



Chronicle

College of Psychologists of British Columbia

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Volume 13 • Number 5 • Spring 2012

Letter from the Incoming Chair

It is my great pleasure to serve as the Chair of the Board during 2012. I would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation to the outgoing Chair, Dr. Michael Elterman, who served as Chair in 2010 and 2011. We are delighted that Dr. Elterman has agreed to chair the Registration Committee this year.

I also wish to thank the public members on our Board: Prof. Michael Fellman, Ms. Jenelle Hynes, and Mr. Dean Readman. All three have agreed to continue to serve on our Board for an additional term, and we are immensely grateful for their interest in doing so.

Renewal was also a great success, greatly enhanced by the new online renewal process. Approximately 97% of registrants registered as of December 31, 2011 chose to renew their registration for 2012, of which the vast majority renewed for active practice. More information about the renewal can be found in this edition of the *Chronicle*. In light of the strong response to the online renewal option, the Board of the College has directed that online renewal become the preferred renewal process beginning with renewal 2013. Registrants wishing to renew through paper methods should make a request to the College to do so as renewal 2013 approaches. Further information will be provided to registrants in the Fall of 2012. Our Deputy Registrar, Dr. Amy Janeck, deserves our praise and appreciation for her thoughtful and careful attention in developing the online renewal option.

I would also like to express the College's appreciation for registrants' patience as the new online renewal process was launched. The Board was pleased to receive substantial feedback from registrants during the renewal process, which included many helpful suggestions and numerous compliments regarding both the process and the College more broadly.

Looking ahead, the College faces numerous ongoing challenges that we strive to meet. These include responding appropriately to:

- Maintaining the College's high registration standards in the face of the policy trends and legal requirements in the evaluation of substantial equivalence with regard to registration requirements, and to engage in policy development with regard to foreign trained applicants and applicants from other North American jurisdictions;
- To engage productively with the Health Professions Review Board;
- To engage appropriately with applicants and complainants and establish clear expectations and adherence to timelines;
- To continue to work with other stakeholders in the regulatory aspects of providing psychological services to the public of British Columbia;
- To ensure registrants continue to be informed about changes in regulation, such as the Health Professions Review Board and mobility issues; and
- To move our new bylaw proposal forward in the process of obtaining government approval for the posting of the proposal for registrant and public review.

The Board and I are confident that the College can meet these challenges in the years to come. We appreciate the high level of competence of our staff and the high level of engagement of the public and professional members of our Board and Committees. We look forward to participating in the important work that lies ahead.

Respectfully submitted,
Henry G. Harder, Ed.D., R.Psych.

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NEW

Make address changes on-line

The College is pleased to announce the launch of the Registrant Address Change function on the College's website.

Registrants are now able to log onto the Registrant Portal to notify the College of any changes to their Register, Directory, and/or Practice Records Address and other contact information. The Registrant Portal login is located as the last tab under "Registrants" in the main menu. Please note that the College will review your submissions prior to finalizing any update. You will be sent a confirmatory email from the College once your address change has been approved and entered. Once you log in with your username and password (the same username and password you used for online renewal), this feature can be accessed by selecting the "Change Address Information" option on the menu. Your user name is your four digit registration number. If you do not remember your password, click on the forgot password link and it will be emailed to the email address you provided to the College.

Updating CHARD information

Registrants are reminded that any changes to the Community Health and Resource Directory (CHARD) must be made directly with CHARD, not through the College office. <http://info.chardbc.ca/faq.asp>

College Board

- John Carter, Ed.D., R.Psych.
- Michael F. Elterman, M.B.A., Ph.D., R.Psych.
- Michael Fellman – Public Member
- Henry Harder, Ed.D., R.Psych.
- Jenelle Hynes – Public Member
- Russell King, Psy.D., R.Psych.
- Leora Kuttner, Ph.D., R.Psych.
- J. Dean Readman – Public Member
- Hendre Viljoen, Ph.D., R.Psych.

Quality Assurance Program

Continuing Competency Audit Update

The Quality Assurance Committee is nearing completion of the 2012 review process for the Continuing Competency Program. As per program policy, a random group of registrants was selected for the audit. The Committee has once again been very pleased to observe the involvement of registrants in a variety of continuing competency activities. It again noted that registrants are often documenting many more hours of continuing competency activity than required, and that registrants appear to be involved in a broad range of interesting activities to meet their learning objectives. The Committee was pleased with the generally high level of cooperation from registrants who were randomly chosen for the 2012 audit.

The Committee wishes to remind registrants that log sheets must include sufficient information for the Committee to determine whether the requirements of the Continuing Competency Program have been met. Reminders when preparing your log sheet:

- Ensure that you have accurately identified in which category the activities you are reporting belong, and ensure that your activities meet the requirements for that category. As a reminder, Category A activities generally include conferences, workshops, courses, annual and special meetings of the College, annual general meetings of psychology associations, and CPA/APA approved on-line courses. Category B activities generally include self-study activities such as reading psychology books and journals, non-CPA/APA approved on-line courses, and preparation for courses, workshops, and presentations you deliver, in which the preparation time involves the learning of new and practice enhancing information. Category C activities generally include

consultations with colleagues regarding specific cases, ethical issues, practice issues, and professional literature, and must include at least one other regulated health, mental health, or industrial/organizational professional. Category D activities are those that specifically relate to ethics, and may be drawn from any of the other three categories. All activities claimed in any category need to be relevant to enhancing one's practice of psychology. The Continuing Competency Policy Document and log sheet have been updated and are available on the website. These documents have been updated to improve clarity; the program requirements have not changed.

- Specify the titles of any workshops or conferences attended and the sponsoring agency, as well as all dates attended.
- Indicate whether online courses taken are CPA-/APA-approved, or approved by another accrediting body in your area of specialization. Specify any other accrediting body.
- Remember that the BCPA-sponsored Ethics Salons are properly included in Category C (Structured Interactive Activities) rather than Category A.
- Ensure that if you are using banked hours towards the year's Category A requirements, you provide complete information for those activities on your log sheet and do not merely indicate the number of hours claimed from the previous year.
- Provide the titles of all books and journals (and/or chapters and journal articles, as appropriate) read for Category B.
- Indicate whether participants of consultation groups for Category C are

regulated/licensed health, mental health, or industrial/organizational practitioners, and to which profession participants belong. Category C activities must include one or more licensed practitioners to meet the requirements for this category. The intent of this category is to promote practice enhancing interactions with other regulated practitioners with whom one can consider particular clients and practice issues, and seek peer consultation. Case conferences in which you are the only licensed mental health professional do not meet the requirements for this category.

- Plan ahead, so as not to leave completion of activities to the end of the year when unexpected events may interfere with your ability to meet the requirements.
- Use the checklist that accompanies the log sheet to ensure you have met the requirements. DO NOT submit the checklist, as this is for your own use only.
- Ensure your name and registration number are included on the first page of your log sheet, and are not included anywhere else on your log sheet. This information will be removed for the audit but is required to confirm you have provided your log sheet.

Quality Assurance is one of the means by which the College meets its mandate of public protection, by promoting and ensuring a high quality of registrant practice enhancing activities. It appears that registrants are aware of the importance of maintaining continuing competency and documenting their activities for review in the event that they are chosen as part of the random audit process. The Committee expresses its appreciation for the participation of registrants in the audit process.

Important Quality Assurance Committee Updates

The Quality Assurance Committee wishes to advise registrants that beginning with registration renewal for 2013, renewal Form B as a separate form will be eliminated. **Starting with 2012 continuing competency activities, each registrant is responsible for maintaining their own records regarding banked hours.** In addition, registrants will no longer be required to provide documentation supporting their claim of medical or parental leave for a partial exemption at the time of renewal, but instead will be required to submit this documentation at the time they submit their activity log sheet in the

event they are chosen for the Continuing Competency Program (CCP) random audit. Registrants will still be responsible for signing a declaration that they are in compliance with the CCP requirements at the time of renewal. This statement continues to form part of the attestation made on renewal Form A. Registrants must determine whether they qualify for any partial exemption of CCP requirements, and ensure that they are in compliance with the requirements specified for their circumstance before signing this attestation. The attestation is a legal document signifying that the person signing has met all requirements for

renewal, including compliance with the CCP requirements.

The Quality Assurance Committee would also like to advise registrants that they have revised the requirements for new registrants regarding identification of a professional executor. While new registrants will continue to need to identify at the time of registration a contact person for all institutionally held practice records created by them, they will now have up to one year to provide the name of a professional executor for those practice records in their own possession and control.

Draft Revisions to the Code of Conduct

How Can I Access the Draft and Provide Feedback to the College?

Enclosed with this edition of the *Chronicle* is a Draft revision to the *Code of Conduct*. It is being distributed to registrants for feedback and comment. A copy of the draft revisions is also available on the College website within the Registrant Portal at www.collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca/registrants/ or by selecting "Registrants" and then "Registrant Portal" under the main menu of the College website.

Once you are logged into the Registrant Portal, [using your user name (your four digit registrant number) and password] the Draft revision to the *Code of Conduct* can be accessed by clicking "Review Documents" on the menu. The Registrant Portal also contains a new feature allowing you to note the standard number and enter your comments. You will be able to submit your comments to the College electronically for review and consideration. You may also submit your comments by fax at (604) 736-6133 or by using the following email address: codeofconductfeedback@collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca

What has Changed?

Revisions to the *Code* were prompted by a Board and Quality Assurance Committee decision to integrate the existing and draft Practice Advisories into the *Code* based on feedback from registrants about the complexity of issues addressed by some of the Advisories and the need to ensure registrants have clarity about required conduct. It was decided to "upload" that portion of the Advisories that was most clearly consistent with a conduct standard into the *Code*, and to take other more descriptive guideline components and revise them into checklists. These checklists are currently under development by the Quality Assurance Committee.

It is useful to remember the regulatory and drafting frame within which the 2002 *Code of Conduct* was initially drafted and approved. This frame remains unchanged and is largely

based on the ASPPB model *Code of Conduct* which was so helpful in drafting the College's 2002 *Code*:

1. Standards pertain to the process or "mechanics" of the professional relationship and set the boundaries within which the professional relationship occurs. Standards do not, and are not intended to, speak to the content of professional judgment itself and are not intended to determine or dictate professional judgment.
2. Standards are designed primarily to protect the public interest. They also protect the interests of the profession as they assure public confidence and trust in the professional relationship with psychologists.
3. Standards are intended to be as non-intrusive as possible while still accomplishing the objective of protecting the public from exploitation and harm.
4. Standards are as clear as possible with regard to what behaviour is acceptable and what is not.
5. Standards provide a standardized body of information by which the regulatory body can judge compliance with, or deviation from, its requirements.
6. Standards are requirements, not aspirations.

Specific Changes in the Draft revisions include:

1. New standards and revision of some existing standards to cover integration of the Practice Advisory content into the *Code*;
2. Wording revisions to existing standards for increased clarity;
3. Wording changes to improve consistency of language within the *Code*; and
4. Removal of redundant standards or standards integrated into other standards for greater clarity.

Online Renewal Update

This past renewal cycle was the inaugural year of using an online renewal system. All registrants were sent a paper copy of the renewal forms, as before, but were strongly encouraged to avail themselves of the online renewal option with online payment through a banking institution. The College held regular renewal-specific office hours twice weekly during the renewal period and many registrants used the opportunity to seek technical support or ask other renewal related questions.

We are pleased to announce that of the total number of registrants who renewed, 64% renewed online. The online renewal system greatly enhanced our ability to process the data submitted. The format eliminated many of the common mistakes (e.g., more than one declaration signed) and problems caused by missing information. This year, there were far fewer cancellations and late renewals. Our need to follow up with registrants for clarification was drastically reduced, as well.

Given the smoothness of this year's online renewal, the Board has directed that the College phase out paper renewals. Next renewal cycle, all registrants will be expected to renew online. The option to renew via paper will still be available, but registrants will be required to place a special request in order to do so. More information will follow regarding these changes. Please continue to monitor both the College website and mailings for more information.



Registrants added to the register since the last *Chronicle*

Ackland, Patricia
Benoche, Stacy Lynn Helena
Boldt Ginter, Roxalyn
Brandlmayr, Dawn Elizabeth
Brenner, Colleen April
Brzezinski, Gertrud
Edington, Hilary Mary
Ferrari, Lisa

Goodwin, Shelley Lee
Grant, Karen Jean
Hayes, Camela Paige
Jones, Christopher Peter
Jones, Lauren Elizabeth
Khaylis, Anna
Klonsky, Elisha David

Koop, Sandra Jean
Mah, Janet Wai-Ting
McGillivray, M. Susan
Morgan, Samuel James William
Perrin, Marei Bindi
Porter, Stephen Blair
Roberts, Joanne Patricia

Ryan, Dorothy Mae
Scherrer, Martin Christian
Shariff, Aneesa Nizar
Swift, Robin Elizabeth
Ting, Julia Yuen Ching
Wisheu, Helga
Zaitsoff, Shannon Lorraine

☞ In Memoriam – Dennis Michael Joseph Payne ☞

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, May 24, 2012

4:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Annual General Meeting and Continuing Competency Presentation

“PSYCHOLOGY IN THE PUBLIC POLICY DOMAIN”
Speaker: David Perry, Ascent Public Affairs

The AGM will include reports on the 2011 year.

Please come to the AGM and be informed.

VANCOUVER SITE:

Chan Centre
Children and Women's Hospital
4480 Oak Street, Vancouver, B.C.

VICTORIA SITE:

Royal Roads University at Hatley Park National Historic Site
2005 Sooke Road, Victoria

Further details will be provided to registrants prior to the meeting and will also be available on the College's website.

The presentation to accompany the AGM will be eligible for Continuing Competency credits.

Registrants in other areas will be able to view the AGM via webcast and submit questions via email.
Details to follow.

A light dinner will be available.

- RSVP -

Please RSVP your attendance and location by May 12, 2012:

Phone (604) 736-6164 or (800) 665-0979 (push 307 as soon as the auto-attendant picks up)
or fax (604) 736-6133.

Please also leave us a message if you are interested in participating via webcast.

 **College of Psychologists of British Columbia**

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