

CCPA-NS AGM 2015
Message from the NS Director for CCPA

Greetings, members of the Nova Scotia Chapter of CCPA,

Given the current period of transition, it only seems fitting to commence with expressions of gratitude to members whose tenure is drawing to a close and to offer welcome to those who are about to embark on new roles.

On behalf of CCPA, I'd like to offer heartfelt thanks to Janet Edwards who not only is finishing her term as CCPA-NS President, but was one of the four founding members of the Chapter when initial meetings were held in the summer of 2011. Over the past four years, Janet has invested significant time and energy in ensuring the chapter's successful transition from fledgling status to that of a solidly established and productive chapter whose mission and activities at the provincial level complement those of NSCCT as a regulatory College.

I offer sincere appreciation also to incoming President, Eric Ross. Eric's level of professional enthusiasm and commitment offers assurance that CCPA-NS will continue to flourish. Thank you, Eric, for your willingness to assume this important role.

I hope that you'll join me in extending a warm welcome to Andrea Currie, the incoming NS Director for CCPA. Andrea will officially commence her two-year term at the CCPA conference in Niagara Falls in May.

Shifting now to acknowledgement of successful initiatives, congratulations go out to Nova Scotia School Counsellors Association President Janice Graham-Migel and her Executive for a very successful, second Canadian School Counselling Week. The event was sponsored by CCPA's School Counsellors Chapter, and was celebrated from February 2-6. Various communiqués served to augment public awareness of the role and functions of school counsellors and to establish school counsellors as mental health professionals and school counselling as an allied health profession. I am optimistic that the collective energies that contributed to the success of the Canadian School Counselling Week in its first two years will sustain it as an annual celebration.

Congratulations also go out to our Ontario colleagues whose patience and persistence were rewarded on April 1, 2015 with the official inauguration of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario (CRPO).

In the arena of celebration, CCPA will be holding its national conference in Niagara Falls from May 19-22. This year's conference marks CCPA's 50th anniversary and we hope that some of you will be able to join us for the festivities. With over 5400 members, we feel that the CCPA

has clearly established itself as the national body for the counselling and psychotherapy profession.

On further celebratory notes, CCPA is pleased to announce its recent publication of the text titled *Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Experience: Ethics-Based Issues and Cases*. Revision of the *Standards of Practice* (the companion to the Code of Ethics) is underway and will reflect developments in the field since the last edition was published in 2008. Also forthcoming this year will be CCPA-published texts titled *Canadian Handbook of Counselling and Psychotherapy* and *Supervision of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Profession*. After many years lamenting the lack of Canadian-content texts in the counselling and psychotherapy field, Canadian researchers and authors are ensuring that Canadian students, practitioners, and supervisors will be able to access contextually and culturally relevant content.

If you are not able to attend this year's national conference, perhaps you'll be able to join us at Conference 2016 in Montreal that will be hosted in partnership by the American Counselling Association and CCPA. Two days of pre-conference workshops and three days of conference sessions will be held March 30 through April 3, 2016. The change from CCPA's normal conference schedule has meant a shift in the deadline for pre-conference and conference proposals to May 30, 2015. We encourage you to consider submitting a proposal and/or attending the conference; you'll be able to network and share ideas with an expanded conference audience.

Space remains in the intermediate clinical supervision workshop being sponsored by NSCCT and held at Acadia University next Saturday, May 2. If you are interested in attending, just drop me an e-mail at beth.robinson@acadiau.ca.

On a parting note that brings us back to the theme of transitions, it has been my pleasure to serve as the NS Director for CCPA over the past four years and to witness the formation and evolution of CCPA-NS. Nova Scotia has a relatively small but unequivocally dedicated population of professionals committed to the quality practice of counselling, psychotherapy, and counselling therapy. We have one of five CCPA Regional Chapters, a regulatory College, and an accredited counselling program. There is much to be proud of and much momentum to sustain.

Thank you, Merci, Meegwetch.

Beth Robinson

NS Director for CCPA 2011-2015