

Unfortunately, I am not able to be present in person, but will delegate to another member to serve as host.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer A. Veitch, Ph.D.