

# Psych EXPRESS

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## CPA honours outstanding contributions to psychiatry at the annual conference

Last week, the CPA welcomed delegates from across the country to the annual conference in Toronto—the first in-person conference since 2019. Thank you for helping to make the conference a success.

In addition to a jam-packed scientific program, the conference was an opportunity to recognize CPA members for their outstanding contributions to psychiatry and to the mental health of Canadians.

During the president's dinner and awards gala on Oct. 29, Dr. Urness conferred the CPA's highest award, a **President's Commendation**, to two leaders:

- **Dr. Cornelia (Nel) Wieman** for her leadership and powerful voice in advocating for an end to racist attitudes and behaviours in the patient clinical care experience, in medical culture, and at the societal level more broadly, and
- **Dr. Donald Addington** for a lifetime of contributions to psychiatry as a tireless teacher, academic, clinician, mentor and leader, as well as his extensive involvement with CPA.



In addition, CPA recognized seven other exceptional colleagues:

- **Dr. Margaret Hahn** from Toronto received the **Glenda MacQueen Memorial Career Development Award** for her research exploring the complex interplay between psychosis spectrum disorders and cardiometabolic health, as well as her leadership and commitment to advancing the careers of women from diverse backgrounds.
- **Dr. Alexandre Hudon** from Montreal received the **Member-in-Training Award of Excellence** in recognition of his research delving into ways of combining digital artificial intelligence methods with clinical psychiatry, as well as his commitment to issues related to residents' well-being.

- **Dr. Naista Zhand** from Ottawa was recognized with the **Early Career Achievement in Psychiatry Award** for her exemplary dedication to the clinical care of patients, as well her commitment to the enrichment of education.
- **Dr. Alexander McGirr** from Calgary was awarded the **Early Career Psychiatrist Research Award** for his contributions to our understanding of personality and genetic vulnerability factors in depression and suicide, as well as his work in neurostimulation in humans and cortical dynamics in mice.
- **Dr. Pierre Blier** from Ottawa received the **J.M. Cleghorn Award for Excellence and Leadership in Clinical Research** in recognition of his contributions to mood disorder research and advancements in treatment, most notably with early research in ketamine.
- **Dr. Paul Links** was recognized with the **C.A. Roberts Award for Clinical Leadership** for his contributions to suicide prevention and the management of patients with borderline personality disorder.
- **Dr. Paula Ravitz** was awarded the **Paul Patterson Innovation in Education Leadership Award** for her leadership in delivering accessible and culturally sensitive psychotherapy education.

Earlier on Oct. 29 during the Annual General Meeting, CPA honoured the accomplishments of 15 members with **Fellow** and **Distinguished Fellow** designations:

- Fellow of the Canadian Psychiatric Association: **Drs. Donald Addington, Alan Bates, Marie Claire Bourque, Taryn Hearn, Jennifer Laidlaw, Michael Mak, Peggy Richter and Kathleen Sheehan**
- Distinguished Fellow of the Canadian Psychiatric Association: **Drs. Brad Booth, David Crockford, Vincenzo Di Nicola, Alison Freeland, Abraham Rudnick, Wei-Yi Song and Michael Van Ameringen**

Congratulations to the recipients of this year's awards and designations!