



# Chronicle

College of Psychologists of British Columbia

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Volume 12 • Number 3 • Spring 2011

## Letter from the Chair

Dear Registrants,

The profession of psychology has been regulated under the *Health Professions Act* (the "Act") for over a decade, which seems an opportune time to reflect on the evolution of our profession's self-regulation during that time period and to remind ourselves that self-regulation is both a privilege and a tremendously important responsibility. The College's role is to safeguard the public through the setting of appropriate registration requirements for entry into the profession, investigation of complaints made about registrants, and to enhance practice and ensure continuing competency. Many registrants play critical roles in self-regulation by serving on a College committee or on the Board, by providing supervision to applicants or registrants, by participating as an oral examiner, or by taking the time to provide constructive comment and feedback on practice advisories. These roles are in addition to the responsibility of every registrant to read materials provided by the College and to be informed.

The College is looking forward to some important developments in the profession over the coming year as we exercise our privilege of self-regulation. It is anticipated that the proposed draft Bylaws, a topic of the last edition of the *Chronicle* and the subject of various information meetings held around the province last fall, will be presented to government in the coming months and then circulated to the profession and other stakeholders for the required notification

period. The proposal involves the creation of new classes of registration and expands the range of individuals eligible for registration by the College.

It is anticipated that the new College website will be ready for launch by April 4, 2011. The new website will offer several improvements in organization and functionality over the current website, and will have the same address. Registrants should bookmark the website and visit it regularly for news, announcements, and updates.

On recommendation from the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC), the Board has approved a final posting of the Draft Practice Advisories for registrant feedback. All registrant feedback received on the previous drafts was reviewed, resulting in further edits and refinements of the advisories. Several advisories have been heavily revised, and one new advisory on telepsychology has been added. Once enacted and published to the profession, registrants are presumed to have knowledge of the Practice Advisories and are to be guided by them in their practice of psychology.

The QAC was once again pleased with registrant response to the Continuing Competency Program audit, and the results of this process are included in this edition of the *Chronicle*. The QAC has also continued to be pleased with registrant response to the Practice Support Service, and another Practice Support Corner on the emerging field of telepsychology is offered in these pages.

The College's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on May 26, 2011. This year's Meeting will be held at the SFU Downtown Campus (Vancouver) and Royal Roads University (Victoria). Information regarding online participation is forthcoming. The announcement in this issue contains further details.

Respectfully, Michael Elterman  
*M.B.A., Ph.D., R.Psych.*  
Chair

### 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.*

Stay tuned for  
the launch of the new  
College Website

[www.collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca](http://www.collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca)

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### Update on the Practice Support Service and Special Topic – Telepsychology

Registrants are making frequent use of the Practice Support Service, which is nearing the end of its first year. The service involves a part-time senior psychologist dedicated to responding to registrants' questions regarding practice issues and ethical dilemmas. Feedback about the usefulness of the service has been positive. The service is available exclusively to registrants of the College and may be accessed as follows: write to the College via regular post or facsimile; submit an email inquiry to [practicesupport@collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca](mailto:practicesupport@collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca); or telephone the College and select option 4 on the automated telephone menu. Queries are typically responded to on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Practice Support offers registrants an opportunity to discuss ethical dilemmas and other practice concerns with someone who is familiar with both general psychology practice issues and the legislation governing the practice of psychology in BC. The Practice Support Service is not intended to replace clinical consultation with peers and does not provide legal advice or direct advice. The final decision regarding the course of action to be taken in any situation discussed with practice support is made by the registrant.

## Special Practice Support Topic: Telepsychology

The term "telepsychology" is used to refer to psychological services that are offered by a provider who is geographically distant from the service recipient. Registrants contemplating offering telepsychology services should give consideration to the following questions and should review various standards of the *Code of Conduct* as well as new Draft Practice Advisory #18.

### What precisely are you contemplating doing? Is the contemplated service within your scope of practice?

As per Standards 3.3, 3.5, 3.7, 3.11, 3.21, 3.22 and 3.25 in particular, registrants who are considering offering telepsychology services should ensure they have the appropriate education, training, and experience to offer the service competently in the modality considered and that the service falls within their scope of practice. Registrants should consider whether the form of service delivery they are considering introduces sufficient change from their normal practice to warrant additional education, training, and/or consultation.

### Is the service an augmentation to an existing face-to-face professional relationship (such as, for example, telephone or email contact during a client vacation)? Is the service intended to form the basis of a new professional relationship with a new client?

As per the *Code of Conduct* and with specific reference to Standards 3.6, 3.9, 5.1, and 8.2, registrants should consider carefully the basis upon which they are choosing to offer the contemplated service, and whether to do so is in the best interests of the clients for whom the service is intended. Strict criteria for determining the appropriateness of telepsychology services, especially when the service represents the development of a new professional relationship with a client, should be adopted. For example, registrants should ask themselves whether there is empirical support for the specific service being offered for the specific type of client in question, or whether the client might be better served by a

referral to a local service provider. Registrants might also wish to consider questions such as how they would structure the service to maximize client welfare, and whether there are potential client safety issues that require knowledge of local supports and resources to maximize client safety.

### Are there any special issues which need to be addressed in obtaining informed consent from potential clients to deliver telepsychology services?

As per the *Code of Conduct* and Standards 4.1, 4.2, 4.6, 4.8 and 6.1 in particular, registrants considering offering telepsychology services need to consider the empirical foundation for the service, special limitations and/or risks associated with the service, any possible confidentiality issues specifically associated with the service modality, and any other aspects of the service which need to be

discussed to ensure that clients are making fully informed decisions to accept the service.

### Are there jurisdictional issues of which you need to be aware? Will your existing liability insurance cover you in offering the contemplated service?

As per the *Code of Conduct* and with particular reference to Standards 3.8, 18.1, and 18.2, registrants considering offering services to clients in other jurisdictions should take note that they are responsible for determining what, if any, registration or licensing requirements may apply to them and with what laws, codes of conduct, and practice standards they would need to be in compliance. Registrants may also wish to ensure they have appropriate and sufficient liability insurance for their contemplated activities, both within and outside of British Columbia.

## Legislative Change Update: Notice to Registrants

Registrants are advised that legislative changes based on the *Adult Guardianship and Planning Statutes Amendment Act, 2007* are slated to be phased in on September 1, 2011. The changes will give adults more options when making their own plans for ensuring that their financial, health, and legal affairs are managed in accordance with their wishes in the event of their incapacitation. For example, the new incapacity planning legislation will allow adults to plan decisions about health care treatment while they are still capable. Registrants interested in learning more about these changes may consult various sources. For the *Adult Guardianship and Planning Statutes Amendment Act, 2007*, visit.

[http://www.leg.bc.ca/38th3rd/3rd\\_read/gov29-3.htm](http://www.leg.bc.ca/38th3rd/3rd_read/gov29-3.htm), <http://www.leg.bc.ca/38th4th/3rd>

[http://www.leg.bc.ca/39th1st/1st\\_read/gov13-1.htm](http://www.leg.bc.ca/39th1st/1st_read/gov13-1.htm). Readers will need to review all three of these sources to review changes related to the Act. Amendments to the Health Care Consent Regulation may be found at [http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/17\\_2011.pdf](http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/17_2011.pdf).

The Power of Attorney Regulation may be found at [http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/20\\_2011.pdf](http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/20_2011.pdf). For the Amendments to the Representation Agreement Regulation visit [http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/21\\_2011.pdf](http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/21_2011.pdf) and for the Amendments to Adult Guardianship (Abuse and Neglect) Regulation go to: [http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/13\\_2011.pdf](http://publicweb.ag.gov.bc.ca/incapacity-planning/pdf/13_2011.pdf).

# Notice Regarding Draft Practice Advisories



The College has reviewed all feedback received in response to last year's reposting of the 17 Draft Practice Advisories on the website, has made revisions, and is posting them again for a final time prior to their enactment. The original 17 Draft Practice Advisories were previously mailed to each registrant and were posted on the website from January 2008. The revised drafts were posted on the website in August 2010 and registrants were advised by postcard of their location and the opportunity to provide feedback. The currently presented drafts include a number of substantially revised advisories and one brand new advisory (#18). All of the advisories have been edited for consistency with the *Code of Conduct* and with one another. Registrants were advised of their reposting at the beginning of March 2011.

The following paragraph has been previously distributed to registrants and is on the practice advisory page on the website:

*Practice Advisories are guidelines written in reference to the [Code of Conduct](#). Once*

*published to the profession, registrants are presumed to have knowledge of Practice Advisories and it is recommended that they be guided by them in their practice of psychology. Practice Advisories may be referred to and relied upon by the Inquiry Committee or the Discipline Committee to assess the conduct of a registrant and determine if a registrant has contravened a provision of the bylaws including the [Code of Conduct](#), has engaged in professional misconduct, unprofessional conduct or unethical conduct, or is competent to practice psychology. While intended to have broad application, not all Practice Advisories apply to all work settings or circumstances.*

As previously noted, the College would appreciate that registrants offering feedback do so by making suggestions about how to improve the guideline information intended by the advisory, in addition to expressing concerns about the content in any draft. Registrants are reminded that, while advisories are guidelines, the *Code of Conduct* contains the "rules" by which registrant conduct is evaluated.

Registrants are referred, in particular, to Standard 3.8, which states that: "A registrant must maintain current knowledge of all federal and provincial statutes and regulations, and other agency and professional bylaws, codes of conduct and practice advisories that relate to the performance of psychological services." Registrants are reminded of their obligations to understand the standards which govern their conduct and to ensure the accuracy of their statements when discussing standards, codes, and guidelines. Registrants are encouraged to send feedback directly to the College using the [practicesupport@collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca](mailto:practicesupport@collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca) email address.

The College encourages all registrants to read carefully each of the Draft Practice Advisories and to send any feedback. The deadline of March 31, 2011 has been extended so that any feedback received prior to the next meeting of the Board on April 15, 2011 will be considered by the Board. **This is your final opportunity to provide feedback before the advisories are put into force by the Board.**

## Criminal Record Check - FAQs

This is the fourth year in the five-year cycle of the College's obligation to ensure each registrant completes a Criminal Record Check. Below are some frequently asked questions regarding this requirement.

*Why must I complete this requirement?*

Under the *Criminal Records Review Act (CRRRA)*, the College is required to ensure that each registrant completes a criminal records review conducted by the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP).

There have been some recent changes to the *CRRRA* including expanded definitions for conviction, the addition of six new offenses, and **the requirement that registrants have a criminal record review every five years**. Registrants should review the *CRRRA* to ensure that they are aware of the changes to the *CRRRA* that apply to their practice. Information about this requirement can be found at [www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/index.htm](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/index.htm), and at [www.leg.bc.ca/38th3rd/3rd\\_read/gov16-3.htm](http://www.leg.bc.ca/38th3rd/3rd_read/gov16-3.htm).

*Who is responsible for this requirement?*

Criminal Record Checks are run by the Criminal Records Review Program of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. This is not a College-initiated requirement.

*Where do I send my completed form(s)?*

Please send the consent form and payment to the College. Please do **not** send anything directly to the Criminal Records Review Program. The College is required by law to retain the original consent forms.

*What are the acceptable payment methods?*

The Criminal Records Review Program accepts

payment by credit card (using its authorization form) or a certified cheque or money order made out to the Minister of Finance. **Personal cheques and payment made out to the College are not accepted.**

*I am not currently practicing because I am retired/on leave/out of province. Do I still have to complete this requirement?*

Yes. All registrants, irrespective of status or whether they are practicing or non-practicing, are required **by law** to complete this requirement.

*I do not work with children. Do I still have to complete this requirement?*

Yes. All registrants, irrespective of status or who they are practicing with, are required **by law** to complete this requirement.

*I had a Criminal Record Check run recently for my employer/place of volunteer work, etc. Can I provide you with a copy of this instead?*

No. The College is required to have the Criminal Record Check run for this particular purpose and must retain original consent forms on file. The College is not permitted to accept a "re-used" Criminal Record Check.

*I have recently had a police/RCMP check run. Can I provide you with a copy of this instead?*

No. A Criminal Records Check and a police check are two different things. Accordingly, we cannot accept police checks. Please do not arrange to have a check conducted by a local police department or your local RCMP detachment as a means to fulfil this requirement, as it cannot be accepted.

*I have enhanced security clearance for my employment. Is this sufficient?*

No. This is a legislated requirement for all registrants of the College irrespective of any other background checks that they may be subject to for other reasons. This is not a College-initiated requirement and cannot be covered off with other types of security and background clearances.

*Will you accept my fax or photocopy of the forms?*

No. The College is required to retain **original** consent forms for this purpose. Accordingly, faxes and photocopies cannot be accepted.

*I've misplaced my forms. Where can I get new ones?*

The Consent to a Criminal Record Check and the Authorization for Credit Card Usage forms are both available on the College website.

*What are the consequences if I am not in compliance?*

If a registrant fails to comply with this legal requirement, the College will be required to take further action which could include imposing limits or conditions on practice or cancellation of registration.

*I go by my middle name/a shortened version of my name/a nickname, etc. Do I have to record my full legal name anyway?*

Yes. The Criminal Records Review Program requires the full legal name and any previous/alternate names of all individuals who are undergoing a Criminal Record Check.

*How much does the Criminal Record Check cost?*

The fee is \$20.00 per person.



# The Quality Assurance Committee Review of 2010 Continuing Competency Activities

The Quality Assurance Committee is nearing completion of the 2010 review process for the Continuing Competency Program. The Committee has amended the requirements for exemption from the random audit. Registrants who have been selected for a third time within a five year window are now able to decline participation for the review.

The Committee continues to be pleased with the involvement of registrants in a broad range of interesting activities that serves to keep them abreast of developments in their areas of practice, and notes that registrants are often documenting well more than the required number of hours in all of the required modalities. The Committee was pleased with the high level of cooperation from most of the registrants who were randomly chosen for the 2010 audit.

The Committee wishes to remind registrants that log sheets should include sufficient information for the Committee to determine whether the requirements of the Continuing Competency Program have been met. This includes ensuring that you have accurately identified in which category the activities you are reporting belong, and ensuring that your activities meet the requirements for that category. Please also ensure you specify: the title of any workshops or conferences attended and the sponsoring agency; whether online courses taken are CPA-/APA-approved; titles of books and journals read; and whether participants of consultation groups for Category C are licensed health, mental health, or industrial/organizational practitioners. Please note that a new logsheet, including a checklist, will be available on the new website. Registrants should use this logsheet for 2011. The new document is intended to ensure registrants are providing necessary information. Program requirements have not changed.

The Committee also wishes to remind registrants that:

- Non-CPA/APA-approved online courses may not be included in Category A (with the exception that online courses approved by an alternate professional accrediting body in the registrant's area of specialization may be a satisfactory substitute in place of CPA-/APA-approval), but may be included towards Category B requirements. This requirement is in place because the modal activity for Category A is an in-person learning activity.

The intent of permitting online courses for Category A is to accommodate the needs of rural practitioners, while at the same time being able to ensure the quality of the activities undertaken without requiring undue Committee time to evaluate unknown courses.

- Presentations or workshops given by the registrant, where the intent is to provide information or guidance to others, cannot be used to fulfill requirements in any category of the Continuing Competency Program. The preparation time for those activities may be included in Category B if the registrant learned something new and practice-enhancing, but the presentation time itself may not be included.

- Listserv activities may not be included towards Continuing Competency Program requirements in any category.

- Only Category A hours are bankable, with up to 12 hours accrued in one year over and above the 12-hour minimum requirement available to be claimed in the immediately following year only. (As an example, a registrant claiming 15 Category A hours may bank up to 3 hours for use in the immediately following year. A registrant claiming 24 or more Category A hours may bank up to 12 hours for use in the immediately following year.)

- The BCPA-sponsored Ethics Salons are properly included in Category C (Structured Interactive Activities) rather than Category A.

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

Quality Assurance is one of the means by which the College meets its mandate of public protection, by promoting and ensuring a high level of quality of registrant activities. It appears that registrants are aware of the importance of maintaining continuing competency and documenting these 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.

## Update to College Website

The College is pleased to announce that work is nearing completion on the revised and updated College website. The updates contain a number of improvements over the current website, including easier location of documents and other information and special sections for submitting certain forms (such as address changes) directly to the College through the website. The anticipated launch date is April 4, 2011. The website address will remain the same. As with all College activities and initiatives, feedback regarding the new website is welcomed.

## Professional Title

Reminder: Per Standard 9.7 of the *Code of Conduct*, registrants are reminded that:

9.7 (b) The registrant must place immediately before the professional title only the highest academic degree upon which the registrant's registration is based and where the registrant has been registered as a Psychologist on the basis of a doctoral degree, the prefix Doctor or its abbreviation Dr. may be used, but not both the degree and prefix.

*Example:*

*W. Johnson, Ph.D., R.Psych. or  
Dr. David Robson, R.Psych.*

## Staying up-to-date

It is the responsibility of every psychologist in British Columbia to read the *Chronicle*, review the College website on a regular basis, and to be aware of the information being provided by the College.

# Update on Registrant Status

Registrants who have had their registration cancelled from October 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Nanna Maria McCULLOCH

Carol Naumann McKARRIN

## New Registrants from September 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Vaune Elizabeth AINSWORTH  
Michele Janice BOWERS  
Brigitte Ann BREault  
Carol Denise DENNISTON  
Marion Helen EALS  
Carla Marguerite ELFERS  
Jennifer Aileen ENGLE  
Elizabeth Mary HARTNEY  
Marsha Ann HEDRICK

Layla JILLOOD  
Kimberly Lynn KREKLEWETZ  
Diane LANE-FEIGE  
Esther Yuet Ying LAU  
Judy Ann LE PAGE  
Tara Mamie Riddell LEARN  
Jennifer Sanda MACDONALD  
David Douglas Joseph McNEELY  
Jennifer Tammy MERVYN  
Merry MILLER

Sandra Jeanne MISH  
Nancy Elizabeth NIXON  
Sheila Mary O'BYRNE  
Pierre J. OUELLET  
Christine Dawn PHILLIPS-HING  
Jennifer Dawn PRINGLE  
Alissa Jennifer SCHACTION  
Ira WHYTE  
Kimberley Ann WOLFF

## New Registrants who were placed under Limitations on the Register – Registration Committee from October 1, 2011 to March 15, 2011

Leah BURGESS

## Registrants who moved to Limitations on the Register – Non-Practicing from October 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Judith Anne ADELMAN  
Lynda Anne ARCHER  
Robert Thomas CAREY  
Catherine COSTIGAN

Carla Marguerite ELFERS  
Richard Bruce ETCHES  
Jane Elizabeth GAYTON  
Harvey Richard GRIFFIN  
Diana HARTEL

Kenneth Martin PRKACHIN  
Chand TANEJA  
Mark Irvin VINCENT  
Erica Margaret WOODIN

## Registrants who moved to Limitations on the Register – Other from to October 1, 2011 to March 15, 2011

Cindy HANNA

## Registrants who moved to Limitations on the Register – Out of Province from September 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Philip EATON  
Marsha Ann HEDRICK

James Kevin HILL  
Angus Michael Neil MACLEAN  
Graham Stanley SAAYMAN

Dana Alexandra SINCLAIR  
Jagdish Kumari SONI

## Registrants who moved to Limitations on the Register – Retired from September 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Martin Vincent BEDARD  
Ruth COMISAROW  
Maria Dolores ESCUDERO  
Nancy Eileen MALONEY

Stephen Emanuel MARKS  
Laurel Lee Jessamyn MAYO  
Dennis Michael Joseph PAYNE  
John W. SPENCER

Runa Elizabeth STEENHUIS  
Peggy L. TALLY  
William Roy WILCOX

## Registrants whose registration has been reinstated from September 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Judith ANASTASIA

Iris CHAU

Grant Loren IVERSON

## Registrants who resigned from the College from October 1, 2010 to March 15, 2011

Maurice BLOCH  
Mary Ann Sheller CARTER  
Kathryn Louise CASS  
Richard Hart DOPSON  
Maria Laura DREW  
Robert F. FALLIS  
Robin M. FERGUSON  
Jennifer FERNS  
Naida Denise HYDE

Deborah Ann KERR  
Janet Louise LACKEY  
Julie Ann LEFEVER  
Bonita Clarice LONG  
Susan Arlene MESHWORK  
Laurain MILLS  
Margaret Ellen MOREAU  
Barbara Ann PENDERGAST  
H.C. PHILIPS  
Stanley RACHMAN

Donald Gordon RAMER  
Lynda REYNOLDS  
Leonard Milton STEIN  
Jean STEWART  
Allan R. STRAIN  
Carl Melvin STROH  
Norman Wilberforce THOMAS  
Max Reinhold UHLEMANN  
Barry Girvin YOUNG

*In Memoriam*

Robert Justin O'MAHONY

# COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, May 26, 2011

4:30 pm to 7:00 pm

### *Annual General Meeting and Continuing Competency Presentation*

“THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT AND THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY –  
WHAT EVERY PSYCHOLOGIST NEEDS TO KNOW”

The AGM will include reports on the 2010 year.

Please come to the AGM and be informed.

VANCOUVER SITE:  
SFU Harbour Centre  
555 West Hastings 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 13, 2011:

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

404 - 1755 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 4S5

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