

CANADIAN  
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## **Public Policy Committee**

**March 2008**

The CPA Public Policy Committee is looking forward to welcoming guest speaker Sherri Torjman from the Caledon Institute of Social Policy at the 2008 Convention in Halifax. As well, a panel of Canadian psychologists will discuss their work in public policy development.

The committee members have adopted the theme for the group to be the development of a CPA position paper on violence. A number of aspects of violence have been discussed, including a response to the upcoming changes to the YCJA on behalf of CPA; a position paper on all aspects of violence against women; a position paper on the stigma induced by violence against the mentally ill, to work in conjunction with the new Mental Health Commission.

Although discussion has been plentiful, there has been no resolution to action yet. It has become clear that the mandate of this Committee is important enough and time-consuming enough that it needs to be viewed as either the sole responsibility of a Board member or, alternatively, chaired by a non-Board member with reporting accountability to one of the Board members. Accordingly, a motion to alter the chairmanship is on the table at this Board meeting, for consideration.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Elizabeth Church and Juanita Mureika, Co-Chairs