

## Election to College Council March 2015

Election to Council was held on March 31, 2015 for positions in three districts.

The College wishes to congratulate:

Ruth Berman, Ph.D.,C.Psych. - *elected in District 5 GTA (East)*

Denise Milovan, Ph.D.,C.Psych. – *acclaimed in District 6 GTA (West)*

Glenn Webster, M.Ed., C.Psych.Assoc. - *elected in District 7 (Psychological Associate Non Voting)*

To introduce these members of Council, reproduced below are the Biographical and Candidate Statements which they submitted as part of the election process.

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**Ruth Berman, Ph.D., C.Psych.  
Electoral District 5 – GTA (East)**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

I have been certified as a psychologist by the College of Psychologists since 1987. My training includes an undergraduate psychology degree from the University of Toronto, and Masters and Doctoral degrees in Clinical Psychology from York University. I served as Executive Director of the Ontario Psychological Association (OPA) from 1989 to December 2010, during which time I had the opportunity to participate in numerous and varied forums related to health professions regulation, health care policy, and health service delivery. Some examples of these include Interhealth (Chair); the Rehabilitation Council of Ontario (Pres.); the Minister of Finance's Task Force on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Programmes; the government of Ontario's Policy Committee on Auto Insurance; the Minister of Health's Advisory Committee on Mental Health and Addictions; and the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's (WSIB) Fee-Setting Advisory Committee.

As a professional psychologist, I have a background of experience in clinical, rehabilitation and occupational psychology. A primary interest has been in psychovocational evaluation and the impact of health status, impairment and disability on occupational functioning. I have, at times over the years of my career, consulted to the WSIB, Vocational Rehabilitation Services (COMSOC), the Toronto Rehabilitation Centre, the Institute for Work and Health, the Financial Services Commission (FSCO), and the insurance, rehabilitation and legal communities. I have, in addition, been involved in the education and training of graduate students in psychology, and of candidates preparing for certification as psychologists and psychological associates, on topics related to legislation, standards and ethics, as well as in clinical and rehabilitation psychology.

### **STATEMENT**

A majority of my career has been focused upon professional affairs. As Executive Director of the provincial association over a 22 year span, I had the privilege of being directly involved, at both interprofessional and governmental levels, in the early Health Professions Legislative Review, continuing through to the development and enactment of the Regulated Health Professions Act and all of its subsequent amendments. I was, as well, an active participant in the consultative processes that led to the development, among others, of the Consent to Treatment Act, PHIPA, the proposed Psychotherapy Act, the Statutory Accidents Benefits Schedule and the Child and Family Services Act. These unique opportunities enabled me to acquire considerable knowledge of regulatory matters, and of other relevant

Ontario legislation impacting the profession and health service delivery, as well as experience in government relations and a familiarity with public policy development.

It always was, and remains, my firm belief that the best interests of the profession reside in serving, protecting and promoting the well-being of the public, consistent with the ethical obligations inherent in the “social contract” between professions and society. For these reasons I have appreciated the opportunity to serve over these past three years on College Council, where I believe that my background knowledge and experience have added some value to the Council’s work. Equally important, I have found my three years on Council and, as a member of several committees and task forces, including Executive, ICRC, Finance and Audit and Quality Assurance, invaluable, in terms of my acquiring a deeper understanding of the College’s mandate and operations, as well as a greater appreciation of the current and future issues facing Council. I would welcome the opportunity to serve for a second term on Council, to enable me to again utilize my combined knowledge and experience in service of the College’s public protection mission, as well as to continue to participate in an active manner in addressing the current challenges and issues being faced from a regulatory perspective.

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**Denise Milovan, Ph.D., C.Psych.**  
**Electoral District 6 – GTA (West)**

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

I completed undergraduate and graduate Masters and Doctorate degrees in clinical psychology from Concordia University. I am a bilingual psychologist registered with the Order of Psychologists of Quebec and the College of Psychologists of Ontario, specializing in the practice of clinical neuropsychology and rehabilitation psychology with children, adolescents, adults, and seniors. I began my professional career by conducting clinical work and research at the McGill University for over 10 years prior to moving to Toronto, Ontario. I have been working in the public and private sectors (health care institutions, education domain, non-profit organizations) with clients from culturally diverse backgrounds diagnosed with a variety of psychiatric, neurologic, and acquired brain injuries. As a researcher, I investigated attention and executive cognitive processes in adult psychiatric populations and evaluated neurocognitive abilities in patients diagnosed with neurologic conditions. As a clinician, I provide consultation and neurocognitive assessment for children and adolescents with learning and neuro-developmental disorders. I also carryout neuropsychological assessments and provide psychotherapy to adults diagnosed with acquired brain injuries.

#### **STATEMENT**

As a clinician in the public and private sectors, I am acutely aware of the need for psychologists to deliver the highest quality of professional services and make every effort to educate the public about mental health issues that impact not only the individuals seeking assistance, but also their families, society, and the government.

Psychologists are trained to assess, diagnose, and develop appropriate treatment plans and referrals to other healthcare providers. As such, we are well prepared to advocate for timely and comprehensive care for Ontarians with mental illness. In addition, given the potential confusion faced by the public in obtaining access to qualified psychological services provided by appropriately trained and competent practitioners, I am committed to work with the College to ensure that the public becomes increasingly knowledgeable about the specific expertise that psychologists offer and their ongoing efforts to guarantee that people diagnosed with mental illness have access to specialized mental health care across all regions of the province, irrespective of cultural background, personal beliefs, financial resources, or private insurance coverage.

The College of Psychologists of Ontario has been dedicated to ensuring that its members uphold the highest levels of professional practice and ethics standards. I believe that maintaining such high standards requires ongoing determination and advocacy efforts towards implementing legislation, policies, and initiatives to effect positive changes and promote advances in individualized, collaborative mental healthcare that would serve as an example for Ontarians, Canadians, and the world.

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**Glenn Webster, M.Ed., C.Psych.Assoc.**  
**Psychological Associate Non Voting**

Hello Psychological Associates from Glenn Webster.

I am seeking your support as I am running for my third and last term as the non-voting Psychological Associate on the Council of the College of Psychologists of Ontario.

- I have been tempted to join the college of Newfoundland or Saskatchewan as a Psychologist (as Master's level practitioners can), then to apply to CPO to change title (as I can by AIT- Agreement on Internal Trade). Then I would have the title of Psychologist which is what we all should have since we have **THE SAME SCOPE OF PRACTISE**. What has stopped me? I want to feel that I have the proper title of my career and practice with complete and transparent legitimacy and without having to appear to use a loophole to do it.
- I fully support regulation (for the protection of the public) and registration at the master's level and spoke (on record) at College Council against the closing off the master's route. **I was the only one opposed to the closing of the master's level of registration**
- I am concerned that some areas of practice can at times appear too restrictive and narrow. **School psychology** as practised today includes diagnosis and intervention in the **clinical** areas of Autism (ASD) Mental Retardation, ADHD, Communication Disorders, Anxiety and Depression. As well as crisis counselling, when dealing with families and teachers we have "secondary" clients (as do all health regulated practitioners), and spend time in "psycho-education." We do then have a significant overlap with **counselling** and **clinical** practice. It's almost a GP role. It is time to review these somewhat outdated specialities.

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As an elected member of CPO I have served on the Executive and Fitness to Practice committees, panel chair of the Complaints Committee and Chair of the Discipline Committee, an oral examiner for the College and chaired a task force on matters relating to Psychological Associates. I have the experience to continue to be useful and productive.

I seek your support in this election and urge you to vote (even if not for me) to show that we master's level practitioners (PAs) care about these issues and the professional delivery of psychological services in this province

I would be pleased to answer questions or concerns by e mail, phone or fax  
Thank you for your consideration. Glenn Webster

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