

CONFERENCE CORNER

2015 Annual Conference

Everything you wanted to know...



*Glendon Tait, MD, MSc, FRCPC
Chair, Annual Conference
Program Subcommittee*



*Sanjeev Sockalingam, MD, FRCPC
Associate Chair, Annual Conference
Program Subcommittee*

Each year CPA asks for feedback in the form of an online evaluation from all delegates attending the annual conference. In recent years, we have tied the Certificate of Attendance (COA) to the completion of an online overall evaluation form. This incentive method has proved to be extremely beneficial with an 85% response rate (or 828 of the 969 delegates).

Once the evaluation is submitted, the delegate is re-directed to the COA screen where they provide their badge number, input the number of daily credits (based on registration), and then choose to have their certificate mailed or emailed to them. Each request is actioned within 48 hours and then delegates will receive a personalized COA.

While survey results are almost 100 pages in length, Dr. Glendon Tait (Conference Chair) and Dr. Sanjeev Sockalingam (Associate Chair) agree that there are some valuable findings that must be shared with members, as well as answering some of the thoughtful constructive criticisms that are offered.

Who Are You?

834 physicians attended the Conference; **643** were psychiatrists; **165** were residents.

48% practice in an academic centre, and **52%** practice in the community.

78% self-funded their registration to the Conference.

28% of delegates are from Ontario, **25%** Prairies, **8%** Quebec, **7%** Atlantic, **28%** BC/Territories, and **4%** International.



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Canadian Psychiatric Association
Dedicated to quality care

Association des psychiatres du Canada
Dévouée aux soins de qualité

Quotable Quotes

Here is what a few delegates said about our 2015 annual conference:

“This is the best CPA meeting I’ve ever attended in terms of the program. I haven’t come for a while as I found little on the program the last couple times of interest to me. I really liked the sessions on QI, service delivery, psychotherapy and topics I wouldn’t have thought of like the CPD session. Bravo!”

“The plenary by Amanda Lindhout and the plenary on physician-hastened death were outstanding. Would definitely suggest similar sessions in the future.”

“Too many interesting topics at the same time, so hard to decide which one to attend.”

“Thank you for this excellent conference.”

“Resident track – lots of good sessions on burnout, wellness, career planning will assist me moving forward.”

“I am closing my private practice and planning to do a consultation only practice. The courses and workshops that I chose gave me background information, approaches, tools and skills that I can directly use. Also a good refresher and update in areas that I have not worked in recently. Mostly well-presented and organized.”

“Will use some of the new/alternative practices learned from sessions and discussions with other delegates.”

“I learned a lot about the cultural background of aboriginal people and the struggles psychiatric patients face on their reserves. I work a lot with First Nation patients and I now know how to take all these factors into consideration when dealing with them.”

“Very useful tools and additional resources were provided for me to return and incorporate in my workplace.”

Top Five Reasons to Attend the CPA Annual Conference

CPD Credits (37%)

Quality Program (28%)

Invited Speaker or Presenter (14%)

Location (11%)

Networking (10%)

The Numbers from Top to Bottom

- 88%** of delegates agreed that the presentations included information about pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments.
- 88%** of delegates agreed that the presentations provided enough audience participation.
- 87%** of delegates agreed that the presentations conformed to the abstracts.
- 86%** of delegates agreed that the conference format was appropriate.
- 86%** of delegates agreed that the schedule-at-a-glance was helpful.
- 85%** of delegates agreed that the conference was well-organized.
- 84%** of delegates agreed that the conference provided opportunities for further learning.
- 84%** of delegates agreed that the Conference provided material of professional interest.
- 84%** of delegates agreed that workshops were an important part of the Conference.
- 83%** of delegates agreed that the conference provided useful CPD that translates into their practice.
- 81%** of delegates agreed with the all-delegate plenary sessions.
- 79%** of delegates agreed that invited lectures were an important part of the conference.
- 78%** of delegates agreed that the conference met overall learning objectives.
- 77%** of delegates agreed that the conference provided an adequate number of topics of interest.
- 75%** of delegate agreed that symposia (not co-developed) were an important part of the Conference.
- 74%** of delegates agreed that the CPD Institute was relevant.
- 73%** of delegates thought the conference provided opportunities for valuable contacts.
- 70%** of delegates agreed that the preliminary program helps them decide whether to attend the conference.
- 70%** of delegates indicated that as a result of attending this conference, they will make changes to their current practice.
- 61%** of delegates agreed that co-developed symposia's are an important part of the conference.
- 57%** of delegates plan on attending next year's annual conference in Toronto.
- 53%** of delegates thought the CPA should continue with the pre-conference course.
- 48%** of delegates agreed that the poster sessions are an important part of the conference.
- 46%** of delegates thought the iCalendar app was helpful.
- 44%** of delegates agreed that special events were an important part of the conference.
- 43%** of delegates agreed that the exhibit hall is an important part of the conference.
- 41%** of delegate agreed that pre-conference courses were an important part of the conference.
- 39%** of delegates agreed that the web-based app was helpful.

Did You Know?

As part of the post-conference assessment, the program chairs, along with senior CPA staff, review in detail all comments from members. As you might imagine, they cover a broad range of issues. In this section we try and answer some of the most frequent questions we receive.

Will CPA offer Section 3 credits that are now mandatory by RCPSC? All registrants will have the opportunity to complete an SAP geared towards the conference. Upon completion, delegates will receive a printout identifying which sessions should be attended at the conference. This will be worth approximately 6 Section 3 credits.

Why are conference registration fees high? The conference registration fees are comparable to other similar medical associations. Without sponsorship dollars, the fees for all categories would be much higher.

Why isn't breakfast included with registration fees? The cost of coffee at a hotel/convention centre is \$90 per gallon or \$6.80 per person, depending on location. The cost of morning pastries is \$52/dozen, bottled water, juice, pop, or a piece of fruit is \$6 each, and a continental breakfast buffet is \$35.40 per person. We don't provide breakfast because the registration fees would have to increase.

Why is the conference not held in smaller cities? The annual conference is a very large event that requires a great deal of meeting space and a large number of guestrooms. Most of our delegates prefer only one venue in a city that offers great airline schedules. It is difficult to find all of these considerations in smaller cities.

Can anyone submit an abstract? The CPA has an open call for abstracts so that any topic by any speaker can be submitted.

Your Suggestions Put Into Action

- Section 3 credits **CPA will offer registrants access to an SAP for 2016**
- All-Delegate Plenary sessions were most appealing **These will continue for 2016**
- Continue with pre-conference courses **These will continue for 2016**
- List paper titles in program **Separate list of all papers will be provided to delegates in 2016**
- Posters should be viewable at all times **Posters will be viewable daily inside the Exhibit Hall for 2016**
- Ideally the conference should be in one venue **Only one venue for 2016**

2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Toronto 22 – 24 September

We will provide you with an overview of some of the innovative changes that will be introduced as we get closer to the annual conference date. Many of the changes are based on the comments we receive from members.

Information: **Heather Cleat**, Director, Annual Conference & Meetings
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