

In Brief

The Association of Psychologists of Nova Scotia (APNS) is a voluntary professional organization established in 1965 to represent psychology in Nova Scotia. APNS is the only provincial association devoted to representing the needs of psychology professionals in the province. APNS promotes psychology as a profession, as a science, and as a means of promoting human welfare.

- ◆ **APNS advocates for psychology** through representations to government, employers and the public at large.
- ◆ **APNS advocates for the public** through representations to government and employers on matters affecting public mental health and wellness.
- ◆ **APNS educates** by organizing and facilitating workshops and conferences.
- ◆ **APNS builds** psychological collegiality by fostering a sense of community among all who identify with psychology.



Professional Development

APNS fosters professional development through continuing education, professional guidelines, through our journal, *The Nova Scotia Psychologist*, and our website.

- ◆ **Continuing education** is offered through professional workshops, conferences and other activities organized, sponsored and advertised by APNS.
- ◆ **Professional guidelines** are established and published by APNS. These include schedules for fees and services, periodic statements of policy, and guidelines for the training and hiring of psychologists. APNS supports and promotes national Psychology guidelines such as the CPA Code of Ethics, Standards of Professional Conduct, and Standards for Providers of Psychological Services.
- ◆ **The Nova Scotia Psychologist**, published three times a year, is free to Association and Student Members. Readers are provided with updates on APNS activities, feature articles of psychological interest, book and test reviews, and announcements of continuing education and employment opportunities.
- ◆ **The Website** has a member-only section with a Forum for the exchange of information and a searchable Private Practice Directory.

In the Public Forum

APNS monitors contemporary social issues and speaks out in the interest of the public good. Briefs and position statements have addressed on-going matters such as the administration and interpretation of psychological tests, access to psychological services, the establishment of a university Ph.D. program in clinical psychology, hiring psychologists within school boards, the role of psychologists in interdisciplinary primary healthcare, Homes for Special Care, input into the Nova Scotia *Mental Health Act*, child care, and human rights.

APNS was instrumental in obtaining exemption of health-care psychological services from the GST. APNS submits briefs regarding proposed legislation that may have impact on the practice of psychology. APNS also makes formal presentations to government commissions, such as the Nova Scotia Royal Commission on Health Care.

The Private Practice Directory provides a listing of psychological services in Nova Scotia for the use of the public and healthcare providers.

The Psychologists' Act

APNS was pivotal in promoting passage of *The Psychologists' Act* in 1982 that created the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology (NSBEP) which administers the *Act*. APNS coordinates nominations and appointments of NSBEP members.

Structure

The wide-ranging activities of APNS are carried out by an elected Executive Committee and a diverse group of committees and task forces.

The **committees** include:

- ◆ APA
- ◆ Advocacy
- ◆ Archives
- ◆ Communications
- ◆ Continuing Education
- ◆ Elections
- ◆ Membership
- ◆ Post Trauma Services
- ◆ School

APNS is affiliated with the Council of Provincial Associations of Psychology (CPAP), has regular liaison with the Canadian Psychological Association, and attends the Canadian Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology Annual General Meeting and semi-annual CPAP meetings.

APNS is also an affiliate member of the American Psychological Association.



How You Can Get Involved

Your colleagues in APNS invite you to join them in advancing psychology as a profession, as a science, and as a means of promoting human welfare.

Members hold a Doctoral or Master's degree in psychology. Student Members are enrolled in a full-time graduate program in psychology.

Your membership will ensure the continuing influence of the Association in promoting your interests and professional identity.

Application forms can be obtained from:

**Association of Psychologists
of Nova Scotia
Ste 417, 1657 Barrington St
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2A1**

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Visit the APNS website at:
www.apns.ca



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