

The e-Bulletin

THE COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS OF ONTARIO
L'ORDRE DES PSYCHOLOGUES DE L'ONTARIO
Regulating Psychologists & Psychological Associates

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Council Highlights

Highlights of the Council meeting held on March 22, 2013 are now available.

[Read more...](#)

Oral Examinations

The College would like to thank the members of the College who acted as Oral Examiners in June 2012.

Oral Examiner List

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates

The following dates have been

[Index of Articles: June 2010 v.1 no.1 - April 2013 v.4 no.1](#)

President's Message

When I look back on the six years I spent on the College's Council, I am astonished at how quickly time passed and how much has changed, both in the internal life of the College, and in the larger regulatory environment. Some of the changes were relatively minor, and probably not even noticed by the majority of members.

[Read more...](#)

Election to the College Council

Elections were held on March 28, 2013 for Council positions in three geographic districts. The College wishes to congratulate:

Dr. Matias Mariani, C.Psych. - elected in District 1: North
Dr. Lynette Eulette, C.Psych. - elected in District 2: Southwest
Dr. Diana Velikonja, C.Psych. - elected by acclamation in District 3: Central

To introduce these members of Council, reproduced are the Biographical and Candidate Statements which they submitted as part of the election process.

[Read more...](#)

Barbara Wand Seminar 2013

Registration is now open for the Barbara Wand Seminar in Professional Ethics, Standards and Conduct being held on Monday, May 27, 2013 in Toronto.

[Read more...](#)

Quality Assurance Notice

The **Self Assessment Guide and Professional Development Plan** component of the Quality Assurance Program is completed by all members of the College every other year. In 2013, Autonomous Practice members with odd registration numbers as well as all Supervised Practice and Interim Autonomous Practice members are required to complete the Self Assessment Guide and Professional Development Plan.

set for Council Meetings:

June 21, 2013
October 4, 2013
December 13, 2013

Observers are welcome. Please advise the College of your wish to attend by calling 416-961-8817 or emailing cpo@cpo.on.ca

Quick Links

College of Psychologists Of Ontario

416-961-8817
800-489-8388
cpo@cpo.on.ca

[Read more...](#)

Infection Control for Regulated Professionals

The publication *Infection Control for Regulated Professionals*, originally developed in 2005, has recently been updated as a resource and educational tool for regulated health professionals whose scopes of practice do not generally involve high risk contact with clients or patients, but who need to be informed about routine practices and additional precautions that prevent the transmission of infectious diseases.

[Read more...](#)

Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee Activities

The Following is a summary of the activities of the Investigations, Reports and Complaints Committee (ICRC) between June 1, 2012 and February 28, 2013 (the end of the fourth fiscal quarter). The College has initiated the formal investigation of 59 matters and the ICRC issued Decisions for 52 matters. The Health Professions Appeal and Review Board conducted reviews of six College Decisions and confirmed all of them.

[Read More...](#)

President's Message

When I look back on the six years I spent on the College's Council, I am astonished at how quickly time passed and how much has changed, both in the internal life of the College, and in the larger regulatory environment. Some of the changes were relatively minor, and probably not even noticed by the majority of members. For example, amendments to the RHPA changed the name of the Complaints Committee to the Inquiries, Complaints, and Reports Committee with a slightly different mandate, or the College renewing its office lease for another ten years after briefly flirting with the idea of buying its own premises. Other changes will surely be noticed in years to come, such as the Quality Assurance Committee developing the upcoming requirements for Continuing Professional Development.

There was a major change in personnel, with the retirement, in January 2012, of Ms. Connie Learn, Director of Registration and Administration. Ms. Learn helped many of us navigate the waters of the registration process. There have been and continue to be changes in the membership structure as the College reviews the standards for entry to the profession and adapts to the implications of the federal/provincial/territorial Agreement on Internal Trade.

I saved the best change for last. This year the Barbara Wand Seminar in Professional Ethics, Standards and Conduct will be available to all who want to participate, whether or not they can attend personally in Toronto on May 27. For the first time, the Seminar will be available as a webinar. Now this is something to celebrate! Making this opportunity available to members from all parts of the province in our annual celebration of psychology reflects a unified, strong profession of psychology in Ontario. I hope to see all of you on May 27.

Like many of you, I have a vision of where I would like to see the College and our profession move in the years ahead, but my time of actively contributing to the shaping of this future has passed. I extend my best wishes to the three new members of Council who will be joining those who are continuing in this very important role and to the new President and Executive to be elected shortly.

I want to thank all members for their support during my term on Council and as College President and want to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

Milan Pomichalek, Ph.D., C.Psych.
President

Election to the College Council March 2013

Elections were held on March 28, 2013 for Council positions in three geographic districts. The College wishes to congratulate:

Dr. Matias Mariani, C.Psych. - *elected in District 1 (North)*
Dr. Lynette Eulette, C.Psych. - *elected in District 2 (Southwest)*
Dr. Diana Velikonja, C.Psych. – *elected by acclamation in District 3 (Central).*

To introduce these members of Council, reproduced below are the Biographical and Candidate Statements which they submitted as part of the election process.

MATIAS MARIANI, PH.D., C. PSYCH.

District 1- NORTH

Biography

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to tell you a bit about myself. I began my foray into Psychology at York University, where I completed a Bachelor of Science with Specialized Honours. After graduation, I was fortunate enough to work for a psychological publishing company, which afforded me in-depth knowledge of test development, standardization, and publishing. During that time, I volunteered at a rehabilitation centre and a hospital, where I was able to broaden my clinical skills in the areas of traumatic brain injury and paediatric tumours, respectively. Then, I completed my M.A. and Ph.D. with a specialization in Clinical Neuropsychology at the University of Windsor. As part of my training, I completed clinical practica in acute care, outpatient, and mental health facilities in Toronto, Windsor, and Detroit, where I gained invaluable experience working with demographically and clinically diverse populations. Finally, I rounded out my training by completing a pre-doctoral internship in Edmonton with rotations in pediatrics, geriatrics, epilepsy, rehabilitation, and general adult neuropsychology.

Since moving to Sudbury in 2009, I have been working in the capacity of Clinical Psychologist and Neuropsychologist at the Northeast Cancer Centre, where I assess and treat outpatients who are experiencing neurocognitive and/or psychological difficulties as a result of their cancer and/or its treatment. In addition to my core clinical duties, I supervise graduate students and conduct research on brain tumours, the impact of chemotherapy on cognitive function, and interventions to mitigate cognitive deficits. This position has also given me the opportunity to participate in various hospital-based initiatives to facilitate interdisciplinary communication, to enhance patient care following discharge, to advocate for patients' rights, and to ensure ethical decision-making on behalf of health care professionals and patients alike. Apart from my work at the hospital, I enjoy engaging the community through lectures in the efforts of dispelling myths about brain injury and mental illness, while promoting mental health.

Candidate Statement

Working in the North has elucidated various unique issues that we encounter as psychology staff, including professional and geographical isolation, scarcity of mental health services, and, consequently, the constant need to adapt to changing demands and fluctuating resources. The pursuit to serve the public often requires updating and/or enhancing our clinical competences, addressing potential multiple relationships, providing treatment via less conventional media (e.g., telemedicine, online, etc.), and/or supervising other allied health professionals in the provision of psychological services. Whereas creativity is required to fill this gap in accessibility, these activities often lead to tricky ethical issues requiring consultation and ethical decision-making. Compounding these issues, the North is replete with other professionals who are attempting to fill the same need, and who, in doing so, sometimes cross

boundaries, leaving us in situations where we must protect the use of restricted titles and/or the controlled act of diagnosis. Exacerbating this issue is when unregulated professionals encroach into the psychological scope of practice and perform various activities under the guise of “counselling”. All of these situations carry with them a potential of harm to the public.

If elected to council, I plan to be the Northern voice on issues of ethics in clinical practice, advocacy for psychological services in rural communities, and, most importantly, the protection of the public. Thank you for your time.

LYNETTE EULETTE PH.D., C. PSYCH.

District 2 - SOUTHWEST

Biography

I received my undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Saskatchewan and my Masters and Doctorate degrees from the University of Waterloo. I have been registered with the College of Psychologists of Ontario for twenty years, and have experience working with children, adolescents, and adults. This work has been within the public sector in both the health care and education systems in Ontario, as well as within the private sector. My career started in Calgary, working with children and families at the Calgary Children’s Hospital, and moved from there to the outpatient psychiatry clinic of the Children’s Hospital of Western Ontario in London. Subsequently, I worked with faculty, students and staff at Counselling Services at the University of Waterloo. During this time I was also the Sexual Harassment Counselor and was a trained Mediator within the University. From 2002-2009, I was the Chief Psychologist at the Waterloo Region District School Board. Currently, I am teaching and supervising graduate students on a part-time basis within the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Waterloo and maintaining a private practice in Waterloo.

I have been an oral examiner with the College and was on the Quality Assurance Committee for one term. I have served three terms as a Board member with Waterloo Regional Homes for Mental Health, a community agency that provides support and housing for adults with significant mental health concerns. I also served as Secretary for the Association of Chief Psychologists in Ontario School Boards. Currently, I am co-chair of the Health Professionals Advisory Council for the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integrated Network.

Candidate Statement

I am passionate about psychology and the benefits that providers of psychological services can bring to individuals, institutions, and communities. My experiences as a supervisor for individuals pursuing registration with the College and as a teacher of clinical graduate students continue to convince me that we need high quality training programs and high standards for practice. At the same time, there are psychological service providers who are coming here from other countries and cultures who have much to offer, but whose training and standards may be different than ours. I believe we have challenges before us in addressing how to maintain high standards for registration with the College and in thinking through how to provide fair and accessible opportunities to these individuals.

As our society changes because of technological advances and as it becomes more multicultural and multilingual, it is my belief that our profession will be challenged to keep up with these advances and changes and with the impact they will have on how we provide services ethically and effectively. Maintaining high standards for the provision of psychological services is important for the individuals, institutions and communities with whom we work. These high standards are also important for the profession. I am committed to the work that the College does in upholding the profession of psychology because self-regulation is integral to the health of a profession.

DR. DIANA VELIKONJA, C.PSYCH.

District 3 - CENTRAL

Biography

Dr. Diana Velikonja is a licensed Neuropsychologist in Ontario. She completed her doctoral degree in Biological and Clinical Psychology at the University of Waterloo and completed a residency in neuropsychology at McMaster University Hospital. She is a practicing Neuropsychologist in the Acquired Brain Injury Program at Hamilton Health Sciences, where she was the Chief of Psychology Practice from 2004 to 2011.

Dr. Velikonja has worked in the Acquired Brain Injury Program since 1996 providing assessment as well as developing treatment for patients suffering from mild to severe injury and impairment. She has also provided neuropsychological consultative services for a variety of pediatric, adult and geriatric neurologically impaired populations. She is also the chair of research in the ABI Program having been awarded research grants and has published articles in the area of ABI.

Dr. Velikonja is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences in the faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University where she teaches and supervises students with their research and clinical activities. She is also a member of the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation (ONF) Committee for Acquired Brain Injury providing consultation for funding ABI research and has been a member on a number of their expert panels. Dr. Velikonja is also on the Board of the Hamilton Brain Injury Association.

Dr. Velikonja is a founding partner of Storrie, Velikonja & Associates (SVA), a full-service psychology clinic located in Burlington, Ontario, and Director of the SVA Concussion Clinic.



Barbara Wand Seminar 2013

Registration is now open for the **Barbara Wand Seminar in Professional Ethics, Standards and Conduct** being held on Monday, May 27, 2013 in Toronto. More information and a registration form is available below. Those attending the Seminar will be provided refreshment breaks and lunch.

This year's topics include **Psychology and the Internet, Privacy and Telepractice: Thoughts from the Office of the IPC and Domestic Violence: Impacts on Children, Risk Assessment and Management.**

In addition, the Seminar will include Dr. Rick Morris presenting **Tricky Issues and Ethical Dilemmas.**

This year the Seminar will also be offered as a live webcast.

[Register Now to Reserve Your Place!](#)

Registration Flyer and Forms



[Barbara Wand Seminar 2013 Flyer and Registration Form](#)

Quality Assurance Notice 2013

The *[Self Assessment Guide and Professional Development Plan](#)* component of the Quality Assurance Program is completed by all members of the College every other year. In 2013, Autonomous Practice members with odd registration numbers as well as all Supervised Practice and Interim Autonomous Practice members are required to complete the *Self Assessment Guide and Professional Development Plan*. Once completed, members are required to submit the *[Declaration of Completion](#)* to the College as documentation that this has been done. The deadline for submission of the *Declaration of Completion* is June 28, 2013. Information about the *Self Assessment Guide and Professional Development Plan* and the *Declaration of Completion* is available on the College [website](#).

Infection Control for Regulated Professionals

The publication *Infection Control for Regulated Professionals*, originally developed in 2005, has recently been updated as a resource and educational tool for regulated health professionals whose scopes of practice do not generally involve high risk contact with clients or patients, but who need to be informed about routine practices and additional precautions that prevent the transmission of infectious diseases. While some of the information contained in the publication is not directly applicable to psychological practitioners, much of the material is quite relevant. While a review of the full manual is recommended, members are specifically directed toward the sections up to page 15. The manual is available at: [Infection Control for Regulated Professionals](#).

Investigations, Reports and Complaints Committee Activities

The Following is a summary of the activities of the Investigations, Reports and Complaints Committee (ICRC) between June 1, 2012 and February 28, 2013 (the end of the fourth fiscal quarter). The College has initiated the formal investigation of 59 matters and the ICRC issued Decisions for 52 matters. The Health Professions Appeal and Review Board conducted reviews of six College Decisions and confirmed all of them.

New Investigations, by Nature of Service

	<u>YTD</u>	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>
Administration	1	2
Capacity Assessment	1	-
Corrections Assessment	1	1
Custody & Access / Child Welfare Assessment	5	6
Educational Assessment	4	4
Industrial / Occupational Assessment	-	2
Mediation	-	1
Neuropsychological Assessment	2	2
Not Related to Psychological Services	5	2
Other Psychological Assessment	7	6
Psychotherapy / Counseling	14	15
Rehabilitation / Insurance Assessment	15	16
Supervision	3	2
Teaching / Training	1	1
Total:	59	60

Dispositions by Allegation (Year to Date)

	Withdrawal	Frivolous, Vexatious, Made in Bad Faith, Moot or Otherwise or Abuse of Practice	Take no Further Action	Advice	Caution	Caution & Undertaking	Oral Caution	Oral Caution & Undertaking	Oral Caution & Specified Education or Remediation Program	Referral to Discipline
Acceptance of regulatory authority of the College	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bias	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boundary violation	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Breach of confidentiality	2	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Conduct unbecoming a member of the CPO	1	-	10	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
Conflict of interest	3	-	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Failure to fulfill the terms of the agreement with user	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Failure to obtain informed consent	2	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Failure to provide services sought	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Failure to render services appropriate to user's needs	2	1	6	1	2	1	1	1	-	2
Failure to respond to a request in a timely manner	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
False or misleading statements	1	1	6	1	2	1	1	-	-	1
Fees and billing problems	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Finding of Professional Misconduct in other jurisdiction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Illegal conduct	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Improper office conditions	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Improper supervision	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inaccurate information	1	-	4	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Inadequate data to support conclusions	2	1	11	1	5	-	1	1	-	1
Inadequate feedback	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate handling of termination	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

Dispositions by Allegation (Year to Date)

	Withdrawal	Frivolous, Vexatious, Made in Bad Faith, Moot or Otherwise or Abuse of Practice	Take no Further Action	Advice	Caution	Caution & Undertaking	Oral Caution	Oral Caution & Undertaking	Oral Caution & Specified Education or Remediation Program	Referral to Discipline
Inappropriate advertising and announcements	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inappropriate conduct toward an employee	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Incompetence	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Insensitive treatment of clients	1	1	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Misrepresentation of Non-Member	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Sexual Abuse	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quality of services	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Record keeping problems	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual abuse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sexual harassment	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Advisory Information from the Investigations, Reports and Complaints Committee for Members

Providing opinions about individuals without direct assessment

From time to time, the College receives complaints about members who have provided opinions about individuals who they have not directly assessed. Having considered several recent complaints of this nature, the ICRC wishes to provide some general information about this issue in the hope that it is of assistance to members in their practices.

The opinions which gave rise to the complaints have variously included statements made about a person's disorder or ability, parenting skills, relationship to a child and/or about the type and amount of access to a child which a parent should be permitted.

In many of these cases, members have relied exclusively upon information from third parties, often their own counseling or therapy clients, many of whom may have had interests in related legal matters.

The panels considering these complaints pointed out to the members that the information they utilized may not have been reliable or accurate. As such, they may have lacked adequate and appropriate information upon which to base their statements. This can be particularly concerning when the source of information could likely derive some benefit from the opinion of the member. Such opinions may be given weight by courts and have unnecessary adverse effects.

Panels of the ICRC have questioned the judgment of individuals who have engaged in this practice. These panels believed that members could have expected that their

opinions would be shared when providing documents addressed "to whom it may concern". Even when the information is not intended to help a client understand, and perhaps respond to another individual, there is some risk in providing a flawed opinion upon which people may base important decisions. Additionally, members' diagnostic comments made in the absence of adequate and appropriate information have appeared in affidavits, unbeknownst to the members, which may create unnecessary difficulty for the parties as well as the member.

When provided with a description of the behavior of an individual they have not assessed, members may wish to consider focusing on the reporter's experience of the behavior described and stop short of offering or providing an opinion about the other party. It is important to remember that any opinion provided by a psychologist or psychological associate is a professional opinion which may be cited and also may lead to significant action having potentially adverse effects to both the public and the psychological associate who has provided the opinion.

Discipline Proceedings

The Discipline Committee of the College holds hearings into allegations of professional misconduct and/or incompetence. The information provided below is published on the Register of the College and available through the Member Search section of the College website or may be obtained by contacting The College of Psychologists of Ontario. It is provided for the information of the public, members of the College and other professionals.

The Discipline Committee has recently released Decisions in regard to two members, which can be viewed on the Register of the College by following these links:

Dr. Bernard Roy Raghunan: https://members.cpo.on.ca/members_search/show/1241

Ms. Christina Papadopoulos: https://members.cpo.on.ca/members_search/show/19048

Council Highlights – March 22, 2013

Strategic Issues

Council was advised that the College published online and print versions of an advertisement in several Ontario newspapers during the month of February, which is designated as Psychology Month.

Policy issues

Report from the Task Force on Shaping the Future of Psychology in Ontario

The Task Force presented extensive data and provided two policy options to Council for consideration 1) Change to limited master's level registration and grandparent Psychological Associates as Psychologists and 2) Discontinue master's level registration, grandparent Psychological Associates as Psychologists and develop a mechanism for evaluating internationally trained applicants. Council approved option 2 and directed staff to develop implementation details for presentation to the Council on June 21, 2013. It was noted that any proposed change would require Government approval and would first have to undergo consultation with stakeholders and review by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Regulation Updates

The Council was advised that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care would be communicating with the College in a few weeks regarding the current status of proposed amendments to the Registration Regulation submitted in June 2012. Proposed amendments to the Quality Assurance Regulation are being reviewed by legislative drafters.

New Controlled Act Respecting Provision of Psychotherapy: Delegation and Supervision Issues

The Client Relations Committee provided a report which summarized the issues related to delegation and supervision of the future controlled act. The Committee did not make any recommendations to Council as to whether anyone other than an authorized member of the College should be permitted to perform the new controlled act. Discussion of the issues will continue at the next Client Relations Committee meeting.

By-Law amendments

Council was advised of a request by eHealthOntario to obtain registration numbers of College members in order to establish a Provider Registry. Recent media articles have urged the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to direct the Colleges to make public cautions issued by the Investigations, Complaints and Reports Committee (ICRC). The Registrar was directed bring legal advice on both issues to Council in June. Council approved an amendment to Bylaw 22, Professional Liability Insurance, to remove the necessity for "personal" insurance coverage if insurance provided by an employer meets specified criteria. This amendment must be circulated for 60 days before going into force. By-Law 9, Banking and Finance was amended regarding investment criteria.

Business issues

The draft 2013-2014 budget was approved. A status report was received from the Task Force on Psychological Service Providers in the context of disputes concerning Child Custody and Access or Child Protection.

Other Business

The Council approved the following dates for future meetings: June 21, 2013, October 4, 2013 and December 13, 2013.

Oral Examiners December 2013

The College would like to thank the following members who acted as oral examiners in December, 2013.

Cheryl Alyman, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Jana Atkins, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Ian D.R. Brown, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Clarissa Bush, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Angela Carter, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Jim Cheston, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Dorothy Cotton, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Mary Susan Crawford, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Janine Cutler, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Michelle Duwyn, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Donna Ferguson, Psy.D., C.Psych.
Jennifer Gaddes, M.A., C.Psych.Assoc.
Robert Gauthier, M.Sc., M.Ed., C.Psych.Assoc.
Abby Goldstein, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Allyson Harrison, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Timothy Hill, M.A., C.Psych.Assoc.
Tony Iezzi, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Debra Lean, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Jane Ledingham, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Bruno Losier, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Peter Mallouh, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Maggie Mamen, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Marnee Maroes, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Donald Martin, M.Ps., C.Psych.Assoc.
Lise Mercier, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Michael M. Minden, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Michelle Moretti, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Mary Ann Mountain, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Carolee Orme, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Marjory Phillips, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Milan Pomichalek, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Monique Presse, M.A., C.Psych.Assoc.
Janet Quintal, M.A., C.Psych.Assoc.
Francine Roussy Layton, Ph.D., C.Psych.
Dalia Slonim, Psy.D., C.Psych.
Barbara Vale, M.A., C.Psych.Assoc.
Peter Voros, Ed.D., C.Psych.

Public members:

Peter McKegney
Vince Lacroix
