

Canadian Psychological Association

# Accreditation Update



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## From CPA's Registrar

As many of you know, 2014 marks the 30th anniversary of the CPA Accreditation standards. Since those early days in the 1980's, the work of the Accreditation Office and Panel has grown significantly. With nearly 70 programs currently accredited, and more in the pipeline, it has become increasingly important to find ways to effectively share information between the Panel and training programs. This anniversary year thus fit the bill as a good opportunity to launch a new bi-annual newsletter.

We hope you will find the information in it informative and welcome you to share it with your colleagues — at accredited and non-accredited programs alike. We also welcome any suggestions for future newsletter content.

As always, please feel free to contact me, Dr. Melissa Tiessen, Director, Education Directorate & Registrar, Accreditation, with any questions or comments about accreditation, by phone at 613-237-2144 extension 333 or by email at: [accreditation@cpa.ca](mailto:accreditation@cpa.ca)

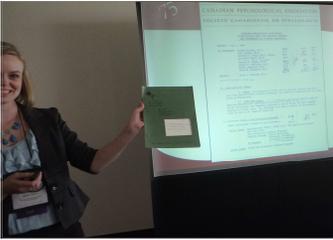
## Reminder: Annual Reports Due September 15

All programs in professional psychology accredited by CPA are required to submit an annual report, which is normally due by September 1st. Please note that for this year only, the deadline has been extended to the end of day, **Monday September 15, 2014**.

As well, new for this year, the Panel is requesting that all programs, including those in the process of, or due for re-accreditation, submit the new 'Public Disclosure' tables. With time, the hope is that these tables will provide a comprehensive picture of each program to all potential students. Additionally, the data from these tables will allow the Accreditation Office to supply the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), and our profession at large, with the most accurate information about professional psychology training programs.

A link to the updated form templates and tables can be found on our CPA website at: [www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources/](http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources/) A new 'FAQ' document is also available along with the forms to help clarify any questions about the data requested in the new tables. We will continue to update the FAQ as questions arise, so please check back regularly.

## CPA Accreditation Turns 30!



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*Dr. Melissa Tiessen displaying the first CPA Accreditation manual, and the minutes from the first Panel meeting in June 1984*

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At CPA's recent 75th annual convention, in Vancouver, BC, the Panel held a special celebration to recognize not only the 30th anniversary of the CPA Accreditation standards, but also the valued contributions of all Panel members, site visitors, and training directors over the years. Attended by over 50 individuals from across the country, the reception was a lovely opportunity to connect with old and new colleagues, and to reminisce about accreditation's development. (See the 'developmental trajectory' on the CPA Accreditation website at: [www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources](http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources))

The heart of the celebration was a special awards ceremony, to recognize the contributions of the "Founding" members of the Panel in 1984, including:

**Drs. Harvey Brooker, John Conway, Kenneth Craig, Anna Beth Doyle, Henry Edwards, Terrence Hogan (posthumously), Tim Hogan, Mireille Mathieu, Bob Robinson, Michel Sabourin, and Janet Stoppard.**

Their commitment all those years ago to the highest quality standards for professional psychology training has laid a solid foundation, of which our Canadian training community can be very proud!

Finally, the Panel also took this opportunity to recognize the valued ongoing relationship between CPA and APA, and particularly recognized Dr. Susan Zlotlow, Director, Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, APA. Dr. Zlotlow will be retiring from APA at the end of 2014, and to mark the occasion, the Panel presented her with a small retirement gift (including a CPA membership!) for her many years of collaboration and support.



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*Four of the Founding Panel Members: Drs. John Conway, Henry Edwards, Bob Robinson, and Harvey Brooker*

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## Convention 2014 Recap

CPA Accreditation was busy with a full slate of activities during the Vancouver convention. In addition to the 30th anniversary celebration, the Panel held a conversation session, a site visitor workshop, and a session on program evaluation and quality improvement. CPA's CEO, Dr. Karen Cohen, along with the Registrar, also participated in a session organized by CPA's Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology Section regarding considerations in the accreditation of I/O training programs.

Please see the CPA Accreditation website at: [www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources](http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/resources) to access copies of the slide decks presented during the conversation session and program evaluation session. We have also incorporated some of the audience questions and comments into the slides to help capture the full discussion for those who were not able to attend.

## Notes from the Field

*This section of the newsletter is intended as a forum to highlight diverse perspectives on the important work of accreditation. This first column has been graciously written by **Sarah Fletcher**, who is currently completing a work placement at CPA Head Office, including providing day-to-day support to Accreditation.*

Conventions are perennially a highlight for me. A giant meet, greet and knowledge transfer from the psychological community; an effortless system for making connections across the community; and an invaluable educational and reinvigorating weekend. The CPA's 75th Annual Convention was special to me, however, as it was the first psychology conference I experienced from the side of convention employee rather than attendee. I had the honour of attending primarily on behalf of the Accreditation department, and as such I had the pleasure of attending most of the sessions and events put on by Accreditation.

I found it fascinating to be on the other side of the curtain. As someone still close to her student days, it was a delight to be shown the processes doctoral and internship programs go through to strive for continual improvement and the work they do with and for their students and interns. It was also a treat to take a step back from the smaller daily processes we go through for accreditation and remind ourselves of the bigger picture, and why accreditation is valuable and important.

A final treat was participating in the 30th anniversary celebration. I'm proud of the work we do, and it was an honour to meet some of the founding members of the CPA Accreditation system in Canada. Taking the time to enjoy the history and see how far we've come was another inspiration, which rejuvenates us for the work still to come. May we achieve as much in the next 30 years!

## Call for Panel Members and Site Visitors

The Accreditation Panel has upcoming openings for new members to join in 2014-15. We urge all psychology personnel of accredited training programs to consider serving a 3 year term on the Panel. The work is at times involved but extremely rewarding. Of particular need are individuals who are bilingual, and those from a doctoral training program, especially in the areas of counselling or school psychology.

Similarly, we are always looking to expand our site visitor roster. To increase the accessibility of site visitor training, the Panel is happy to arrange a site visitor workshop at your location. Even if you may not feel ready to act as a site visitor, the workshop provides a valuable overview of the accreditation process, of benefit to any training program personnel. We are also looking for volunteers to assist in evaluating a short online site visitor training course. Please contact our office at: [accreditation@cpa.ca](mailto:accreditation@cpa.ca) if you would like to find out more about becoming a Panel member or site visitor.



*Sarah Fletcher*

*"Being a site visitor enabled me to see, first hand, the training opportunities available at a different university. Meeting with students, faculty, and the other site visitors also provided an invaluable opportunity to gain perspectives and insights from others in our field. I found it to be an extremely rewarding and professionally stimulating experience that I would highly recommend to others."*

*Dr. Karen Dyck,  
on her first site visit*

## Congratulations to Newly Accredited Programs

During the past academic year, the CPA Accreditation Panel was pleased to grant initial accreditation to three new internship programs:

**Correctional Service Canada (Ontario Region) Psychology Internship Program**

**Annapolis Valley District Health Authority Pre-doctoral Residency in Psychology**

**ROCK Reach Out Center for Kids Pre-doctoral Internship Program in Clinical Psychology**

Any new program currently considering accreditation is encouraged to contact the Accreditation Office for more details about the timeline, fees, and self-study application. Additionally, general information can be found at: [www.cpa.ca/accreditation/FAQ/](http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation/FAQ/)

New programs are also strongly encouraged to connect with CCPPP as an excellent source for mentoring and sharing of resources: [www.cpppp.ca](http://www.cpppp.ca)

## Accredited Programs as of July 2014

|                            | Doctoral Programs | Internship Programs |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Clinical Psychology        | 25                | 29<br>(2 inactive)  |
| Counselling Psychology     | 5                 | 3                   |
| School/Clinical Psychology | 2                 | 0                   |
| Clinical Neuropsychology   | 1                 | 3                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>33</b>         | <b>35</b>           |

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