

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In October, the Search Committee finished its work and recommended to the College Council that Dr. Rick Morris, C.Psych. be appointed Registrar and Executive Director of the College. Council accepted the recommendation and the appointment became effective November 1, 2015. Dr. Morris is well known and highly regarded across Canada and in the U.S for his expertise and contributions in the field of Psychology regulation. Dr. Morris' appointment left an opening in the Deputy Registrar/ Director, Professional Affairs position, to which Mr. Barry Gang, MBA, Dip.C.S., C.Psych.Assoc. was appointed as of December 1, 2015.

Two new Public Members have been appointed to the College Council by the Public Appointments Secretariat. We welcome Ms. Donna McNicol and Mr. Darcy Delamere to Council and look forward to working with them in the months and years to follow.

The *Barbara Wand Seminar in Professional Ethics, Standards and Conduct* was held in late October. This year the majority of attendees did so electronically through the webinar facility. Once again this event featured a number of speakers addressing current ethical issues.

The President and (then) Acting Registrar attended the Annual Meeting of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) in Tempe, Arizona, in early October. ASPPB continues work on several fronts, including the development of a standardized instrument to evaluate competencies, inter-jurisdictional telepsychology, and work force data sets.

Early in November the President and the Registrar attended the Board meeting of the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations (ACPRO), of which Dr. Morris is Chair. Most of the discussion at the meeting revolved around developing the mechanism for implementing a pan-Canadian registration standard, a commitment that has been endorsed, in principle, by nine of the provincial psychology regulatory bodies.

The Executive Committee has begun to examine recommendations from the report which followed the recent audit of that Committee. Proposals for changes in the functions of the Committee will be developed for presentation to Council, the objective being to enhance the open, transparent, efficient and timely operation of committees and of Council.

Concurrent with the implementation of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Working Group on Transparency, the College is working on actions to improve the transparency of College operations. Members may expect consultation on any proposals.

The consultation process regarding proposals for changes to the Registration Regulation is under way. When instituted, these amendments will result in a change to doctoral level as the entry requirement for practitioners becoming registered in Ontario. Such a move is consistent with the ACPRO Entry to Practice Position Statement endorsed by eight of the provinces.

Three Council positions for professional members are up for election in 2016. The election date for District 1 (North), District 2 (Southwest), and District 3 (East), has been set for March 31, 2016 and the nomination process is well underway.

In early December, the College once again conducted the Oral Examinations for supervised practice members. Over 80 candidates were examined in this very important last step in the process of becoming an autonomous practitioner. Many thanks to the Registration staff for their hard work, and to the dozens of Psychologists and Psychological Associates from across the province who dedicate their time and expertise to ensuring that new practitioners are ready to practice.

Peter McKegney
President