



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Calgary, AB

The eighty-third Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Psychological Association was held in Calgary, Alberta at the Hyatt Regency, on Saturday, June 18th, 2022, at 12:00 pm. Dr. Ada Sinacore, President, acted as Chair of the meeting and Ms. Cara Bernard as Recording Secretary.

### 1.0 Land Acknowledgement

### 2.0 Adoption of the Agenda

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Goodwin/Gauthier) that the Agenda be adopted.

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Bellows/Cole) that the Minutes of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting held virtually, on June 9th, 2021, be adopted.

### 4.0 Report of the President

#### 4.1 Overview of Activities 2021-2022

To begin, I would like to say that it has been a privilege to serve as the President of CPA over the course of this past year and during these challenging times. I am very excited to be here with you in person. It has been a pleasure to reconnect with those of you I know and to meet those of you I do not know over the course of this convention

Over the course of this year, CPA has held on-going discussions about the continuing need to monitor the response to the pandemic and act accordingly. A careful review of the CPA website highlights the many activities that have been initiated in response to the pandemic.

When I ran for president, I indicated that I wanted to centralize human rights work in psychology and I am very excited to say that I was successful in bringing this mandate forward. Over the course of this year the Human Rights and Social Justice Steering Committee, which I Co-Chair with Kerri Ritchie, and the working groups have created work plans and are moving forward on a number of initiatives. The HRSJ consists of 6 working groups: Housing Food and Monetary Insecurity, Societal and Sexual Violence, Immigrant, Refugee, Ethno-cultural and Racialized peoples; (IRER), Ableism and Accessibility, and Decolonizing and Systemic Racism. Some groups are developing fact sheets and resources while, others are preparing policy statements. In fact, 2 policies statements just came before the board for approval – both of these policies were related to gender equity and diversity. As well, you will notice at this convention there is a great deal of focus on human rights, accessibility and inclusion. In addition, in collaboration with CPA

leadership, I have been working diligently to understand how to address the emerging questions about psychology as an inclusive discipline. Further, to Human Rights work within CPA, I have been attending the monthly meetings of the Psychology Coalition at the UN (PCUN) and just recently, CPA was accepted as a member association of this group.

Human Rights work must include working toward truth and reconciliation. As such, I worked with CPA to meaningfully participate in the First Truth and Reconciliation Day. As well I supported and signed two letters to the Prime Minister which were drafted by the Knowledge Sharing Group. The first letter was requesting government to declare that the mistreatment of Indigenous Peoples in Canada was in fact a genocide. The second letter was in support of Cindy Blackstock and the Spirit Bear Plan and calling on government to recognize the treatment of Indigenous peoples as a genocide.

As well, CPA also has a strong role in advocacy and over the courses of this year especial for equity seeking groups. To that end, I worked closely with our communication department to support media initiatives to raise awareness about the First Day of Truth and Reconciliation, Bill C-4 (the bill to ban Conversion Therapy), Black History Month, Psychology Month, International Women's Day, International Pride Month, Indigenous History Month and World Mental Health Day. As well, I have published a number of Messages from the President to honor and highlight these events and wrote a message from the President regularly in Psynopsis, as way to introduce the theme of the publication.

In order to support board activities, a Governance Coach was secured, to CPA work with over the course of next year. That said, it would be impossible to report on all of the initiatives and activities brought for this year. Thus, I am highlighting, the work specifically related to Human Rights and Social Justice as I made a commitment when I took office to enhance CPA's role in Human Rights activities. I am proud to say that CPA and its members worked tirelessly to support a range Human Rights and Social Justice initiatives which will continue into the years to come.

At this point, I want to recognize the enormous amount of work done by CPA's head office to make sure that the association continued to operate smoothly, efficiently, and effectively, especially during these unprecedented times. Karen Cohen's leadership as CEO and Lisa Votta-Bleeker's leadership ensuring the success of this convention has been incredible. As well, CPA is a membership organization, and it cannot be effective without the engagement of members. Over the course of this year, CPA's Boards, Committees, sections, partners, members and students made enormous contributions to the association, to psychology, and to society. These activities and contributions, far too many for me to list here, span across our three pillars of science, practice and education. As I said in my presidential address – we are psychology -we all are psychology and this past year psychology made some very important contributions at multiple levels and in multiple formats, - from the governmental level to the individual level across different context and groups for the betterment of society.

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Hutchings/Hubbard) that the report of the President be received.

## **5.0 Reports of the Chief Executive Officer**

### **5.1 Overview of Activities 2021-2022**

It was early 2020, and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, when we began to hear that we were living in an unprecedented time. Fast forward to 2022, and the intervening years presented us with some stark

and unheeded truths around Canada's treatment of Indigenous peoples as well as people from racialized and minority groups. Add to that, the significant climate change events close to home like the fires and flooding in British Columbia, the protests in Ottawa, and the military aggression in Ukraine, and the adjective 'unprecedented' took on newer meaning still.

All these issues, among the most serious faced by any society, are ones about which psychology can and has shown leadership. All are ones whose remediation and reconciliation involve consideration of how people think, feel, and behave. Researchers and practitioners of psychology, as well as the organizations like the CPA that represent them, have a responsibility and an opportunity to make good on their commitments – advance science and practice in the service of individuals, groups, families, and the organizations in which we live and work.

The important work that psychology researchers and practitioners have taken on during the past year is inspiring and evident in in the many of their contributions to the CPA over the past year:

- 6 new and 5 updated fact sheets (coping with emergencies, disasters and violent events, several on children with epilepsy, hiring better job applicants using a structured job interview, relationship distress) and the launch of 14 videos of existing fact sheets
- 3 more issues of *Psynopsis* (Advocacy, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Health Provider Wellness), two of them guest edited by members
- Launch of the working groups of the Human Rights and Social Justice in Psychology Committee as well as a monthly newsletter
- Two new Sections – Black Psychology and Psychology Careers and Professionals
- The Criminal Justice Section, with the support of CPA staff, have been developing renewed policy and advocacy plans to have psychologists recognized as assessors of fitness to stand trial and criminal responsibility in the Criminal Code of Canada
- New webinars on psychological report writing, work focused assessment, prediction statistics for assessment, longitudinal measurement invariance and cross-lagged panel models using lavaan, comprehensive school psychology models to meet the needs of students in diverse communities, and career pathways in psychology
- Career and Job Fairs
- The Educational and School Psychology Section, with the support of CPA staff, developed an advocacy paper on the need to augment training and participation of psychologists in schools
- The Accreditation Standards review process
- The Clinical Psychology Section released its Clinical Practice Guidelines that synthesize research to support clinical decision-making, facilitate knowledge translation into clinical practice, and inform the public
- The Chair of the CPA's History and Philosophy of Psychology Section developed a graduate level History of Psychology course supported by the CPA and hosted by the University of Calgary.
- 2022 Psychology Month: profiles of each of the CPA's Sections, describing their work and accomplishments
- Truth and Reconciliation Day: Webinar entitled *How can the field of psychology honour this day and the survivors, their families, and communities?*
- Several podcasts developed by CPA staff and guest experts among the membership on racism, advocacy, vulvodynia, youth homelessness, intentional therapists, your brain on screens,

science's fight against misinformation, reflections on apartheid, elite athletes, and cognitive dissonance and the bystander effect

- Black History Month: a series of interviews on the work and achievements of Black psychologists
- CPA issued a policy position calling for a ban on conversion therapy in 2015 and heartily welcomed the federal announcement in December 2021 that the ban would be enshrined in the Criminal Code of Canada

It is the work of our members and the psychology community that fuels organizations like the CPA. It is the foundation of our advocacy work with government, funders, decision-makers and colleagues in other professions and disciplines. Some advocacy highlights undertaken this past year include:

- Articles in the Hill Times on access to service and parity of mental and physical health care
- Position on how the provinces and territories can use federal mental health transfers to integrate psychological services into primary care. Meeting with federal MPs to discuss our recommendations
- Meeting with the First Nations Inuit Health Branch to advocate for accessible and responsive mental health services for Indigenous Peoples in parity with similar services provided by the federal government across other departments.
- Collaborating with the Mental Health Commission of Canada in undertaking a survey of employee and employer perspectives on coverage of psychological services.
- Launch of an Advocacy Toolkit for members – particularly those who are a member of the CPA's Very Involved Psychologist (VIP)/Very Involved Psychologist Researcher (VIPR) Network.
- Briefs and presentations on the mental health impacts of the pandemic and the future of Canada's health human resource to House of Commons Standing Committees on Health and on Human Resources and Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities.
- Response to the federal call for input into the 2022 federal budget.
- Several policy papers in development – entry to practice and title, issues impacting contract instruction in universities, a post-pandemic psychological research action plan

The breadth and depth of what psychology researchers, practitioners and educators know and can share in the service of society is truly astonishing. The management of the many events of this unprecedented time is about how individuals and societies cope, how they respect and treat each other, and how they maintain hope in the face of chronic stress. It is about how we elevate voices who haven't been heard and how we commit to more inclusive and respectful communities at home, school and work. Psychology can and must help with that.

*\*Note: For full details on 2020-2021 activities, please see the 2020-2021 Annual Report.*

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Hogan/Ford) that the report of the Chief Executive Officer be received.

## 5.2 Finance

### 5.2.1 Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ending December 31, 2021

The Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Bolger presented and received questions on the 2021 audited financial statements as examined by Welch LLP.

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Chamberland/Sawyer) that the 2021 Audited Financial Statements be received.

#### 5.2.2 Appointment of Auditors

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Dozois/Bellows) that Welch LLP be appointed auditors of the Canadian Psychological Association for 2022.

### 6.0 Committee Reports

#### 6.1 Governance

##### 6.1.1 Nominating Sub-Committee

The CEO presented a report on behalf of the Chair of the Nominating Sub-Committee and indicated that a call for nominations for the positions of Director Representing Science, Director Representing Education and Director-At-Large was sent to the membership in late April. They noted that multiple nominations were received for the position of Member at large, only one candidate for the position of Director Representing Education, and no nominations for the position of Director Representing Science.

##### Motion Acclaimed Board Seats:

WHEREAS the Corporation proceeded with a call for nominations in the spring of 2022 in accordance with section 5.06 of the By-laws;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation received only one nomination for the following position of Director Representing Education;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Dr. Eleanor Gittens be acclaimed as Director Representing Education.

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Goodwin/Cole) that:

Dr. Eleanor Gittens be acclaimed as Director Representing Education.

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Hutchings/Danto) that the report from the Chair of the Nominating Sub-Committee be received.

##### 6.1.2 Elections Sub-Committee

The vote closed on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm MT. Dr. Karen Cohen, CEO and Chair of the Elections Sub-Committee announced the 2022 Election results for positions of:

Director-At-Large – Dr. Anita Gupta

## 6.2 Membership

The President noted that the membership report is included in the 2021-2022 Annual Report available on the CPA website.

### 6.2.1 Recognition of deceased members since June 2021

The President called for a moment of silence in recognition of those members who had passed away in the last year:

Dr. John Adair, CPA Honorary Life Fellow  
Dr. David Simourd, CPA Fellow  
Dr. Rhonda Matters, CPA Member  
Dr. Robert Smith, CPA Member  
Dr. Pat O'Neill, CPA Retired Fellow  
Dr. Marcia Weiner, CPA Honorary Life Member  
Dr. Robert McIlwraith, CPA Fellow  
Dr. Doug Smith, CPA Member  
Dr. Peter Hoaken, CPA Member

## 6.3 Other Committees

The President informed members that a summary of committee work can be found in the 2021-2022 Annual Report. They then took a minute to acknowledge the Board of Directors and Partner organizations.

### Board of Directors:

President: Dr. Ada Sinacore  
President-Elect: Dr. Kerri Ritchie  
Past-President: Dr. Kim Corace  
Honorary-President: Dr. Josphine Tan  
Practice Director: Dr. Shelley Goodwin  
Science Director: Dr. Jean Saint-Aubin  
Education Director: Dr. Kerri Ritchie  
Director-at-Large: Dr. Elizabeth Church  
Director-at-Large: Dr. David Danto  
Director-at-Large: Dr. Janine Hubbard  
Student Section Representative: Ms. Alejandra Botia  
Chair of Council of Sections: Dr. Laurie Ford

### Partner Organizations:

Representative from the Canadian Council of Departments of Psychology (CCDP):  
Dr. Sandra Byers  
Representative from the Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs (CCPPP):  
Dr. Kerri Ritchie  
Representative from Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists (CPAP):  
Dr. Judi Malone  
Representative from the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science

(CSBBCS): Dr. Valerie Thompson

The President then thanked and introduced the Chairs of the Committees and Task Forces for 2021-2022:

Board Committees:

Governance: Dr. Ada Sinacore

Administration, Finance & Audit: Dr. Ada Sinacore

Fellows and Awards: Dr. Kim Corace

Education and Training: Dr. Kerri Ritchie

Scientific Affairs: Dr. Jean Saint-Aubin

Professional Affairs: Dr. Shelley Goodwin

International Relations: Dr. Jennifer Vietch

Past-Presidents: Dr. Kim Corace

Council of Sections: Dr. Laurie Ford

Human Rights and Social Justice in Psychology: Dr. Kerri Ritchie & Dr. Ada Sinacore

Management Committees:

Convention: Dr. Lisa Votta-Bleeker

Membership: Ms. Leanna Verrucci

Publications: Dr. Lisa Votta-Bleeker

Arms Length Committees:

Ethics: Dr. Janel Gauthier

Knowledge Sharing Group/Standing Committee on Reconciliation with Indigenous

Peoples: Dr. David Danto

Accreditation Panel: Dr. Deborah Dobson

Task Forces:

E-psychology: Dr. Elizabeth Church & Dr. Laurie Ford

#### 6.4 Journals

The President thanked and introduced the current editors:

*Canadian Psychology*: Dr. Vina Goghari

*Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*: Dr. Annie Roy-Charland

*Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*: Dr. Randall Jamieson

#### 6.5 Sections

The President thanked the 2021-2022 Section Chairs. A full list of the Section Chairs and the Section annual highlights can be found in the CPA Annual Report available online.

## 7.0 Annual Meetings

The President reported that the next Annual General Meetings will be held:

- June 2023 in Toronto, ON
- June 2024 in Ottawa, ON

## 8.0 Other Business

### 8.1 Certificates of Appreciation

The President presented certificates to outgoing members:

- Dr. Kim Corace, Board of Directors 2019– 2022 and President 2020-2021
- Dr. Jean Saint-Aubin, Board of Directors 2019-2022
- Dr. David Danto, Board of Directors 2029-2022
- Dr. Laurie Ford, Board of Directors 2019 -2022
- Dr. Valerie Thompson, Partner Representative June 2021-June 2022

The outgoing President, Dr. Ada Sinacore, introduced the incoming President and passed the gavel onto the new President, Dr. Kerri Ritchie

Dr. Ritchie expressed appreciation to Dr. Sinacore for their work during their term as President of CPA.

Dr. Ritchie said a few words and then requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

## 9.0 Adjournment

It was **MOVED and CARRIED** (Elder Beverly/Ford) that the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Psychological Association be adjourned.