

CANADIAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION



SOCIÉTÉ
CANADIENNE
DE PSYCHOLOGIE

Professional Affairs Committee

March 2008

1. We have had our first teleconference meeting of an expanded Professional Affairs Committee in February. Members now include Kelly Smith, Jennifer Frain, Ester Cole, Marcia Barnes, Lorne Sexton, Steve Swallow, Barb BacksDermott, David Teplin, Philip Johnson, Tricia Orzeck, and Paul Jerry. We hope to have three additional new members by the end of the spring (*Governance and Administration 1,3*)

2. I represented CPA at the winter CPAP meetings. This included both the former CPAP (Canadian Provincial Associations of Psychology) and the new CPAP (Canadian Professional Associations of Psychology). A broader discussion of this meeting will be submitted by the CPAP representative on the CPA Board, Dr. Jennifer Frain. (*External Relations 1*)

3. We are continuing with our discussions with Will Schweitzer around the possibility of developing a new CPA journal focusing on professional psychology in Canada. These were put on hold until after the current relationship was confirmed with APA regarding journal publishing. The idea would be to first survey the potential readership and authors for the journal to determine the need for such a journal in Canada. A first draft of a description of the journal has been developed and submitted to APA (*Journals 1, Practice 3*)

Canadian Professional Psychology publishes conceptual and data-based articles on the issues and methods involved in the professional practice of psychology in Canada. Topics encompass a broad range, including undergraduate and graduate education, training, public policy, advocacy, regulation, and legislation relating to the professional practice of psychology in a wide range of settings including independent practice, community and social service agencies, educational institutions, hospitals, and correctional service agencies. The journal addresses many areas, including reviews, theory, and research on issues relating to professional practice in a variety of contexts in Canada.

4. The third research survey of professional psychologists in Canada is nearly completed. This one, centering on correctional services, will be completed and reported (along with the previous hospital psychology and school psychology surveys) at the convention. A report of the current status of the project, written by the project volunteer Shannon Ross, is attached. (*Practice 1, 6*)

5. A proposed CPA position statement on third party observers in psychological assessments is attached. It will be proposed at the meeting that this be forwarded to relevant CPA sections including neuropsychology, clinical psychology, and school psychology. (*Practice 5*)

6. Following on meetings last year with the Canadian College of Family Physicians, we are moving forward with the development of a general psychological referral assessment form that can be used by Canadian physicians for referral to psychologists. The aim is for referrals to psychologists in private practice but the aim is to develop something that can be modified by psychologists in organizations such as hospitals and school boards. The Canadian College of Family Physicians forwarded one that they thought was very positive from the Vancouver General Hospital. This has been forward to various sections for their feedback. A copy of that referral form is attached. (*Practice 4*)

7. We continue to solicit new fact sheets for the "Psychology Works" section of the web site. New topics include Tourette Syndrome, Arthritis, Childhood Cancer, and Paediatric Palliative Care (*Other Education and Training Activities 2*)

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Nicholson, Chair