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Vol. 18• N° 2
August 2006

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Maureen Gorman, PhD
APNS President

In this first newsletter of my occupancy of the President's Chair of the APNS Executive, I am happy to introduce myself to those who do not know me and to share with all of you an overview of the hard work the executive has been up to recently. I also want to share with you some of the goals I have been thinking about in serving on the APNS executive.

While I had wondered what I could do to contribute uniquely (or even competently!) in this office, my "turn" to work for the continuing betterment of the psychologists within the province and to represent Psychology in Nova Scotia provincially, nationally and internationally is very ably supported by the executive and committee members of the association. Of course, the excellent work that Susan Marsh provides us as office manager and her overall dedication to her busy

but often lonely post at the APNS office must not be forgotten.

The issues that we have addressed recently exemplify and validate the need for such an organization as APNS. Kevin Rice, Past President, completed work with the Federal Primary Health Care Initiatives Project and he continues to successfully lead the discussion with Blue Cross Medavie concerning its confidentiality and file ownership clauses (see update page 8); Debra Garland, Secretary, and Joanne Doran, Student Representative, led the feedback piece to NSBEP regarding the Custody and Access Guidelines they released recently (see update page 11).

Current work is being done on issues related to professional standards including non-registered users of restricted psychological tests, legal requests for files and raw data, anomalies in fees payable (e.g., yes to M.A., no to M.Sc.), as well as the issue of fee caps from government sources. I am happy to report that the first two of these items will involve

Continued on page 2

President's Report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (continued from page 1)

collaboration with NSBEP in addressing these issues. I will take this opportunity to request that anyone wishing to have input into these issues can contact me at the APNS office (902-422-9183).

Other exciting events involve several changes in committees and APA representation (see next page) such as Pat O'Neill's election to the APA Council of Representatives, effective January, 2007. The down side to this news is that David Pilon no longer holds that position and so I would like to thank David for all of his work, time and effort with APA bringing us all of the latest "States-side" psychology news. (Just to clarify, the election was for APA members of this region.)

Lynne Robinson has also stepped down from her position as APA Public Education Coordinator and from the APNS Advocacy committee, because of time limitations. I want to thank Lynne for her work, time and efforts as well and to let her and David know that APNS greatly appreciates their contribution to the profession of psychology.

Richard Braha has completed his term as APNS rep to the Council of Provincial Associations in Psychology (CPAP) and will do so in December 2006 from the Canadian Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology (CRHSPP). The CPAP rep is a member of the Executive, so I am currently replacing Richard. The CRHSPP appointment is being reviewed and will be announced this fall. Committee membership drives are ongoing so please consider how you may contribute to the Association by this means.

A very exciting development and a goal I would like to see achieved this year corresponds to a need to offer the members a greater voice in their area of practice; this goal is the formal adoption of the concept of interest groups within the APNS

organization. An interest group is simply larger than a committee can be and represents various sub-specialties but with a common interest. For example, those of us who work with older clients may form a geropsychology interest group, but may actually work in several fields, including neuropsychology, clinical -- private practice and public sectors, long term care. As such, a large interest group works most efficiently having a committee to help with the flow of information between the Executive and its members as well as having members sit on several inter-related APNS committees (Advocacy, Continuing Education are obvious ones). More frequent meetings with the Executive (currently, three yearly ones), typically represented by the chair of the committee, will be necessary to facilitate the ongoing work of the APNS. The role of interest groups in relation to APNS committees and executive, is to act in an advisory capacity (e.g., to identify the training needs of the group) and to help in the carrying out of the actual event or activity and by active participation on the APNS committees. As this concept is more fully developed, members will be informed and invited to join in (and help form) specific interest groups.

Another accomplishment I am pleased to announce is the release of the Private Practice Directory for 2006-2007. This year's Directory contains information on 75 psychologists and can be accessed on the web site at

www.apns.ca/findapsych.html. A huge thanks to Susan for her efforts and creativity in producing this APNS product. Susan reports receiving several calls and emails weekly asking how to find psychologists and this Directory has helped make her responses both informative and user friendly.

APNS needs to have some work start immediately on the February Psychology Month activities and

Continued on page 3

APA ELECTION NEWS

The term of our current American Psychological Association representative on the Council of Representatives, Dr. David Pilon, will expire in December of 2006.

In February APNS solicited nominations from our membership for the position. We received two expressions of interest which were submitted to APA. APA held its election in April whereby ballots were sent to all APA members in Nova Scotia.

We are pleased to announce that as a result of that process, Dr. Patrick O'Neill has been elected to the Council. Dr. O'Neill will begin his term in January 2007. The term of office for the Council Representative is three years, from January 2007 to December 2009.

Responsibilities of the Council Rep are as follows:

- Represent APNS at APA Council meetings.
- Maintain full membership in both organizations
- Provide regular reports to the APNS Executive and membership about APA Council activities.
- Attend the two annual APA Council meetings.

Congratulations to Dr. O'Neill on his successful election. Also a sincere thank you to Dr. David Pilon for the many years he has spent as Council Rep and for all his work in representing APNS so well.

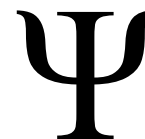
David continues as our Federal Advocacy Representative to APA.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (continued from page 2)

as such, we need volunteers to organize some of the events we really want to see continue, to increase awareness of what psychologists do and of what the profession offers to the public and to each other.

My newsletter piece also cannot end without asking "who out there is willing to join a great group of committed professionals to carry on the work of the executive?" i.e., who will be President next year? Call me; my work number is 473-8617.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Gorman, Ph.D., Registered Psychologist



GERALD GORDON AND BRIAN DUFTON MEMORIAL AWARD WINNERS

At the Annual General Meeting in May, APNS presented the Gerald Gordon Memorial Prize to an undergraduate Psychology student and the Brian Dufton Memorial Prize to a graduate Psychology student.

The Gerald Gordon Memorial Prize was established in 1987 to recognize the considerable contribution that Dr. Gerald Gordon made to APNS as well as to the creation of the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology. This award reflects his belief in the importance of encouraging promising students to consider a career in psychology. The recipient of the award received a \$250.00 award toward books in the student's area of interest, as well as a one-year student membership to APNS.

The Gerald Gordon Prize was awarded to Sean MacKinnon of Cape Breton University. Sean was chosen from a pool of very worthy nominees with excellent qualities, but Sean stood out for his diversity and breath of interests. Aside from being a top student who is involved in the university community, he is admired and well-respected throughout the Psychology Department at the University. He is also a poet and a playwright. Sean was extremely appreciative to be the recipient of the Gerald Gordon Undergraduate Award and wanted me to convey his thanks. I suspect we will be hearing from him in the future as he plans on becoming a member of the community of psychologists here in Nova Scotia.

This year it was with pleasure that we announced the addition of a graduate award that will be presented annually in memory of Dr. Brian Dufton. Among his many accomplishments as a clinician, author/reviewer and instructor, Dr. Dufton's sense of humor, love of music and spirituality touched many. The recipient of the award will receive \$500.00 to help support the student's education, as well as a one-year membership to APNS.

The Brian Dufton Graduate Award was awarded to Melissa McGonnell. Melissa has an outstanding academic record, holding four degrees. She is currently completing her second year of the Ph.D. Clinical Psychology program at Dalhousie University. Melissa taught for 18 years before she decided to go back to school. She has been an active contributor to the field of psychology and has been described as a dedicated clinician, scholar and teacher. Her future goals include working as an academic and clinician as part of a multi-disciplinary team, with a focus on working with adolescents and young adults.

Thanks to all the universities for their participation in these Awards..

APA NEWS

APNS participated at the APA Council of Representatives Meeting in New Orleans, August 9 -13, 2006. APA Council is the governing body of the American Psychological Association and is comprised of all constituent groups within APA (Divisions, States and Affiliated Canadian Provinces). All activity, policy and change within APA, fiduciary or otherwise require Council's consent.

President Gerry Koocher, chaired his second and final Council meeting of 2006. At a broad association level, APA is in good health with respect to membership, finances and activities. APA ended 2005 with its largest surplus in history (\$4,800,000). Member dues represent only 14% of total revenues. Publication revenues are projected to account for 68% of 2007 revenues in spite of significant decreases in print publications in favor of electronic publications. The 2007 preliminary budget of \$104,891,800 was passed with an expected surplus of \$147,300. APA recently published its first ever *Dictionary of Psychology* which is anticipated to achieve significant sales. A major overhaul of APA's website is about to commence with a goal of integrating the 37 distinct websites within apa.org.

With respect to educational agenda items, Council passed a comprehensive set of guidelines for the undergraduate psychology major. Recognition of Psychoanalysis in Psychology as a specialty in professional psychology was renewed. Several accreditation items came before Council, including recommendations made at the recent accreditation summit which reviewed the structure and composition of the Committee on Accreditation. The Committee will undergo a name change to become the Commission on Accreditation. The review process will be expanded to strengthen the principle of peer review of congruent programs and there will be an

annual assembly of accreditation communities of interest to allow regular input from stakeholders and to provide further training for site visitors. The scope of accreditation guidelines was also expanded to include "other developed practice areas" to accommodate emerging areas for future accreditation.

Of most relevance to the Canadian educational landscape, Council debated the APA Committee on Accreditation's proposal to discontinue accrediting training programs in Canada. CPA and much of organized psychology in Canada were in support of the proposed change and confident about CPA's history of accreditation practice. Furthermore, the APA Board of Directors and Board of Educational Affairs supported the proposed change. After significant debate on Council floor, ultimately concerns about mobility of graduates of CPA-accredited programs wishing to relocate to the US and experiencing potential licensing challenges led the item to be referred back to the APA Committee on Accreditation. Given that both CPA and APA Accreditation Committees have debated the merits of concurrent accreditation for many years (the original 1989 memorandum of understanding on accreditation between APA and CPA had no sunset mechanism), it is unclear as to what will happen next with this bilateral issue. Stay tuned...!

In terms of public interest initiatives Council adopted the report of APA's Task Force on Impact of Elementary and Secondary Schools' Zero Tolerance Policies around bullying, school violence and disruptive behaviour. Given the recent media interest in the role of US military psychologists' participation in terrorist interrogations, it was timely to have US Surgeon General of the Army, Dr. Kevin Kiley come and

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APA NEWS Continued from page 5

address Council. Dr. Kiley outlined the practice of the 125 clinical psychologists on active duty in the US Army, of which 15 to 20 are deployed each year in Iraq or Afghanistan. Dr. Kiley confirmed that psychologists participate on behavioural science consultation teams as part of detainee interrogations although they are not forced to do so if they choose not to. Dr. Kiley also confirmed that the Army does not condone torture or abuse of prisoners nor use psychological methods to intimidate/coerce prisoners. (Indeed he reported that interrogators derive more information from detainees through establishing rapport with them than through intimidation!) Vis-à-vis ethical issues about psychologist's role in interrogations, Council word-smithed a resolution against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. The resolution directly asserts that psychologists contribute to effective interrogations but always guided by the principle of doing no harm.

With respect to other issues, Council reauthorized the public education campaign's annual budget of

\$1,000,000 for an additional three years through to 2009. Council adopted the report of the Working Group on Psychotropic Medications for Children and Adolescents. Council filed the final report of the Task Force on Socio-economic Status and further approved the establishment of a three year ad-hoc Committee on Socio-economic Status.

Finally this report will be the last compiled by Dr. David Pilon as APNS representative to APA Council. After several years as Liaison Observer to Council, and then Council Rep, David will be succeeded by Dr. Patrick O'Neill as APNS Rep to APA Council commencing January 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

The APA Committee

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The CE Committee's main function is to identify topics and presenters who can provide high quality workshops for psychologists. Committee members have received suggestions from members and have been developing a schedule of workshops for the next two years. Workshops can vary in size, level of previous knowledge of the audience, targeted population and specificity of content. Our goal is to offer several workshops a year that would span a broad range of interests.

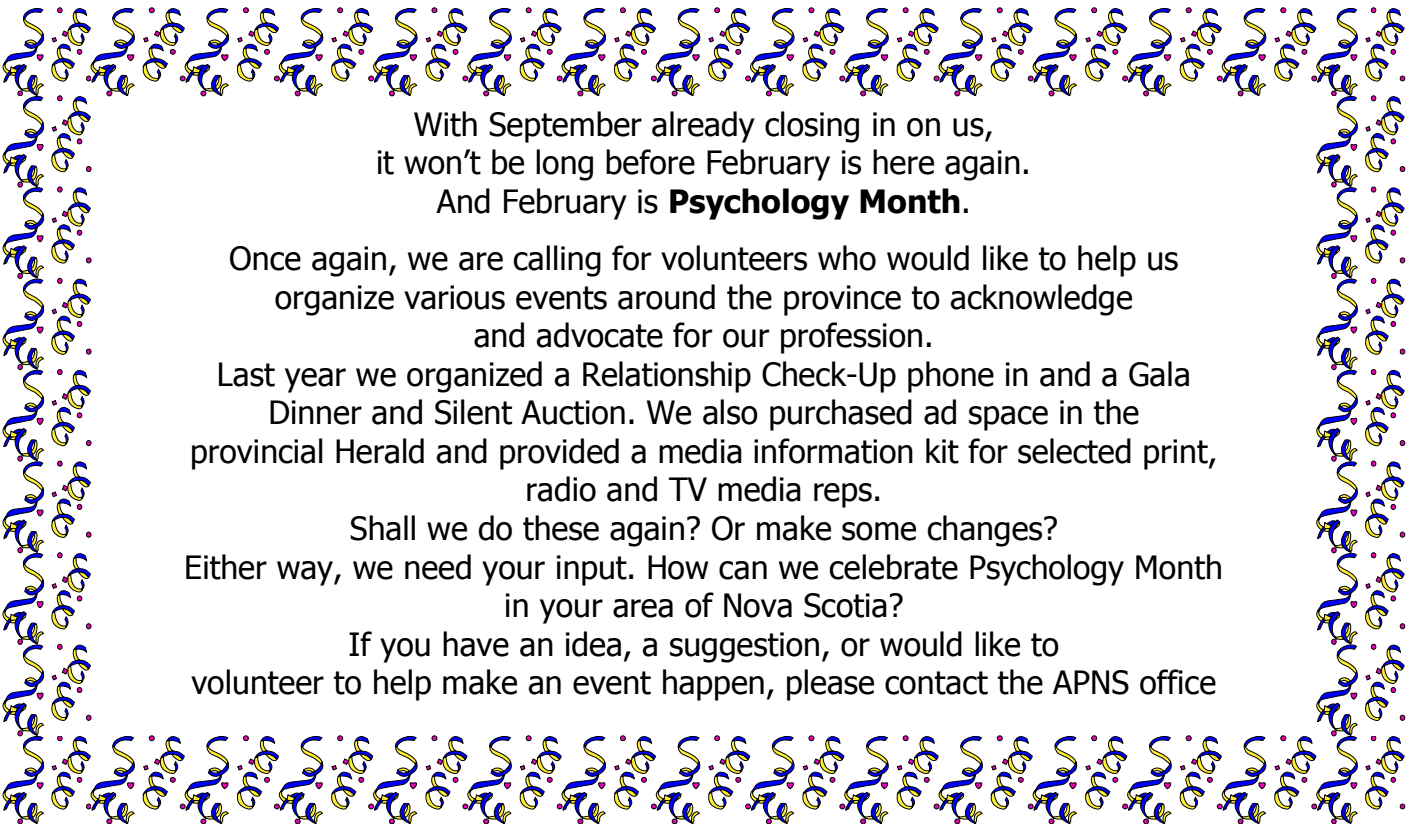
In May, we hosted a very successful workshop with Zindel Segal who presented on Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy for Depression. Upcoming workshops are being planned, with a spring workshop on depression in later life and an I/O workshop, possibly during Psychology Month.

We are also in the planning stages of partnering with CRHSPP for two workshops: one on accounting taxation and one on Occupational Mental Health Service Provider roles for psychologists. These are tentatively slated for February 2007 and October 2007, respectively.

The CE Committee was also asked to prepare a proposal for the APNS Executive regarding required CE credits. This has been done and will be presented to the Executive. If it is approved, it will then be presented at a joint APNS/NSBEP meeting for consideration.

We have received several ideas for workshops from members that we are following up on. We welcome your suggestions.

Carolyn A Humphreys, Ph.D.,
Chair, CE Committee



With September already closing in on us,
it won't be long before February is here again.
And February is **Psychology Month**.

Once again, we are calling for volunteers who would like to help us organize various events around the province to acknowledge and advocate for our profession.

Last year we organized a Relationship Check-Up phone in and a Gala Dinner and Silent Auction. We also purchased ad space in the provincial Herald and provided a media information kit for selected print, radio and TV media reps.

Shall we do these again? Or make some changes?
Either way, we need your input. How can we celebrate Psychology Month in your area of Nova Scotia?

If you have an idea, a suggestion, or would like to volunteer to help make an event happen, please contact the APNS office

Reports

UPDATE ON MEDAVIE BLUE CROSS

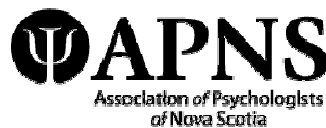
Please be advised that the Executive has met with senior management from Medavie Blue Cross regarding our “Alert” email to the APNS membership in January concerning a “Service Level Agreement” related to the provision of psychological services to Short- and Long-term Disability clients.

This document was distributed to Psychologists across the province in December of 2005 and serious concerns were raised by a number of APNS members regarding issues such as confidentiality and ownership of file information.

The Executive is pleased to report that following recent discussions with Medavie Blue Cross, they have acknowledged our concerns and, as a result, made the necessary revisions to their Provider Agreement forms.

We have been informed that Medavie Blue Cross plans to resend the Agreement to Nova Scotia Psychologists in the near future. Should there be further issues with these Provider Agreements, the Executive would encourage member Psychologists to bring them to our attention.

APNS Executive



It is time to renew your membership.

The APNS membership years runs from September 1 to August 31.

Enclosed with this mailing is a membership renewal form.

***Please complete the form and return it to the APNS office by
September 30, 2006***

***The APNS member renewal form is also available on our website at:
<http://www/apns.ca/membership.html>***

CRHSPP UPDATE **Richard Braha, Ph.D., R.Psych.****Update from the Canadian Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology**

The Canadian Register moved to a new governance structure earlier this year. CRHSPP Council approved a series of By Law changes at its AGM held in Ottawa last January 2006 and the changes subsequently received federal Ministerial. The new By Laws mean changes to how the Board of Directors is constituted and to the eligibility criteria for Directors. The new Board will be smaller (approximately one-third the size of the prior Council) and will be comprised of five registrant members and two public members. CRHSPP Registrants now may nominate registrant psychologists for election to the Board. In the past, only corporate members (i.e., the provincial and territorial psychology associations and regulatory bodies) could nominate individuals to the Board. Corporate members may continue to nominate registrant psychologists for election to the Board. Under the new By Laws, eligible registrant psychologists who are not association or regulatory representatives now may be elected to the Board. The changes are expected to reduce meeting costs, increase Registrant participation and the Board's ability to implement new initiatives in a timely manner.

Earlier this summer, CRHSPP's first open "Call for Nominations" for Directors was sent to all Registrants and corporate members.

History and purpose

The Canadian Register was created and federally incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1985. The Constitution was ratified by the associations and/or regulatory bodies of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, North West Territories, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec and Saskatchewan as well as by the Canadian Psycho-

logical Association. These organizations remain the member bodies of the Canadian Register.

The organization's purpose remains the same, that is: to identify health service providers in psychology who meet educational and training standards consistent with standards of practice acceptable to the profession; and to promote professional standards by encouraging continuing education and research.

The deliverables

The organization:

1. publishes a register of health service psychologists to assist health service organizations, third party payers, the general public and other persons or groups identify and locate health service providers in psychology,
2. encourages and promotes programs of continuing education in the areas of psychological health services,
3. maintains close relationships with the Council of Provincial Associations of Psychologists, the Canadian Psychological Association, the provincial or territorial psychological associations and regulatory organizations, and appropriate international psychological organizations, and supports the goals and objects of such bodies and organizations,
4. conducts research, as needed, on issues related to the delivery of health services by psychologists and,
5. promotes and protects the public's access to qualified health service providers in psychology.

The benefits

A recent survey of registrants indicated that psychologists remain registrants in order to be recognized as qualified health service providers and to benefit from and support CRHSPP's advocacy and marketing activities.

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CRHSPP UPDATE (continued from page 9)

The Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) identifies the CRHSPP credential as the primary basis for determining the psychological health services exemption from the GST. Many view this as an “insurance” benefit of being a CRHSPP Registrant.

The Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for psychology, signed by all the provincial and territorial regulatory bodies, identified the CRHSPP credential as one of its fast-track mechanisms that could help a psychologist move to another provincial or territorial jurisdiction.

Among past continuing education activities were workshops offered across the country addressing cardio-vascular health and most recently, empiri-

cally supported interventions. Two current initiatives to be offered in 2006-07, including Nova Scotia in partnership with APNS, will focus on accounting and taxation issues related to the practice of psychologists as well as a workshop to enable health service psychologists to develop a new role as business health advisors.

All eligible psychologists are encouraged to apply to join the Canadian Register. Application information is available on the CRHSPP website at www.crhspp.ca.

Richard Braha is a Fellow and past President of APNS. He is currently a Director of the Canadian Register of Health Services Providers in Psychology.

Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards 2007 Application Process And Timeline

Application forms are available on the CN Centre for Occupational Health and Safety website www.smu.ca/CN/ and on the APNS website <http://www.apns.ca/events.html>. Hardcopies can also be obtained through mail by contacting Natasha Wentzell at (902) 491-6253.

- 1) Application forms **due OCTOBER 15TH 2006**
- 2) October 15th-November 1st Committee review of applications
- 3) Mid November organizations will be notified if they are selected for a full review.
 - a. These selected organizations will then complete the Organizational Practices Questionnaire
 - b. Survey's will also be distributed to a sample of employees
 - c. Site visits will be scheduled with these top organizations
- 4) January 2007 decisions will be made and organizations will be notified
- 5) February 2007 Awards ceremony

If you have any questions please contact:

Natasha Wentzell, CN Centre for Occupational Health and Safety
Phone # (902) 491-6253 Email: cnochs@smu.ca

NEW CUSTODY ACCESS GUIDELINES

The Nova Scotia Board of Examiners (NSBEP) has recently developed and is implementing a standardized format and formal set of guidelines for psychologists who practice in this area. The guidelines offer standardization in practice, service delivery, and outcome as it relates to a report; the purpose is... “to promote consistent, ethical practice in the area of child custody evaluations”.

The guidelines do not replace responsibility of the psychologist for practice within the code of Ethics or prevent psychologists from exercising individual clinical judgement. The NSBEP reviewed guidelines from other provincial regulatory bodies as well as other associations, in producing the guidelines for psychologists in practice in Nova Scotia. While developing the guidelines, the NSBEP requested the executive of APNS review the draft and seek input from psychologists practicing in this area; the responses were forwarded to

the NSBEP and then amended to the guidelines.

As a practitioner in the area of custody evaluations, the development and implementation of specific standards of practice provides psychologists with a framework from which to proceed.

This is a litigious area of practice and clearly defined standards are beneficial to clients and psychologists; it is further evidence of the professional practice of psychologists in general and serves as an example to other professions working in this area.

The guidelines would hopefully aid in the reduction of complaints against psychologists conducting these assessments, or perhaps at the least, aid in the evaluation of ethical and professional conduct and complaint dismissal.



visit the apns website for:

- Member News
- Events & Workshops
- Job Postings
- Private Practice Listings
- Past Newsletters
- APNS Documents
- Post-Trauma Services
- ...and more to come!

The graphic features a large, semi-transparent watermark of the text 'APNS.CA' and 'WWW.APNS.CA' in the background.

Reports

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Treasurer's Report and 2006-2007 Budget [As presented at APNS' Annual General Meeting]

05 May 2006

As of April 1, 2006 total liabilities and equities equaled \$69, 520.26. On April 1, 2005 total liabilities and equities equaled \$53, 021.42. This includes a GIC for 30, 563.05

Points of Interest

- Still working towards accumulating approximately \$100,000 in reserve funding to operate the Association for 1 year should it be dissolved. Last year we budgeted for \$2000 to be forwarded, we are hoping we can do better than that.
- Membership is increasing steadily, thus the increase in projected revenue for next year.
- We still have the \$900 CPAP advocacy grant.
- Note increased projected revenue from CE Workshops
- Susan has kept office expenses down by trying to double up on mail outs whenever she can. Rent and mail outs are biggest office costs.
- Bank/finance charges have increased nearly \$1000 as a result of credit card fees.
- We doubled our insurance to 2 million liability and \$30,000 for contents with only a small increase in costs.

- Total administration costs have risen slightly.
- We increased salary cost by \$5000, we might be taking advantage of government funding for a student and/or increased hours for Susan if necessary with the extra workshops we are putting on. We are hoping to focus more energy on increasing our revenues.
- Big increase in total member services reflects 2 workshops mentioned on revenue side.
- Psychology Month costs us more than we budgeted for (\$11,000 vs \$5000), we have budgeted \$10,000 for next February.
- Budgeted surplus for this year was \$2510 actual was \$16, 318. This was a result of event money and increased membership.

Submitted by:
Shaun Newsome, PhD, R. Psych.
APNS Treasurer

The APNS financial reports presented at the Annual General Meeting follow on the next two pages. These include the final Financials for the year ending March 31, 2006 plus the Budget for the coming year, April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

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FINANCIAL REPORTS 2006

	ACTUALS Mar 31 2006	BUDGET 2006-2007
INCOME		
Membership Fees	62,070.00	60,000.00
Interest Earned	572.52	500.00
CE	12,300.00	30,000.00
Publications	920.50	0.00
	0.00	2,000.00
	10,610.00	8,000.00
Miscellaneous Income	3,683.25	5,000.00
	260.00	400.00
TOTAL INCOME	90,416.27	105,900.00
EXPENSES		
<i>Administration</i>		
AGM	0.00	75.00
	738.68	75.00
Office Expenses	2,461.99	500.00
Office Supplies	0.00	1,000.00
Office Copying / Printing	0.00	1,500.00
Executive Travel	1,342.81	1,000.00
Membership	0.00	0.00
Office Rent	4,602.33	4,600.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	500.00
Postage/Delivery	3,989.61	4,000.00
Telecommunications	1,283.91	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	200.00
Total Administrative	14,419.33	14,450.00
<i>Financial</i>		
	621.00	750.00
	0.00	0.00
	1,444.39	2,000.00
Total Financial	2,065.39	2,750.00
<i>Licenses, Insurance & Fees</i>		
	1,713.00	1,800.00
	25.00	25.00
Total Licenses, Insurance & Fees	1,738.00	1,825.00
<i>Staffing</i>		
	29,847.41	35,000.00
	0.00	0.00
Total Staffing	29,847.41	35,000.00

Reports

FINANCIAL REPORTS 2006

	ACTUALS Mar 31 2006	BUDGET 2006-2007	
EXPENSES (continued from page 13)			
<i>Committees/Representatives</i>			
Advocacy	0.00	200.00	
APA Rep/SLC Exp	516.88	550.00	
APA Membership	0.00	75.00	
CPAP/CRHSPP	1,768.62	400.00	
CPAP/CRHSPP membership	0.00	1,800.00	
CE	0.00	200.00	
Convention	0.00	0.00	
Elections	0.00	200.00	
Executive	136.58	300.00	
Post-Trauma	0.00	200.00	
Membership	0.00	200.00	
BOPN	0.00	250.00	
Public Education	0.00	00.00	
Archivist	0.00	00.00	
School Psychology	676.20	200.00	
NSP Editorial	0.00	200.00	
Total Committees/Reps	3,098.28	4,775.00	
<i>Awards/Grants</i>			
Benev/Member Honors	300.00	250.00	
President's Award	0.00	200.00	
Scholarship (Gordon & Dufton)	0.00	750.00	
Total Awards/Grants	300.00	1,200.00	
<i>Member Services</i>			
Continuing Education	CE Workshop	4,282.72	20,000.00
	School Workshop	0.00	2,000.00
Advocacy	Advocacy Projects	0.00	900.00
	Psychology Month	10,781.36	10,000.00
Publications	NS Psychologist	2,454.02	2,000.00
	Private Practice Directory	2,498.40	2,500.00
Total Member Services		20,016.50	37,400.00
<i>Promotions</i>			
	Internet site	1,281.25	250.00
	Advertising	1,331.70	800.00
	Open House	0.00	200.00
Total Promotions		2,612.95	1,250.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	74,097.86	98,650.00	
SURPLUS <Deficit>	16,318.41	7,250.00	
FORWARD TO RESERVE FUND		5,000.00	

COLLEAGUES REMEMBER GWEN STERNS

Almost a year ago, the Association was saddened and shocked to hear of Gwen Sterns death. As is usual when a psychologist we know dies, we printed her obituary in the APNS newsletter. We hoped at the time to include a more personal acknowledgement of Gwen's value to the Nova Scotia psychological community but it could not be ready for the newsletter publishing deadline.



So here now, close to the first anniversary of Gwen's death is that acknowledgement in the form of remembrances from some of her colleagues and her friends

Abiding memories of Gwen's professional contributions over the years come from the hearts of Murray Schwartz, Lynn Ross, Jennifer Hendrick, Gordon Butler, and Jeannette McGlone, colleagues from the old Victoria General Hospital and Halifax Infirmary.

Lynn Ross remembers with particular fondness Gwen's leadership role in the formation of the V.G. Psychology Department and their 30-year professional and personal relationship- "I was the sole psychologist employed at the V.G. Hospital when Gwen arrived from McGill University in the early 1970s. We immediately began working in a cooperative venture to provide in-and-out-patient consultation services throughout the hospital. At the time, psychological services were subsumed under the Division of Psychiatry. Gwen was held in the highest esteem by the psychiatrists and other clinicians with whom we worked, and quickly achieved the reputation of being an excellent diagnostician. In time, and due in no small measure to Gwen's efforts, the psychiatric powers-that-be were able to be convinced that it was in the hospital's best interest that psychology be made a separate discipline at the V.G.H... We were instrumental in hiring Dr. Brian Doan as the first Director of the V.G. Psychology Dept., which became a behavioral medicine department with both clinical health psychology and clinical neuropsychology streams. As the department grew, Gwen proved to be the epitome of collegiality, and staff members frequently sought her wise counsel. Gwen stood out in her ability to

quickly assimilate the facts of a case and pull together an astute formulation, often raising important points neglected by others...Gwen also worked tirelessly for a number of organizations over the years, including those in the psychology community (APNS; CPA), as well as charities (Brain Injury Association of Nova Scotia; Crohn's and Colitis Foundation). Gwen's advocacy role on behalf of brain injury survivors, particularly through presentations to professionals (e.g. Dal CME), contributed significantly to their understanding of these disorders... Not a day goes by that I don't miss her...."

Murray Schwartz appreciated that Gwen, "was a walking encyclopedia of the history of psychology in Nova Scotia. She was the one to whom all of us gravitated when we wanted to know who did what and when... [Gwen] had an uncanny sense of fair play and ethics...Gwen Sterns was an experienced and dedicated psychologist who spent long hours painstakingly making sure all aspects of an issue were carefully researched and implemented. She was thoughtful, caring and professional. She provided excellent counsel when it was requested ... she was a good friend with a wonderful sense of humour. She will be missed greatly."

Jennifer Hendrick noted how very generous Gwen was with new Psychology staff. "She introduced new staff to individuals they should know, took them to lunch, and gave helpful tips about places to go and things to do in Halifax, and Nova Scotia. She made newcomers feel very welcome. ... Gwen had an incredible breadth of knowledge of the field of Psychology, far beyond her own area of specialization, Neuropsychology. When we chatted about my areas of practice, to my chagrin, her grasp of the latest developments often exceeded my own!"

Gordon Butler recalled, "Two of the things that always impressed me about Gwen were her interest in all things psychological and her

Continued on page 16

Acknowledgements

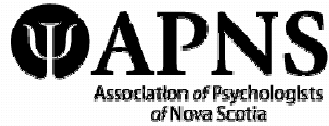
GWEN STERNS (continued from page 15)

willingness to get involved and participate in doing what needed to be done. There are two projects that Gwen played a major role in that book-end my experiences with her. The first occurred following the 1989 CPA Convention in Halifax. Gwen, myself, and several others had attended a seminar on using debriefing techniques to help reduce trauma in groups of people who had witnessed or experienced a significant traumatic event. This led to the establishment of a Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM) team at the VGH. Gwen was there from the beginning, helping to develop the team and she served as one of the Team Leaders, eventually conducting several debriefings for hospital staff. She helped to develop a package that was used on-site to train CISM Peer Counselors. She also assisted in setting up the Metro Health Facilities Critical Incident Stress Interest Group, and chaired it for a time. The second project was much more recent and was completed just prior to Gwen's resignation and untimely death. Gwen was among a small group who volunteered to help organize QEII Psychology's first ever Psychology Month activities for February, 2005.... Gwen took on the task of organizing most of the activities and it was mainly through her efforts that the newsletter profiles appeared."

David Pilon remembers, "I came to appreciate that Gwen's direct style was very much a part of who she was. At departmental meetings, she would hold us accountable on issues that she believed we needed to tend to. And she was right. We did need to even though there were times when the path of least effort might have seen any of the rest of us conclude not to bother. She was tenacious at times but her perspective was always well-informed and her objectives sincere. ... Visiting her at the hospital near the end of her life, she was as frank and open as at all other times of knowing her. She truly gave herself to psychology and we are all in her debt. I miss her a lot."

Jeannette McGlone appreciated greatly Gwen's willingness to organize. "The neuropsychological test materials, the library and neuropsychology texts, the notices about new publications from the library were catalogued thanks to Gwen's thoroughness and reliability. Her patient workload was beyond the capacity of one neuropsychologist. Gwen's solution was to develop at least two innovative, efficient and much in demand service delivery programs that are sorely missed. Once area was expertise on competency evaluations where she offered to consult within the hospital physicians, developed written guidelines for other professionals, and provided biannual talks for interns on the legal, scientific and compassionate facets of competence. Secondly, her empirical grasp of the head injury literature led to a restructuring of their management; identifying all such admissions, contacting each before discharge and triaging the neuropsychology services such that educational materials for minor injuries were prepared and follow-up phone calls at three months conducted. In this manner, all clients had contact with a neuropsychologist, became familiar with what to expect during the immediate recovery period, and those who needed her full consultation were accommodated. Much psychological work occurs behind closed doors, but [Jeannette] caught Gwen in the acts of being one of the warmest, most understanding, compassionate, empathetic and truly helpful clinicians with those whose life just changed in a most devastating, incomprehensible manner. Her devotion to the profession of psychology and the priority she gave to patients took her many hours past the ones where she received remuneration. Gwen was an independent thinker, who contributed when arguments were on the table. Her standards were high as was her patience with us as we exchanged ideas. Mostly, I thank Gwen for being such a good teacher of all things neuropsychological."

Her colleagues are saddened by Gwen's death. The profession has lost a friend and champion.



Welcomes its Latest Members

**Richard Gross
Veronica Hutchings
Heather Jacques
Stacy Juurlink
Harold Kessler
Grace Leung
Sean MacKinnon**

**Susan MacLean
Melissa McGonnell
Gillian McNeill
George Schurman
Anita Scott
John Sumarah
Stephen White**

We would like to thank the membership for supporting APNS in its efforts to promote the interests of Nova Scotia psychologists through advocacy, continuing education and the support of special interests in the field.

Congratulations to the following who have recently become Registered Psychologists.

**Colleen Braun, Ed.D.
Joanna Buisseret, M.A.S.P.
Melissa Cook, M.A.
Carleen Hall, M.Sc.
Joan Hanley, Ph.D.
Stephen MacEachen, Ph.D.
Mikaela Vidmar-Perrins, M.S.
Stephen White, M.A.**

**School of Social Work
Dalhousie University
Workshops Fall 2006**

October 19 & 20
The Transforming of Emotion in Couples and Individuals

October 26 & 27
Treating Attachment Pathology

November 6 & 7
Logosynthesis - Basic Seminar

November 16 & 17
Brief Treatment of the Anxiety disorders

November 23 & 24
Becoming "other than we have been" In Conversations About Men's Violence to Women.

December 7 & 8
Working With What's Important to Clients: Solution-focused Therapy
Intervention with Individuals, Couple & Families

For more information please contact Louise Ghiz 902-494-1353 or louise.ghiz@dal.ca

4th Atlantic Canada Stroke Conference

**"Best Practices in Stroke Management:
Practical Hints and Helpful Tips"**

**September 8 & 9, 2006
World Trade and Convention Centre,
Halifax, Nova Scotia**

Registration fee: \$390 physicians, \$210 other health professionals
CME Credits: 10 hours, CFPC Mainpro-M1 and RCPSC Section 1

For registration information: Phone: (902)494-1459, Fax: (902)494-1479
E-mail: renee.downs@dal.ca

<http://cme.medicine.dal.ca/scourse.htm>

CHILDHOOD OBESITY

A Full-Day Professional Workshop
with **Alan Delamater, Ph.D.**

University of Miami School of Medicine

October 27, 2006

**O.E. Smith Auditorium, IWK Health Centre,
Halifax, NS**

Registration Fees:

Before October 2nd \$110.00 / \$70.00 (students)
After October 2nd \$125.00 / \$85.00 (students)

For additional information contact:
Dr. Melanie Vanier (470-6597)


***The Dr. G. Wayne MacDonald Professional
Psychology Lecture Series***

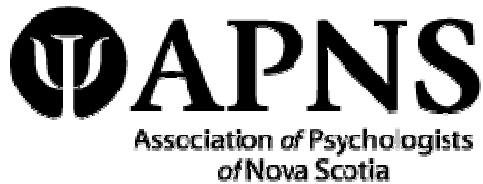
Call for Reporters

APNS has started a new segment of the website (www.apns.ca/News.htm) called *Psychology in the News*. We want to keep our members informed about psychology-related issues appearing in the media throughout Nova Scotia. We need your help to do that.

If you see a newspaper article or hear a radio or television broadcast relating to psychology in Nova Scotia, we would like to know about it.

Send us an e-mail at apns@apns.ca with the url of the on-line article. You can also give us a call at 902-422-9183 or Fax us a copy at 902-462-9801.





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