



Dr. Shari McKee of Midland to receive CPA's Distinguished Practitioner Award

Ottawa (June 7, 2016) – The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) is pleased to announce that Dr. Shari McKee has won this year's CPA Distinguished Practitioner Award for her work in integrated treatment for concurrent disorders.

This award is presented to a CPA member or fellow who has made distinguished contributions in the practice of psychology as a full-time practitioner in applied psychology (e.g., clinical, counselling, education, industrial/organizational, forensic, health).

Dr. McKee is a clinical psychologist at the Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care. Recognizing some of the deficiencies of the centre's existing addiction therapy program, she set out to bridge the gap between addiction services and mental health services. Using evidence-based practices, she transformed Waypoint's Georgianwood Program, to the benefit of its clients, and trained interdisciplinary clinicians to support the implementation of the concurrent disorders program throughout the hospital.

In addition to developing and implementing the program at Waypoint, Dr. McKee evaluated the program and has been sharing the benefits of integrated treatment for concurrent disorders with professional and academic audiences alike. Her work, which is now being replicated in other psychiatric hospitals, has helped create a new standard of care that improves patient outcomes and builds system capacity.

Dr. McKee will receive her award at the CPA's 2016 National Convention, taking place at the Fairmont Empress and the Victoria Conference Centre in Victoria, B.C. from June 9-11, 2016. The convention will be attended by nearly 1,200 researchers, practitioners, students, and policy makers from across the country and will feature presentations on a wide array of psychological topics.

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About the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA)

The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) is the national association for the science, practice, and education of psychology in Canada. With over 7,000 members and affiliates, CPA is Canada's largest association for psychology. For more information, visit www.cpa.ca.

Media at the Convention

Media are highly encouraged to attend. Registered press will have complimentary access to the convention. Badges are required of all convention participants for entry into sessions and must be worn at all times. For more information, please contact the CPA's communications coordinator.

Press inquiries should be made to:

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