

CANADIAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION



SOCIÉTÉ  
CANADIENNE  
DE PSYCHOLOGIE

## **Professional Affairs Committee**

**November 2006**

One of the main activities that will have an effect on professional practice for psychology in Canada occurred shortly after the convention. As is outlined in the Council of Provincial Associations of Psychologists (CPAP) update, a motion was passed that the CPAP delegates consult their respective boards regarding a major restructuring of CPAP so that the regulators be constituted as a new group, that the associations be constituted as a new group and that a formal mechanism of exchange between the two groups be established. It is also moved that the CPAP delegates report back at the January 2007 meeting on the opinions of their respective boards. Later in the meeting, after the two groups had the chance to further discuss the issues in breakout groups, the motion was reconsidered and an alternate motion passed. This motion stated that there be a recommendation to provincial organizations that there be 2 new bodies created out of CPAP – an organization of regulators and one of associations, and that there would be a strong and effective liaison between these 2 bodies. Moreover, the mechanism of the linkage between these 2 organizations should be contained within the by-laws of these 2 organizations. Further discussion on this issue will take place in Ottawa in January 2007 at the CPAP winter meeting. The minutes of these meetings were circulated to the CPA Board in June 2006.

The survey of psychologists working in education is nearing completion for the data collection. The response rate for this survey is considerably less than what we had for psychologists in hospitals. The response rate to this point in time has been 103 out of 346 school boards in Canada have replied (30%). There are a number of possible reasons for this difference from the over 80% response rate we were able to achieve using similar methods for hospitals. For example, it appears that there is considerably greater percentage of these surveys are being directed to administrators rather than psychologists. Also, the response rate from Quebec has been particularly poor given the number of school boards.

In speaking with Dan Berman, it appears as if we should be able to get the CPA listserv for hospital leaders in psychology up and running in November of this year. This is meant to facilitate communication by these identifiable organization leaders to discuss issues with one another as they arise.

We will likely be starting the national survey of psychologists working in correctional services before the end of 2006. A volunteer graduate student from the University of Western Ontario has stepped forward and will begin working on this project sometime in the next few weeks once London Health Sciences Centre has approved her volunteer status.

We were asked by the Ontario Psychological Association to go with them to meet with Barbara Sullivan to meet with the chair of the Ontario government's Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council (HPRAC) chair – Barbara Sullivan. Discussions focused on issues of regulation, title, and psychotherapy in the province.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Nicholson, Chair