

Readoutⁱ
Canadian Psychological Association (CPA)
Board of Directors Meeting
March 5 & 6, 2021

The CPA Board of Directors met on March 5th and 6th, 2021 at which time the following topics were discussed, and decisions made:

- The CFO presented the Board with:
 - A presentation from Alex Charette, CPA's financial advisor from Scotia McLeod
 - The December 31, 2020 unaudited financial statements for the association
 - An update on government financial support for employers and employees during the pandemic
 - The Management Fiduciary Statement
 - An update on the CPA/CPAP professional liability insurance program
- CPA's partner associations – Council of Canadian Departments of Psychology (CCDP), Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs (CCPPP), Council of Professional Associations of Psychologists (CPAP) and the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (CSBBCS) reported on their activity since the November 2020 CPA Board meeting.
- CPA's Board, by way of policy, determines how much the CPA retains in reserve (typically 6 months of operating costs) as a way of risk management. When the CPA's reserve exceeds this amount, the Board and Management determine how the surplus will be spent. Surplus spending must be aligned with the CPA's mission, vision and Strategic plan. The CEO presented to the Board the review and recommendations of senior staff for surplus spending in 2021. Management asked the Board for policy direction to guide and prioritize surplus spending for 2021. A sub-committee made up of two Board members and the CEO will work on finalizing recommendations for 2021 surplus spending for approval by the Board in June. Note that the CPA's financial position is provided to members via its annual audit at each Annual General Meeting.
- Honorary President 2020-2021: CPA President, Dr. Kim Corace, announced that Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon, President and Vice-Chancellor of Carleton University, has accepted the invitation to be Honorary President.
- The CEO and senior staff submitted an Operations Report to the Board which details staff led activity, organized by the CPA's 2020 Strategic goals. Also presented to the Board was an updated risk management report, detailing the status of any risks facing the Association. The CEO highlighted the outstanding team at CPA head office and their hard work throughout the pandemic. Issues discussed in the context of the Operations Report included:

- CPA's work to host a practice management offering to its practitioner members and the status of this offering. Discussion noted that the landscape of practice management products has greatly increased during the pandemic.
- CPA had at one time had a charitable foundation but, in 2014, it transferred the funds and endowments of its foundation to the Psychology Foundation of Canada (PFC). The PFC recently changed its name to Strong Minds Strong Kids (SMSK). It provided the Board a report on the status of CPA funds and endowments transferred to it. The SMSK noted that it did not disburse any awards in 2020 because of the pandemic. CPA's CEO will follow up with SMSK on next steps.
- Other topics addressed included:
 - a request that CPA appoint a working group on polyamory <https://polyadvocacy.ca/the-cpaa-calls-on-the-canadian-psychological-association-to-adopt-american-psychological-association-progress-in-consensual-non-monogamy-polyamory/> which will be brought to CPA Sections via the Section Chair.
 - The needs of psychological practitioners practicing face to face during the pandemic (e.g., PPE, access to vaccinations) and advocacy the CPA has undertaken in this regard via its membership in its health professional association alliances. CPA to follow up as well with CPAP.
- CPA's Pillar Committees (Science, Education and Training, Practice) submitted their reports to the Board. The following decisions were made:
 - The Board considered an international request for financial assistance in securing assessment resources, made to the Professional Affairs Committee (PAC). The Board passed a motion that PAC, in consultation with the CPA International Relations Committee, develop a policy to guide responses to requests for assistance from international psychological associations.
 - Passed a motion that approved the collaboration of interested stakeholders to further explore the development and implementation of a program that acknowledges psychologically healthy workplaces.
 - Passed a motion to engage members by digitizing CPA's Fact Sheets (already underway) and developing a structure for virtual town hall meetings of members.
 - Also discussed were the recent proposed amendments to the Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) legislation which will include eventual access to MAiD to those with mental disorders as their sole disorder. Senior staff will meet with the Chairs of the CPA's two working groups, who each developed CPA's MAiD policy positions, to discuss how the CPA might provide further guidance to members in light of the proposed amendments.
- Passed a motion, at the request of the Accreditation Panel, to extend Dr. Deborah Dobson's term as Chair of the Accreditation Panel until the Spring of 2022.

- At the Board's November 2020 meeting, a subcommittee was formed to draft policy guiding revision to the eligibility criteria for CPA awards and fellowships as well as to whether and how these might be rescinded. The Board received and discussed the policy drafted by the subcommittee and recommended revisions. The revised draft will be shared with the Fellows and Awards Committee for review and then be brought back to the Board.
- Passed a motion to modify the CPA Fellow & Awards submission process by changing the deadline from November 31st to a submission window between January 1st-31st to ensure all nominators and letters of support come from CPA members who have renewed for the year the award will be given.
- Passed a motion to approve the 2021 CPA Member of the Year and discussed recommendations for the 2021 CPA Humanitarian Award.
- Passed a motion that the CPA Committee on Human Rights and Social Justice in Psychology membership be made up of a minimum of 10 members and a minimum of 2 students. A recent call for committee members has received overwhelming interest. The committee co-chairs are looking at different models of committee structure to be inclusive of CPA members who want to engage in this work.
- Following inquiries from Sections, the Board discussed appropriate use of Section funds. The Chair of Council of Sections to bring a policy proposal to the Board at their June meeting.
- The Board discussed annual fees for student affiliates as well as fees for the CPA mentorship program. A new 16-month student affiliate option will be in place for the 2022 renewal, for new student affiliates. This enables new students to join the CPA and/or the mentorship program in the fall without having to pay for two full affiliate years. The CPA's Director of Membership will follow up with the Student Section on communicating this offering to students.
- Convention 2021 update: The virtual conference will span 3 weeks during the month of June. Numerous plenary addresses are planned <https://convention.cpa.ca/speakers/>; most recently, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, agreed to give a plenary address. Approximately 1,000 submissions have been received to date. CPD workshops will take place the week before the conference.
- CPA 2022 Convention: 2022 convention is booked for Calgary, deferred from 2020 which was to take place in Montreal. The Board discussed the likelihood of an in-person convention in 2022 or a hybrid virtual and in-person model. Given the provisions of the 2022 contract, there is no urgency of decision and discussions will evolve as the pandemic situation evolves.
- The Board approved the Terms of Reference for the E-psychology working group.
- The Board discussed the Committee on Ethics' (CoE) policy around receiving complaints against members. This to be further discussed among the CPA's COE Chair, Ethics Officer, and CEO.

ⁱ Readout: a document that summarizes the content of a meeting; official statement