

## President's Message

On December 12, 2014 the quarterly meeting of Council was held. A major issue on the agenda was the Titles Regulation survey conducted this fall. The survey asked for comment regarding possible amendments which would allow Psychological Associates members to use the title Psychologist even though they would retain a certificate as a Psychological Associate. A review of the survey findings suggested there may have been some confusion over the intent of the survey. Many members thought this proposed amendment was replacing the decision of Council in March 2013 that would see the closure of Master's level registration, grandfathering of all Psychological Associates as Psychologists, and the development of a mechanism to evaluate international applicants. That was not the case. The intention of the proposal being surveyed was to consider an interim measure in an effort to reduce any confusion due to the College's being required by the Agreement on Internal Trade to register Master's level Psychologists from elsewhere in Canada as Psychologists in Ontario. As a result, the College's membership is now comprised of Master's level Psychological Associates, Master's level Psychologists and Doctoral level Psychologists.

Council reviewed the survey results received from members and from institutions that employ psychology service providers and, after considerable discussion, Council decided not to pursue this interim measure. It was determined that the considerable time and effort required to prepare the regulation amendment submission would better be spent in moving forward with implementing the March 2013 decision referenced above.

Another agenda item dealt with delegation of the controlled act of psychotherapy if/when that controlled act is enacted. Several years ago, Council determined not to permit delegation of the controlled act. Subsequent legal opinion suggested that such a prohibition would have to be based in regulation rather than a Council policy matter. At this time it is not clear whether the controlled act of psychotherapy will be proclaimed by the Government. If and when this occurs, the College will consider a regulation amendment with regard to the prohibition of delegation of this act. The College will maintain ongoing communication with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care regarding the legislative status of the *Psychotherapy Act*.

Upon the recommendation of the Jurisprudence and Ethics Exam Committee (JEEC), Council adopted the revised Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing 2014, available through APA. This change will be referenced throughout our documentation including the 2015 revision of the Self-Assessment Guide and Professional Development Plan. The JEEC also asked Council to consider whether Supervision should be a core competency required of all members of the College. The College currently has a Supervision Task Force looking at all aspects of supervision and they will be asked to consider this request in their deliberations.

I hope that all members of the College, Council, and staff had a peaceful and relaxing holiday season and that we all enjoy a short winter!

Robert Gauthier, M.Sc., M.Ed.  
C. Psych.Assoc.  
President