Expression of Thanks and Gratitude for Being Elected Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association

David J. Simourd, Ph.D., C.Psych.

I would first like to acknowledge Dr. Mark Olver, who nominated me for CPA Fellow and to Dr. Robert Hoge, Dr. Chip Tafrate, and Dr. Steve Wormith who provided letters of support. I would also like to thank the members of the Awards committee who accepted my nomination. I cannot thank you enough.

For me to be elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association is an achievement beyond my wildest dreams or expectations. It is also the most humbling professional experience I have encountered in my career as a psychologist.

I attended my first CPA convention in 1985 as a MA student and have attended 26 of the past 34 CPA conventions.

My academic training includes degrees from Lakehead University and Carleton University, which were not considered top tier universities at the time. I am a firm believer in the notion that it's not where you go, but what you do when you're there. By sheer coincidence, I was fortunate to connect with professors and mentors who I considered to be top tier and who offered me opportunities and direction that I embraced. I became a clinician after graduate school and have relied on my scientist practitioner mindset my entire career.

I have had a wonderful career as a psychologist and hope to have many more years doing what I enjoy; which is helping others and contributing to the discipline as best I can.

It is impossible for me to express the gratitude I have for CPA and to all my family, friends, colleagues, and mentors whose collective influence contributed to me being elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association. So, in two words: Thank you.