

The Psychotherapists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand

Te Poari o nga Kaihaumanu Hinengaro o Aotearoa



December 2011

December Board Meeting

The Board met for two days on 2 and 3 December. Notable matters were:

- The Board's Supervision Policy is currently under review, with the intention of clarifying for the avoidance of any doubt, the Board's preference that supervision be provided by registered health practitioners in accordance with the meaning in the HPCAA 2003;
- The Board agreed that students who enrol in a qualification approved by the Board for grandparenting before the training institution is assessed for accreditation, will have that qualification recognised for registration provided that they complete it within the time limit approved by that training institution;
- The Board established a Planning and Communications Committee;
- The Board passed Standards of Cultural Competence (these will be put up on the website).

Standards of Ethical Conduct

As advised in the Board's previous newsletter, these standards have now been approved, and all practitioners should ensure that they have reviewed them and are practising in accordance with them.

The standards are available on the homepage of the Board's website located at www.pbantz.org.nz. If you would like to be sent a paper copy of the standards or have any queries about the document, **please email the Board's Registrar**.

Further Expressions of Interest Sought

The Board is about to get underway with training for Competence Review Committee (CRC) work.

These committees are appointed by the Board under Part 3 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCA Act) to make enquiries into concerns raised about a psychotherapist's competence.

A CRC is tasked with assessing whether a psychotherapist is practising at the required standard of competence, and reporting their findings back to the Board for further consideration.

A competence review is designed to assess the overall standard of someone's practice in a collegial manner with a focus on assisting the psychotherapist if necessary. While a review will usually be initiated by the Board receiving concerns about a particular aspect of a psychotherapist's practice, the review itself is general and the committee does not look into the circumstances that gave rise to concerns being raised.

The review is intended to be transparent, fair, constructive, supportive and educative and is not disciplinary in nature. After conducting a review, usually taking anywhere from half to a full day, a CRC will provide a report to the Board on whether it believes the psychotherapist is practising at the required standard of competence, and will make recommendations to the Board on ways a practitioner could improve their practice if deficiencies are noted.

You may recall that the Board has previously called for expressions of interest in participating on these committees. It is important that the Board has a reasonable pool of CRC members to call on, to ensure the validity of committee outcomes. To this end, the Board continues to seek expressions of interest from psychotherapists that would be willing to be trained to undertake CRC work.

The Board is looking for a wide range of people from diverse backgrounds i.e. geographical area, sex, culture, scope of practice and

modality.

Those appointed to these positions will be paid for their work and will have all real and actual expenses reimbursed by the Board.

CRCs comprise two psychotherapists and one layperson. When required, these committees are appointed from a pool of psychotherapists and laypeople that are trained in how to conduct a CRC.

To be successful in being appointed as a psychotherapist CRC member you will:

- Have a current APC
- Be registered in a full scope of practice
- Have a minimum of 8 years practising experience
- Have supervisory experience and/or teaching/assessing experience.

You are able to view the Board's Competence Review Committee Member Guidelines [here](#)

Please email expressions of interest and CVs or questions about CRCs to the Registrar.

Reminder – Contact Information Updates

Under section 140 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, a health practitioner must promptly give the Registrar of the responsible authority written notice of any change of residential, postal or work address. This is so that the Board can reach you when it is reviewing entries in the Register.

If your contact information needs updating, please email or write to the Registrar with the details of what information needs updating as soon as possible after the change occurs. You can also login to the Board's website and update your contact details, including email address and phone numbers. Simply login to your personal detail page and click on 'edit' next to the information that needs updating. If you experience any difficulty logging in or editing your information, please let the Board know by contacting the Registrar.

2012 Meeting Dates

The Board will meet on the following dates in 2012:

12 & 13 February 2012, Wellington

13 & 14 April 2012, Auckland

17 & 18 June 2012, location to be confirmed

21 July 2012 Strategic Planning Day, location tbc

14 & 15 September 2012, Auckland

2 & 3 December 2012, Wellington

Please note that these dates and locations may still be subject to change.

Board papers are sent to members 10 working days in advance of a Board meeting. If correspondence arrives after Board papers have been sent it will be retained on file until the next Board meeting.

February 2012 Board Meeting in Wellington

The Board will be holding its next meeting in Wellington on the 12th and 13th of February 2012.

Please note the Board will be presenting a workshop at the NZAP Conference at 11.30am on Saturday, the 11th of February 2012. The Board welcomes all practitioners to register to attend, and meet the Board members who will be present at the Board's workshop: Mihiteria King, Gordon Hewitt, Bill Grant, Judy Smyth, Sue Brown, and Paraire Huata.

For more information on the NZAP Conference please visit www.nzap.org.nz

Thank you from the Board

The Board would like to thank you all for your patience, and continued support of our Acting Registrar, Trina Williams during this period of interim staff changes.



Judy Smyth, Gordon Hewitt (Deputy Chair), Mihiteria King (Chair), Bill Grant, Sue Brown, Carol Shinkfield, Paraire Huata

Christmas Closing Dates

The Psychologists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand will be closed over Christmas from noon, 22 December 2011 until Monday 9 January 2012.

Merry Christmas



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