

CANADIAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION



SOCIÉTÉ  
CANADIENNE  
DE PSYCHOLOGIE

**RELEASE AT WILL**

## **THE CANADIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RAISES THE AWARENESS OF CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AT ITS ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**OTTAWA (June 8, 2009)** – The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), the national voice for the research and practice of psychology in Canada as well as the country's over 16,000 psychologists, celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention at the Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth in Montréal, Québec, June 11 to 13, 2009.

Attended by more than 1500 psychologists and students, the CPA Annual Convention is the largest event of its kind for Canadian psychology. Co-hosted this year by l'Ordre des psychologues du Québec, the convention will host over a thousand paper and poster presentations on a wide-range of topics related to the science and practice of psychology.

"Key themes for CPA in 2009 are funding for research and access to evidence-based services" says CPA President, Dr. Catherine Lee. CPA is seizing every opportunity to get the message to the public and to policy makers that we need to increase access to effective psychological services for children and youth. Early intervention is essential in the prevention and treatment of problems.

CPA advocates to the Mental Health Commission of Canada for a mental health strategy that is service-based and one that delivers the right mental health service to the right person, from the right provider, at the right time and in the right place. This applies to children, youth and adults alike. "Research shows that evidence-based psychological interventions are effective in treating a range of mental health problems facing Canadians" says CPA's Executive Director, Dr. Karen Cohen. Further, we help to reduce the stigma of mental disorders when a society makes effective services available to those who need them.

In addition to raising the awareness of child and youth mental health, mental health services will also be among some of the themes of our keynote presentations.

Mr. André Picard, reporter for the Globe and Mail, is this year's recipient of the CPA Humanitarian Award for his work in raising awareness of mental disorders. He will lead a panel discussion on June 11<sup>th</sup> entitled "*Mental Health Care Delivery in Canada: Gaps, Needs and Opportunities*".

Dr. Catherine Lee's presidential address will highlight findings from research on families that have important implications for the development of prevention and intervention programs. She will also convene a Presidential Symposium on "*Evidence-Based Psychological Services for Children and Youth*" on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Matthew R. Sanders, the Honorary President of CPA will present an address on June 12<sup>th</sup> entitled: "*Adoption of a Public Health Perspective in the Delivery of Evidence-Based Parenting Intervention: Benefits and Challenges.*" Dr. Sanders' work in developing the Triple P parenting program, which has been adopted successfully in 16 countries has been recognized by numerous international awards.

Psychological research is critical to effective service delivery and CPA joins in the call for the funding and support for Canada's researchers. Gaps, opportunities and funding for psychological and mental health research will be key to an invited symposium of representatives from Canada's granting councils; the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

Other keynotes speakers at the Montréal convention will cover topics such as false memories, treatment of emotional disorders, depression in older adults, psychopathy, social determinants of health, psychological factors in the workplace, self injurious behaviour, giftedness, and the psychological dimensions of addressing climate change.

A schedule of the conventions' presentations can be found at:  
<http://www.cpa.ca/convention/2009schedule>.

The CPA honours those people whose work advances psychological science, health and wellbeing and exemplifies how the science and practice of psychology contributes to the lives of Canadians. A full list of the CPA's Award Recipients is available at  
<http://www.cpa.ca/aboutcpa/cpaawards>.

## **About the CPA**

The Canadian Psychological Association was organized in 1939 to improve the health and welfare of all Canadians; promote excellence and innovation in psychological research, education, and practice; and promote the advancement, development, dissemination, and application of psychological knowledge.

For more information about the CPA and the Convention please visit our website at  
<http://www.cpa.ca>.

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Media Contact:

Linda McPhee, Director of Communications and Stakeholder Relations  
Canadian Psychological Association

Telephone: 613-237-2144 ext. 325; cell: 613-218-3415  
E-mail: [communications@cpa.ca](mailto:communications@cpa.ca)

Available for interview:

CPA Outgoing President Dr. Catherine M. Lee  
CPA Incoming President Dr. Martin M. Antony  
CPA Executive Director Dr. Karen R. Cohen  
Several Keynote Speakers and Award Winners

141 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 702  
Ottawa, ON K1P 5J3