

CANADIAN  
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ASSOCIATION



SOCIÉTÉ  
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## International Relations Committee

February 2009

The International Relations Committee (IRC) submitted its last report to the Board of Directors in November 2008. The most important activities of the IRC over the last three months have involved the following:

- The preparation of an article entitled “Promoting World Understanding through International Exchange: A Canadian Psychology Delegation Goes to South Africa”, which was submitted for publication in the winter issue of *Psynopsis* last December. The purpose of the article was to report on a Canadian Psychology Professional Delegation (the first of its kind) which went to South Africa last October to interact with South African psychologists and learn about South African psychology, culture and history. The Canadian delegation was led by Janel Gauthier. It included 16 psychologists and 3 guests. Strictly speaking, it was not a CPA delegation. However, professional delegates included three CPA chairs (namely, Dr. David Dozois, Chair of Scientific Affairs, Dr. Carole Sinclair, Chair of Ethics, and myself, Chair of International Relations) and three CPA past-presidents (namely, Dr. Kenneth Craig, Dr. Jean Pettifor, and myself). During the visit, ways to build on existing relations were explored and seeds for new cooperation were planted. As a result of the visit, the CPA and the Psychological Society of South Africa (PsySSA) are now considering the idea of developing a memorandum of understanding between the CPA and the PsySSA.
- Dr. Catherine Lee, President of CPA, visited Moscow in November 2008 at the invitation of the President of the Russian Psychological Association (RPA), Dr. Yuri Petrovitch Zinchenko. The two organizations signed a memorandum of understanding. The RPA is interested in Canadian approaches to ethics, education, the use of virtual reality in treatment delivery, and in the development of research collaborations. As Chair of the IRC, Dr. Gauthier invited Dr. Lee to write a brief report about her visit for publication in *Psynopsis*, which she graciously accepted to do. Her article was published in the last issue of *Psynopsis*. Dr. Lee is not only an ex-officio member of the IRC. She also is the CPA Board Liaison with the committee.
- The IRC submitted a joint proposal for a symposium for the 2009 CPA convention with the Committee on Ethics and the Canadian National Committee for the International Union of Psychological Science for a symposium. Entitled “A Celebration of the Universal Declaration of Ethical Principles for Psychologists”, the proposed symposium will be chaired by Dr. Carole Sinclair. Presenters will include (in alphabetical order) Dr. John Berry, Janel Gauthier, Dr. Jean Pettifor and Dr. Michel Sabourin. Dr. Thomas Thomas Hadjistavropoulos will be the Discussant.

Janel Gauthier, Ph.D.  
Chair