

CHAPTERS



CANADIAN COUNSELLING AND
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION

L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE
COUNSELING ET DE PSYCHOTHÉRAPIE

The Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) has various Chapters, which represent either regional groups or special interest groups within the association.

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September 2011

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER

The BC Chapter has existed since 1976, with their first constitution having been developed and passed by the National Board in 1979. Since then, this Chapter has established a professional development speakers' series, created a student representative program that has been adopted nationwide within CCPA, and established a listserv open to all BC counsellors. They have also been working with the BC Association of Clinical Counsellors, towards the goal of forming a College of Counselling Therapists within BC.

In 2000, the BC Chapter established a student representative program to help increase student membership. Student representatives have provided liaison between their respective counselling graduate programs and the BC Chapter. The student representatives forward information about CCPA and the activities of the BC Chapter (such as Professional Development activities and Task Group updates) to their university listservs, answer questions from other students about CCPA membership, and work with other BC Chapter board members on various committees. The BC Chapter executive has benefited tremendously from this initiative as many of their student representatives have stayed on the board once they graduated from their programs of study. In 2002, the CCPA National Board also adopted the student representative program across Canada.

The Chapter established a BC-wide listserv in 2002. This initiative has resulted in an important increase in communication among BC members. The listserv has become a valuable tool to share ideas and send out notices for professional development opportunities.

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION CHAPTER

The objectives of the National Capital Region (NCR) Chapter are to provide professional development and networking opportunities for members working or studying in the counselling field. The NCR membership represents a wide variety of backgrounds and areas of specialty. In order to promote community involvement, chapter meetings are advertised at different social agencies, colleges, universities, and private practitioners' offices. The NCR executive officers hold annual presentations in French and English at the University of Ottawa and St. Paul's University, inviting counselling students to attend the monthly meetings and to become members of CCPA.

The NCR chapter holds monthly evening meetings and offers local presenters of high calibre and expertise from the counselling community. Typically, the 90-minute lecture is followed by group discussion. The topics and speakers are predetermined from the collective suggestions of the participants. Before the scheduled presenter is introduced, the attendees identify themselves and share information regarding upcoming conferences, specific employment opportunities, etc. At the same time, a binder circulates and all participants are encouraged to list the names of topics and/or experts that would be of interest to the membership at large. This process allows the Board members to plan a yearly schedule that addresses topical issues

that appeal to the professional membership. In addition to the monthly sessions, there are two full day seminars, which are held in the autumn and spring. CCPA members who participate in the seminars and monthly sessions may apply for continuing educational units (CEU's) required for maintaining certification. The chapter invites all members to attend the Annual General Meeting held in May of every year. The list of presentations scheduled for the current year is available on the CCPA website.

THE ALBERTA/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CHAPTER

The Alberta/NWT Chapter was officially formed in June 2010 with the by-laws passed by the National Board in November 2010. The Executive is made up of a President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Coordinator of Professional Development, Coordinator for Advocacy and Professional Identity, and Coordinator for Provincial Regulation as well as a number of Regional Directors: Northwest Territories, Peace River, Fort McMurray, Edmonton, Calgary and Southern Alberta.

The Alberta/NWT Chapter is a community of diverse professionals, identified as counsellors, who facilitate professional development and support as well the advancement of the profession within Alberta and the Northwest Territories. The objectives of the Chapter are to promote an identity of those in the counselling field; connect with practitioners in the counselling field in Alberta and the NWT, and to develop connections with various counselling-related associations in Alberta. The Chapter also serves as a direct link with the National Association (CCPA), in a reciprocal exchange, toward the achievement of mutually desired aims and objectives.

THE PRIVATE PRACTITIONER CHAPTER

In 2000, with the help of NCR Chapter member Jeanette Rooney-Ozols, Lorne Flavelle (a past president of CCPA) took the idea behind his organized monthly networking meetings and developed the Private Practitioner Chapter. The Chapter was officially recognized in May 2002 at the CCPA annual conference.

The chapter's mission is to support the work of CCPA members who are in, or considering being in, private practice. The Private Practitioners Chapter will endeavour to identify, anticipate, and meet the needs of private practice practitioners.

A few years ago, the Private Practitioner Chapter created a committee that worked on the issue of third party billing. They gathered documentation and provided information concerning third party billing to counsellors. However, until counselling is regulated in Canada, insurance companies have refused to meet with the association to discuss the matter and therefore the committee's work was put on hold.

THE COUNSELLOR EDUCATORS CHAPTER

The Counsellor Educators Chapter (CE) is one of the oldest chapters of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association. It was established very early in the Association's history, back when the name was still the Canadian Guidance and Counselling Association. For full membership in the CE Chapter a CCPA member must be involved in the preparation of professional counsellors at a Canadian university. This involvement can include any of the responsibilities associated with counsellor preparation such as teaching, supervision, and research. In addition, CCPA members who do not meet this membership criterion but who support the objectives of the Chapter and are interested in counsellor education may become an associate member.

The objectives of the CE Chapter are as follows:

- To provide an opportunity for counsellor educators to meet for discussion of critical issues in teaching, supervision, and research in the area of counsellor education.
- To provide a forum for ongoing information exchange and professional development (skill and knowledge based).
- To serve as a vehicle for lobbying appropriate university departments and facilities, governments and agencies to help counsellor education programs meet their primary goal of preparing professionally competent counsellors.
- To provide a means by which counsellor educators can help one another to develop and obtain research support provincially and federally through increased collaboration.
- To serve as a direct link with the National Association, thereby providing for the presentation of mutually sought aims and objectives.

These objectives are met in a number ways, including: with the CCPA managed Chapter listserv, the Chapter website, the distribution of an occasional newsletter, and the hosting of a CE Chapter workshop at each annual national CCPA conference.

PASTORAL AND SPIRITUAL CARE IN COUNSELLING CHAPTER

The Pastoral Counselling Chapter was created in 2006. Its goals are:

- To provide an opportunity for Chapter members to meet and discuss pertinent issues related to pastoral and spiritual care in counselling.
- To provide a forum for ongoing information exchange and professional development.
- To work collaboratively as Chapter and Executive members and with the Canadian Counselling Association for the greater good of mutually sought aims and objectives.
- To provide an opportunity for the Chapter members to collaborate with faith groups in open dialogue for the purpose of enhanced client care.

THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT CHAPTER

The Career Development Chapter was officially established in May 1995, at the CCPA (known then as the Canadian Guidance and Counselling Association) Annual conference, in St. John's Newfoundland, through a motion of the Board. A small but dedicated group of individuals established the Constitution and elected the first Executive.

Concerns raised at that time which set the direction of the chapter included the wide variety of practitioners whose training was diverse and from differing service mandates, no organization to monitor or influence professional development needs of this group, the quality of service delivery, training standards, and ethics.

Seven objectives were established in the chapter Constitution to support counsellors working in the field regardless of their training or background, or their specific work functions. The chapter objectives are:

- To promote the practice of career development in Canada
- To provide a forum for discussion of issues important to the field of career development
- To provide professional development in the area of career development
- To provide a forum for mentoring practitioners, researchers, and policy makers new to the field of career development
- To provide a means by which practitioners, researchers, and policy makers working in the areas of career development can assist one another in developing new programs, methods, or research proposals pertinent to career development
- To serve, with full collaboration and consultation with (CCPA), as a means to interact with government departments and / or groups for the purpose of promoting career development
- To serve as a link with CCPA thereby providing for the presentation of mutually sought aims and objectives.

The Chapter has set up an award to honour Dr. Vance Peavy. The award is for a student studying in the field of career development.

In meeting some of the original goals the chapter saw the development of its own web page begin in September 1998, the CDC Bulletin on line 2001, and the establishment of its own listserv through CCPA in 2005.

The Career Development Chapter, and its members, continues to strive to meet the original goals and objectives set in its constitution and mandate. The primary function of the chapter is to support career development practitioners in the field, to provide materials for quality service for consumers, to create and recognize new initiatives in the field. The chapter has proven its leadership in the development of the standards and initiatives to benefit the field of career development practice in Canada today.

SCHOOL COUNSELLORS CHAPTER

The CCPA School Counsellors Chapter was founded in 2000. The Chapter communicates with its' membership through newsletters and holds their Annual General Meetings in conjunction with CCPA's National Conference in May.

In 2003, a Chapter logo was developed which is based on the philosophy in their constitution, draws on the beliefs that together we can take flight, there is solidarity in our diversity and that as an interactive member of CCPA we have a stronger national presence and voice.

The Chapter objectives are:

- To provide an opportunity for school counsellors to meet for discussion of critical issues in the area of school counselling.
- To provide a forum for ongoing information exchange and professional development (skill and knowledge based).
- To serve as a vehicle for lobbying appropriate university departments and faculties, governments and agencies to help school counselling programs meet their primary goal of preparing professionally competent school counsellors.
- To provide a means by which school counsellors can help one another to develop and obtain research support provincially and federally through increased collaboration.
- To serve as a direct link with the National Association, thereby providing for the presentation of mutually sought aims and objectives.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CHAPTER

The mission of the Counsellors for Social Justice Chapter of CCPA is to advocate for social justice and social change through the role of the professional counsellor. The Chapter promotes equity and human rights for individuals and societies through action, education, training, consciousness-raising, advocacy, and conscientious objection. The Chapter is dedicated to working across borders, boundaries, professional disciplines, and differences in the pursuit of peace and wellness for all.

As part of the Chapter's "Counsellors Without Borders" initiative, the Chapter created a wiki website where professional counsellors can search for volunteer opportunities, find social justice resources and exchange information, comments and stories from the field.

The Chapter has a long list of objectives, some of which include raising critical consciousness of counsellors and psychotherapists regarding social, structural, systemic, eco-justice, global equity issues, and human rights, promoting education and skills training as well as support for members and encouraging non- partisan advocacy that promotes public, organizational and legislative action related to social justice.

ABORIGINAL CIRCLE CHAPTER

The Aboriginal Circle Chapter goal is to raise awareness of the issues that affect Indigenous counsellors, clients, families and communities. The Chapter promotes educational opportunities for CCPA members who wish to work with Indigenous communities while creating a network for Indigenous counselors and non-Indigenous counselors who work with Indigenous clients, families and communities. The Chapter works to promote counselling as a field of choice for Indigenous peoples and helps to provide an Indigenous voice within the Canadian Counselling Association.

The Aboriginal Circle Chapter established an E-Group which serves as a dialogue forum for two-way communication about Chapter business and events. It is also used for discussing topics, issues and concerns relating to Aboriginal counsellors or clients -- as well as providing a webpage where useful relevant documents provided by members (articles, theses, event announcements, etc) can be viewed online or downloaded.