

Minutes of SPAR Section Annual Meeting

June 23, 2023, Toronto, Ontario

Participants: Jean Haley, Dorothy Cotton, Elaine Clark, KellyAnne Little, Tim Hogan, Paulene Kamps, Noreen Stuckless, Annabel Cohen, Colleen Millikin, Marnin Heisel, Juanita Mureika

Regrets: Dawn Hanson

Summary:

- Introductions and welcome to all attendees were followed by an acknowledgement that minutes of last year's SAM minutes and monthly virtual meetings have been circulated. Since no objections or corrections have been received, it is assumed that they have been approved.
- A review of membership numbers indicated that total membership numbers are 68, with an interesting distribution of types of members: 1 Student, 2 APA/CPA Joint Members, 39 CPA Members, 14 Retired Members, 12 CPA Fellows/ Honorary Life Members.
- The Section has a current balance of \$2813.95. Major expenses for the year included \$180.22 for our Zoom Account, and \$131.60 for our banner (on display outside the meeting room door). Anticipated expenses for the year include our post-SAM social hour fixings and a renewal of our Zoom account to enable us to continue our monthly meetings.
- No nominations were received for the Executive positions. Although it was agreed that Juanita and Dawn would continue in their current roles, they were encouraged to reach out for assistance from members for special projects.
- Among the Section's activities this year were:
 - Completion of a Proposal for Harmonization of Provincial Regulations re Retention and Storage of Psychological Files. With the encouragement of CPA Head Office and the CPA Professional Affairs Committee, the proposal was submitted to both the Association of

Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations (ACPRO) and the Council of Professional Associations of Psychology (CPAP). ACPRO agreed to review it at their June meeting, while CPAP will consider it at their Fall meeting. Our goal would be to see, ideally, the harmonization regulations across Canada rather than the existing patchwork quilt of rules by province, and eventually, perhaps, Pan-Canadian registration as is being proposed by other health care professionals. Given the move to virtual, and often cross-provincial therapy, and electronic file storage, such a move seems to be in the best interests of both the psychologists and their patients. The Law of Paramountcy was cited as an example.

- A FactSheet on Retirement has been completed and submitted to the CPA panel for approval. We are awaiting their determination at this point.
 - The Section has responded to all requests for reviews of other FactSheets as they have appeared during the year.
 - A great deal of planning went into the panel discussion, Psychologists and Retirement: The Issues, Challenges and Rewards, which preceded this meeting. We were pleased with the attendance and the contributions of each panelist.
- Among new projects that we are considering are developing a FactSheet on Ageism, and exploring possible options for accessing research databases such as are available through university libraries. Such access would be useful for developing FactSheets and possibly for other future projects. It was noted that as a member of CPA, we can access all of APA's publications electronically for an annual fee. However, this is not as extensive as the databases available through university libraries and will have an ongoing cost. After checking with two universities, it was learned that they cannot grant access to their databases to people not currently associated with the university because of their contracts with the database providers. We will continue to investigate whether there are any other options.

- There being no other business raised, the meeting was adjourned and the group was invited to a meet and greet immediately following the SAM. Thanks to all who have contributed to this and other meetings throughout the year. It has been a pleasure getting to know you all!

Recorded by: Juanita Mureika, SPAR Co-Chair