



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Dr. Suzanne Filion of Alexandria receives CPA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Public or Community Service**

**Ottawa (July 19, 2018)** – The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) is pleased to announce that Dr. Suzanne Filion has won this year’s CPA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Public or Community Service for her dedication to improving access to mental health services.

This award is presented to a CPA member or Fellow who has made outstanding contributions in serving the public or a community through their knowledge and practical skills.

Dr. Suzanne Filion is a clinical psychologist, Director of Strategic Development at the Hawkesbury and District General Hospital, and a member of the Government of Ontario’s Mental Health and Addictions Leadership Advisory Council. She is primarily known for her work in developing services for underprivileged and disadvantaged individuals and as a vocal advocate for better access to mental health services. She has deployed more than 20 evidence-based programs in several rural areas and works to mobilize entire communities to move rural mental health initiatives forward.

Dr. Filion is also involved in numerous local and provincial initiatives and panels, has formalized partnerships with many stakeholder groups, and directed the merger and acquisition of four mental health agencies who now collaborate to offer quality, equitable, and accessible services to those in need. Dr. Filion is both resourceful and determined. She is a strong community leader, an important voice for minority francophones in Ontario, and a tireless advocate working for those affected by mental illness.

Dr. Filion received her award at the CPA’s awards ceremony during the 29<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Applied Psychology in Montreal, QC last month.

- 30 -

### **About the Canadian Psychological Association**

The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) is the national association for the science, practice, and education of psychology in Canada. With nearly 7,000 members and affiliates, the CPA is Canada's largest association for psychology. To learn more about the association, visit: <https://cpa.ca/>

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