



# CONFERENCE CORNER

## 2017 Annual Conference

### What did delegates have to say about the largest psychiatric CPD event in Canada? ...

Each year CPA asks all annual conference delegates for feedback using an online evaluation form. In recent years, completion of the overall conference evaluation is required for receipt of a certificate of attendance, and this incentive has led to an 88 per cent response rate.

The annual conference program chair, Dr. Sanjeev Sockalingam, would like to share key evaluation findings with members, as well as answer some of the thoughtful, constructive criticisms participants offered

#### What 2017 attendees told CPA\*

“A well-thought through program that balanced out psychological, social and biological education in today’s world.”

“As a resident, there were a lot of topics that made me think about how to approach and develop my current and future practice.”

“There was a lot of great knowledge acquired through this conference, from education to web-based intervention, to pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies to quality programs and models of successful implementations.”

“I plan to take the DBT and mindfulness material back to my hospital and get support for using it to train nursing staff.”

“I’ve learned some important pearls especially regarding fine points of psychopharmacology and diagnosis.”

\*comments have been edited for clarity

#### The high points for 2017 delegates

92% agreed that the presentations included information about pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments.

90% agreed that the presentations provided enough audience participation.

90% agreed that the conference format was appropriate.

89% agreed that the conference was well-organized.

87% agreed that the conference provided opportunities for further learning.

84% agreed that the conference provided material of professional interest.

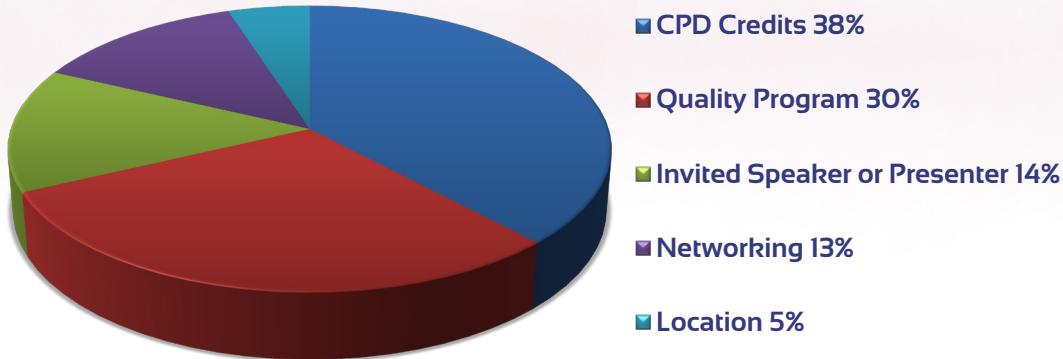
85% agreed that the conference provided useful CPD that translates into their practice.

81% agreed that the conference provided an adequate number of topics of interest.

75% thought the conference provided opportunities for valuable contacts.

74% indicated that they will make changes to their current practice as a result of attending.

## Top five reasons for attending



## Respondent demographics

860 physicians accessed the evaluation; 628 were psychiatrists; 68 were residents.

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

79% self-funded their registration to the conference.

48% of respondents are from Ontario, 17% Prairies, 12% Quebec, 11% Atlantic, 7% BC/Territories, and 5% International.

26% were in their first five years of practice; 22% 6-15 years; 22% 16 - 25 years; and 30% 26 years +.

## Answers to the questions most commonly asked by delegates

As part of the post-conference assessment, the program chair, 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.

**When will the CPA Annual Conference move outside of Ontario?** Québec City will host the 2019 conference for the first time since 1996, and in 2020 we will return to western Canada.

**Can the Schedule-at-a-Glance be more practical?** The current format of this document was developed based on suggestions from delegates who wanted to see all authors/presenters of each session, which increased the number of pages. Each day is currently spread over four pages. CPA is looking at a new format for 2018 that we are confident will satisfy our delegates.

**Why is the CPA Annual Conference being held in large convention centres?** The CPA felt it was important to host the 2017 conference in Ottawa for Canada's 150th celebration year, and the Shaw Centre is the only venue in Ottawa that can house the conference in its current format. In 2018, we return to a single hotel for meeting space, which is the CPA's preference wherever possible.

## Your suggestions put into action

Pre-conference courses highly rated - These will continue for 2018

Section 3 credits requested - The accredited conference self-assessment program (SAP) will be available to members only again in 2018

Subspecialty topics requested - Subspecialty academy update courses continue for 2018

Symposia duration should be longer - Concurrent symposia have a three-hour option for 2018

## 2018 Annual Conference

68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Congrès annuel

Toronto 2018!  
27-29 September / septembre  
The Westin Harbour Castle

Canadian Psychiatric Association  
Dedicated to quality care  
Association des psychiatres du Canada  
Dévouée aux soins de qualité  
[www.cpa-apc.org](http://www.cpa-apc.org)

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Mark Your Calendar!  
Inscrivez-le a calendrier!

Visit [www.cpa-apc.org](http://www.cpa-apc.org) for updates to the

Annual Conference as we get closer to the delivery date.

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

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