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CATHERINE M. THURSTON
AMHERST PSYCHOLOGIST IS FIRST RECIPIENT OF PRACTITIONER AWARD
FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY

OTTAWA, JUNE 3, 2003 -- Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) President, Dr. Abraham Ross is pleased to announce that Catherine M. Thurston of Amherst, Nova Scotia, has been selected as the first recipient of the new Practitioner Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Practice of Psychology.

“Cathy Thurston has the vision, the determination and the skills that make things happen,” said Dr. Patrick McGrath, Professor of Psychology at Dalhousie University. “I have never met anyone who combined so well a common sense approach to dealing with families and a visionary approach that does not accept any limits to what can be done. She is a quiet revolutionary who makes things happen.”

Since 1999, Cathy Thurston holds the position of Regional Director of Mental Health Services at the Northern Regional Health Board, Nova Scotia. She is a Registered Psychologist recognized by the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology. Mrs. Thurston completed a Masters of Arts degree in Psychology, Clinical Child Program, with Distinction, at the University of Guelph in 1977.

The Canadian Psychological Association is holding its 64th Annual Convention in Hamilton, from June 12 to 14, 2003. This year's gathering of more than 900 psychologists and psychology students is co-hosted by the Ontario Psychological Association (OPA). CPA Awards will be presented during the Welcoming Ceremony, on Thursday, June 12 at 9 a.m., in room Chedoke A of the Hamilton Convention Centre, 1 Summers Lane, Hamilton, Ontario.

The Canadian Psychological Association is the national organization in Canada representing 5 200 psychologists and students in psychology from all Canadian Provinces and Territories. Its objectives are to lead, advance and promote psychology as a science and as a profession for the benefit of humanity; to provide leadership in psychology in Canada; to promote a sense of identity among psychologists; to promote the advancement, dissemination, and practical application of psychological knowledge; to develop standards and ethical principles for education, training, science and practice in psychology.