

Presidents Report for 2021 AGM MB Chapter CCPA

We continue our shared and personal pandemic journey as we experience our second Virtual Annual general meeting of the Manitoba Chapter. We are fortunate that we have so many talented board members giving valuable portions of their time to make sure our chapter moves forward. While everyday brings about new changes or challenges, we have been steadfast in our focus to promote regulation, third party billing, professional development and support for our many members. I want to thank everyone who has participated and brought their unique energy to our chapter endeavors. Each step we have taken has been important and we still see looking back on our efforts that good things got done.

As my role as president shifts to past president today, I wanted to review some of the things our chapter has kept going in uncertain times. It would have been easy to pull back and pause many of our ventures especially as our professional roles got more complicated due to COVID and its changing regulations. Instead we saw more members reaching out and asking for guidance and support from their CCPA. We guided them to the right people at head office, online or in the community. Board members kept their portfolios in focus and made sure good work was done in our many important areas. Third party billing had a focus group and reached out with a mail out to every member. The Manitoba graphic is a terrific tool! Regulation and our participation in FACT-MB has progressed by adding new achievements and demonstrated our voice with a letter to Provincial Minister's campaign. We have added our highly valued land acknowledgment to all meeting and events. Professional development opportunities moved online and captured a new member audience. This is a time where a two-hour meeting leaves us *wanting more time* to connect not less in a virtual communication world. That is impressive!

Our province has a treasure trove of therapeutic professional talent. Our membership is a wonderful example of the diversity and experience that lies in our borders. The Manitoba Chapter seeks to connect these professionals while helping

move forward the many initiatives that would elevate our professional field. It is more important than ever to educate and protect the general public when they seek services to support their experience and mental health. Our initiatives will do that by someday regulating the profession of counseling therapists and ensuring more insurance coverage and business's understand the services and care we can provide. Our choice to concentrate on these areas will benefit us all. In my years in many roles on this board, I have seen the dedication the CCPA board members have to their field and I have seen amazing progress in these goals.

- *I want to thank **Louise Blanchard** for her many years on the Board (President Elect/President/Past President) and her participation as a founding member of the Manitoba Chapter. Your many hours have benefited our board and our therapist community. Thank you for opening Birch up to us to create the Manitoba Chapter in.*
- *I would also like to thank **Allyson Coleman** for her many roles on our board (Treasurer/Secretary/ Social Media/Treasurer again...I'm sure I have missed one) and for her endless volunteering for the Manitoba Chapter since it's inception as well. Our finances might actual be modernized too thanks to Allyson.*
- *Thank you also to **Brie**. You know I have said it many times but your organization and great work has made us organized both by the rule book and the virtual world. Good luck on the Coast.*

For the members of the Manitoba Chapter current and past, new and veteran, I want to extend my thanks for all you do. It's important in these times and with these important volunteers to stop and say the membership only gains by having you give your time and talents to our work and to Manitoba.

Krysti Dedi

President Manitoba Chapter CCPA

April 16, 2021