



# In-Psyghts

Summer Edition 2022

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## President's Message:

Dear Colleagues,

I hope our members who are receiving this summer newsletter are well underway to enjoying a well-deserved break. I spoke to many of you who, like me, are looking forward to some rest, rejuvenation, and time with family and friends.

I want to continue to offer my thanks and gratitude to our members across our province to providing service to children, their families, and schools across our province.

I also want to extend a thank you to the many members who assist the executive in accomplishing the many annual objectives. This includes those who serve on formal committees such as conference and ethics, as well as those who support our social media and various online ventures such as our Annual General Meeting.

Please make sure you read the full newsletter as there is information about our upcoming conference, social media podcasts, and work-practice reminders.

With respect to future regulation of our members by the College of Psychologists of British Columbia (CPBC), it is currently in the hands of the Ministry of Health awaiting the Minister's approval, which will assist in establishing a timeline and posting bylaws for review. As soon as there are any updates on this, BCASP will be sending out information to our members. Please refer to previous communications (March 2022) for more information. I want to assure you that once the process moves forward, our members will have approximately a 12-month period (with certain milestones to achieve within the year, i.e., when the application needs to be completed by) to transition into the CPBC. BCASP will be able to assist you in terms of sharing some of your documentation (i.e., transcripts), with your consent.

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families in good health, with a much-needed summer vacation!

Sincerely,

Alyssa Bollans

## The BCASP Executive

President: Alyssa Bollans

Past President: Doug Agar

Vice President: Barbara Nichols

Secretary-Treasurer: Melanie Baerg

Membership Secretary: Stacey Kemp

Chair, Ethics and Professional Conduct: Olivia Jaswal

Director of Communications: Gregory Pearce

Member at Large: Kim Wolff

<http://www.bcaspc.ca>

## Past President

As Past President one of my responsibilities is to oversee the Election of the BCASP Executive and report the results to the membership. All positions, with the notable exceptions of President and Past President, are elected annually. The President serves a two-year term and Alyssa Bollans is in her second year of her term, whereas the Past President is an appointed position. Therefore, all positions excluding the President and Past President are open for nominations. If you are interested in one of these positions, please complete the nomination form on the BCASP website in the recent News Section and send to the address on the form. An email will be sent to all members with a copy of the form as well.

Thank you and have a great summer!

Dr. Douglas Agar

## Vice President and Conference Committee

Dear BCASP Colleagues:

You will read about our Spring workshop in Tiffany Lavoie's newsletter article. It was a big hit. I echo Tiffany's sentiments that it is a pleasure to be part of the conference committee team, bringing you the quality professional development that we're known for across the country.

We are so excited for our 34th Annual Conference November 8-10, 2022 – in person! Our lineup of presenters include:

Dr. Ben Springer

Dr. Howie Knoff

Dr. Jan Hasbrouk

Dr Daniel Ansari

Dr. Charles Geddes & Ms. Angela Murphy

Ms. Melanie Nelson

Dr. Mitchell Handelsman

Please pencil into your calendar before you put it away for the summer. Registration information will be coming out at the end of summer holidays.

Barbara Nichols

## Message from the Ethics and Professional Conduct Chair

Summer is finally here! Although the weather here in Prince George feels seasonally cool at-present. I hope you get the chance this summer break to catch your breath and focus on self-care. Thank you to all who have been in touch with inquiries about best practices this school year. It is heartening to be reminded of the high level of consideration we, as a group have for our work and the students we serve. I have also enjoyed learning more about how diverse and innovative the delivery of school psychology services is across our province. Please feel welcome to reach out with inquiries, particularly if you are working in an office of one.

If you have visited our website recently, you will see that we have been doing some work reorganizing our articles, practice advisories, and ethics documents. I am happy to announce we now have an *Ethics and Professional Conduct* section in the Members Area, under Downloads. Log in to find our ethical standards document, the Ethics Committee procedures document outlining the complaints resolution process, and our supervision guidelines. Other articles, guidelines and practice advisories can be found in the *Articles and Updates for Members* section of the members area. While you're there, check out our BCASP Member Forum. This is an excellent venue for sharing ideas, information and knowledge. Feel free to add to the Professional Conduct thread with your favourite books, articles and podcasts, or revisit the thread for inspiration if you find yourself short on your 5 hours of Ethics professional development for your Continuing Competency Log.

Are you interested in becoming more involved with BCASP? From time to time, I may be recruiting members for the Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee. This committee is convened when we receive a formal complaint about the professional conduct of a BCASP member. It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with School Psychologists around the province, and to take a deep-dive into our professional ethical standards. I am currently building a directory of members who are interested in committee work. Please contact me directly if this opportunity interests you ([ethics@bcasp.ca](mailto:ethics@bcasp.ca)).

Olivia Jaswal  
Ethics and Professional Conduct Chair

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## Membership Secretary/Privacy Officer

The Membership Committee has not been too busy over the last few months. We have only approved one new member since the AGM. Welcome to Chun Hei Li (Franky) who is working in Surrey!

This year was certainly a challenging one for me, as I'm sure it was for many of you. with mandates constantly changing. It was great to finish off the year feeling somewhat 'normal'. I wish all of you a restful and fun-filled summer and look forward to seeing you in person in November at our conference.

Stacey Kemp  
BCASP Membership Secretary  
[membership@bcasp.ca](mailto:membership@bcasp.ca)

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## Secretary Treasurer

I am so happy to have some time to reflect and recharge a bit over the coming weeks of summer. It has been a whirlwind of a year! I branched out into a new position at UNBC and School District 28 in Quesnel, and have been collaborating with educators all over the province to help promote effective literacy practices in our schools. I am grateful for the chance to pause and get ready for what the next school year brings!

BCASP has had some big changes over the past school year too, with the establishment of our physical office space and our social media presence. Both are up and running, thanks to the collective efforts of many hands and minds. I would like to extend my personal gratitude to Christina Estrada, our invaluable Executive Assistant, for her hard work, dedication, and patience with all the tasks that have come her way. From setting up our new office space to supporting our conferences, and the many other things in between, she has handled it all with grace and professionalism. Thank you, Christina!

On the social media front, our partnership with Thrive has been ongoing and we have shared a wide range of information for our members and the general public through Facebook (BC Association of School Psychologists), Twitter (@bcaspcertified) and Instagram (@bcaspcertified). There are active links to each of these platforms at the bottom of our main website page (bcasp.ca), so check them out if you haven't yet and follow us for more great information and timely announcements. Also, watch for more details about the official BCASP Podcast to be released soon, thanks to the talents and efforts of Kathleen Cherry and James Tanliao!

Wishing you all some well-deserved fun and rest this summer.

Cheers,

Melanie Baerg (BCASP #340)

## Director of Communications

Well it has been another year of interesting experiences as we continue to deal with COVID. I feel that as an organization we have made great effort to accommodate our students by adapting our work in a manner that has allowed us to continue to help students as well as retaining our fidelity of implementation when it comes to assessment and diagnosis. This has been a trying time but I feel we have moved forward in a positive manner and have successfully demonstrated that we are able to adapt to challenges such as those resulting from the COVID restrictions. Let us hope that we do not have to return to those more strict conditions.

I hope you all have a great summer and a needed break.

Take Care

Greg Pearce  
Director of Communications

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## Member at Large

I hope all of you are enjoying your well-deserved summer break. The Quality Assurance Committee has begun the process of reviewing members' Continuing Competency Logs. It was awesome to see that the majority of members exceeded the 25 hours of professional development. Those members will receive notification that they are considered a *Member in Good Standing* with respect to Section 2.3 of BCASP Bylaws and Constitution (2018).

2.3 All members must actively participate and engage in activities which maintain, expand and update their professional skills. This requirement is met by completing at least 25 hours of professional development each year to promote a high practice standards among members. The Quality Assurance Committee (or Executive Committee) may monitor compliance with continuing competency requirements or other requirements of BCASP's quality assurance program by conducting random audits of members by mail or by using another method approved by the board.

There are some members who are short the 25 hours of professional development for 2021. If you fall into this category, at this time you are not a *Member in Good Standing* with respect to Section 2.3 of BCASP Bylaws and Constitution (2018). To regain your status as a *Member in Good Standing* as per Section 3.3.2 (d) of BCASP Bylaws and Constitution (2018)), you will have until December 31, 2022, to complete these hours. Please note that this is in addition to the hours you must complete for 2022.

3.3.2 All members are in good standing except:

- (a) one who has failed to pay current annual membership fee or any other subscription or debt due and owing to the society
- (b) one who is in breach of Standard 2.2
- (c) one who has had an ethical complaint whose resolution was determined that the member is not in keeping of BCASP standards, and therefore not a member in good standing.
- (d) one who is in breach of Standard 2.3

There are a handful of members who have not yet submitted their Continuing Competency Log and therefore are not a *Member in Good Standing*. To regain your status as a *Member in Good Standing* as per Section 3.3.2 (d) of BCASP Bylaws and Constitution (2018), you will have until December 31, 2022, to complete these hours and submit your Continuing Competency Log. Please note that this is in addition to the hours you must complete for 2022.

It is important that all members maintain the standards that BCASP has for Continuing Competency. This is particularly significant as we prepare for our eventual move to the College of Psychologists. As discussed at the AGM with **Dr. Andrea M. Kowaz, Registrar of the College of Psychologists of British Columbia**, current BCASP *Members in Good Standing* will be ported over to the College as a group without further scrutiny. As well, those who are not a *Member in Good Standing* will cease to be a member of BCASP after a period of 6 consecutive months as per Section 3.3.1 (d) of BCASP Bylaws and Constitution (2018). We have extended this grace period to December 31, 2022.

3.3.1 A person shall cease to be a member:

- (a) by delivering his resignation in writing or email to the Secretary-Treasurer of the society or by mailing or delivering it to the address of the society.
- (b) on death.
- (c) on being expelled.
- (d) on having been a member not in good standing for 6 consecutive months unless written application for deferral or moderation of fees, due to extenuating circumstances, has been approved by the Executive.

Please note that for 2022 and going forward, minimum hours must be completed in each category.

Category A: Formal Conference, Courses or Workshops – 9 hours

Category B: Self Study – 8 hours

Category C: Structured Interactive Activities

Category D: Ethic – 5 hours (These are not additional hours, but hours included in Category A, B, or C that focused explicitly on ethics.)

Kim Wolff

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Workshop 2022

Thank you ALL for attending our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Workshop this year. As always, it was an absolute pleasure to learn and grow with each of you. This year, Dr. Donna Henderson provided us with an excellent presentation on the less obvious presentations of Autism. I especially enjoyed her down-to earth and interactive presentation style. In my opinion, this approach created an engaging and optimal opportunity for us to deeply conceptualize the complex nuances of Autism.

With regards to our survey, we want to extend a special thanks to those who took the time to respond. We are especially grateful for your thoughtful feedback and appreciation. Furthermore, your insights gave us a much-needed breath of fresh air, to help remind us why we do the work we do, in putting these events together. On more than one occasion, I found myself reading, and re-reading your comments for inspiration, and even just for fun. Thank you!

This year 64 people responded to our survey. Of those who responded, 100% of you found that the quality of Dr. Henderson's presentation and the overall quality of the workshop, was of good or excellent quality. 93.5% felt that the webcast experience was good or excellent, while 5.4% found it to be fair to satisfactory.

With our new 'Easy Reg' registration process, we were particularly curious to see how you would rate the ease of registration. We are happy to report that 96.8% said that your ease of registration was good or excellent, while 3.2% found the registration process to be satisfactory.

Here are some qualitative highlights that you shared about Dr. Henderson's workshop:

- "All of the information she shared was excellent. I particularly appreciated her going through the DSM-5 criteria using the interview and observation information and then practicing filling out the form."
- "Her presentation was so intriguing and applicable to our work!"
- "I was trained from a developmental perspective...but this far exceeded any specifics in my training...this material will be of huge benefit in providing psychoeds to my clients who suspect they have Autism (thanks tiktok), and in helping flag folks who would be well served through further exploration to a referral to an assessor. Many thanks, thoroughly enjoyed. The first workshop I've been to in a while where I learned a lot."
- "Very applicable to our roles. Really great to hear presentation from a clinician standpoint rather than from a researchers standpoint."
- "Her having us actually use the summary sheet and score some behaviours. I am a harder person to please and this was one of the best webinars I have

taken in a while to actually apply the information! I liked that she covered assessment instruments. I might encourage her to make that section about 5 minutes longer and speed up the beginning a bit but she was an excellent speaker. Can't say enough about her speaking style, ability to convey information in an easy to understand way and overall likeability! Well done!"

- "Presenter was excellent at conveying how to best assess this population while also reinforcing why it is such an important group to support."
- "One of the best workshops I've ever attended."

Again, thank you all for attending this year's Spring Workshop! Just a reminder that we will be hosting our annual conference this fall, at the Pinnacle at the Pier in North Vancouver. The hotel is directly adjacent to the Lonsdale Quay, which is a short Seabus ride from downtown. We are very excited to see you all there, in person!

Finally, the winner of the 2022 Spring Workshop Survey draw for a \$50.00 credit towards registration at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual BCASP Conference is...

Drumroll...

Karen Vermuelen! Congratulations, Karen.

The BCASP Conference Committee would like to wish each and every one of you a restful, joyful and well-deserved summer holiday

Warm regards,

Leona Tiffany Lavoie, BCASP Conference Committee Member