

*Nova Scotia Chapter - CCPA
President's Report 2021-2022*



Nova Scotia Chapter



Helping Nova Scotian
counselling
professionals connect
with each other and
learning opportunities.



Nova Scotia Chapter Executive 2021-22

- President – Patricia Wentzell
- President-Elect – Jean Blackler
- Past President – Nick Zwaagstra
- Secretary – Heather Colquhoun
- Treasurer – Jean Blackler
- Coordinator for Professional Development – Kim MacDonald
- Coordinator for Professional Identity and Advocacy – Andrew Potter-Cogan
- Student Reps – Katherine Salsman and Ken Lotherington
- School Counsellor Liaison – Belinda Josephson
- Members-at-Large – Derek Smith and Shane MacDow
- Board Liaison – George Maringapsi



Helping Nova Scotian Counselling Professionals Connect

- Networking
- We sent out 3 Newsletters through the CCPA Communications to our Chapter members.

➤ Sample Newsletter Topics

In this newsletter:

- *New President-Elect*
- *NS Chapter AGM*
- *Executive Position Vacancies*
- *Reminder: Full Day Professional Development Workshop*
- *Conference Bursaries: Round 2*



Providing Networking Opportunities for Chapter Members

In the past year we hosted four networking opportunities for Chapter members:

- March 2021: shared resource and professional training ideas
- April 2021: interactive activity using a case study to explore the new *CCPA Code of Ethics*
- September 2021: Various topics
- November 2021: Various topics



Providing Professional Development Opportunities for Nova Scotian Counselling Professionals

In the past year, the PD Committee (Kim Macdonald - Coordinator for Professional Development, Jean Blackler, Derek Smith and Pat Wentzell) planned and hosted two professional development opportunities. These were offered at low cost to Chapter members and students, with pre-approved CECs:

- Treating Panic Disorder – facilitated by David Renouf
- Indigenous Peoples, Communities, and Contexts: Taking Some Steps on a Learning Journey about Section I of the Revised CCPA Code of Ethics and Section I of the Revised CCPA Standards of Practice – facilitated by Andrea Currie



Providing Financial Support for Members to Attend CCPA's Annual National Conference

- The Chapter has continued the practice of offering bursaries for Chapter members to attend the CCPA National Conference.
- Each member who applied (up to 40 applicants) was guaranteed to receive at least \$100 in value, with the possibility of increased bursaries to cover their expenses to a maximum amount of \$200, depending on the number of applicants. The costs for executive members to attend the conference was also covered.
- This year, seven people applied for and received bursaries.



Advocacy Initiatives to Support Counselling Students in Nova Scotia

In his role as Coordinator for Professional Identity and Advocacy, Andrew Potter-Cogan presented information on CCPA, including the benefits of student and professional membership in CCPA to a group of Acadia M.Ed. Counselling students via Zoom on June 7th.



Advocacy Initiatives to Support Counselling Professionals in Nova Scotia

- A committee of executive members, has been formed to work on advocacy concerns for Nova Scotian counselling professionals. (Andrew Potter-Cogan - Coordinator for Professional Identity and Advocacy, Jean Blackler, Derek Smith, Ken Lotherington and Pat Wentzell)
- A Letter to the Minister of Health to advocate for counselling therapists to be included as admissible health practitioners in the planned Universal Mental Health Care Services in the province was drafted and discussed at the March executive meeting, then sent to CCPA Head Office to keep them informed of this plan and to seek their input/advice. A meeting was held with some CCPA staff members and the final draft was sent to the Minister of Health on April 19th.
- We sent an email to the NSCCT Chair and EDR earlier this year to let NSCCT know that we were ready to take specific steps to work on advocacy for the profession. A follow-up letter was sent this month with a copy of the letter sent to the Minister of Health.



Chapter Membership

Our Chapter membership has continued to steadily grow in numbers:

- We have gained 69 members since March 2021, with a total of 391 registered members at the end of last month (March 2022).



Support from CCPA National Office Staff

We want to recognize and express appreciation for all of the support that the Chapter receives from CCPA Staff in our work for Chapter members:

- Sharing our communication newsletters with members
- Providing advice and technical support for various projects (such as registration for workshops and networking events)
- Zoom access and technical support
- Assistance with advocacy projects