



2012 Strategic Plan

Canadian Association for Child and Play Therapy
(CACPT)



History

The Canadian Association of Child and Play Therapy (CACPT) began in 1987 in Kitchener Waterloo, Ontario. A group of play therapists had the vision for the possibility of an organization in Canada and established the foundation of CACPT at a grassroots level, by encouraging other clinicians to join in their quest. Later, Betty Bedard Bidwell assisted the association in its continued direction of growth and change. She ensured that proper protocols were implemented and followed as the association was established and built upon. A Board of Directors was elected and became active in the dealings of the Association.

By 1992, CACPT started its first Play Therapy Certificate Program at the University of Western Ontario, in London Ontario. It was maintained at the site until CACPT was able to independently offer the program through the association. It was quickly determined that the organization had a solid foundation and because of the demand for training, it was evident that the association could evolve into an independent enterprise

In January of 2002, CACPT was officially designated as a Not-for-Profit Corporation completely driven by volunteers. Since October 2006, CACPT has been able to provide its membership with a support team through an Association Management company, which enabled CACPT to obtain a part-time Executive Director and management services. The CACPT head office is housed in Guelph, Ontario. . In 2006, the Executive Director hired helped move the association across Canada. A national Board of Directors was elected at the AGM in 2007 and the first strategic plan was engaged to proceed to grow the association.

Throughout the last 20 years, much time, money and effort has been invested into CACPT. Many have believed in the need and the importance of establishing a Canadian Play Therapy organization aimed at training, research, standard setting and advocating on behalf of clinicians and the children and families they serve. Its value is apparent, as the Association has shown steady and constant growth over the years - supporting the goal of our early founding fathers: to provide play therapy training and networking across Canada. We are proud, that despite the sometimes difficult journey, we have remained respectful and ethical and have stayed focused on our goals. We look forward with excitement and anticipation to the coming decades as we look toward the future, as we expand our networking circle and build upon the strong foundation that is CACPT.



Vision Statement of CACPT

- The Canadian Association for Child and Play Therapy believes in the value of play therapy and its contribution to an individual's mental, emotional, social and psychological well being.
- The Association believes in advancing and promoting the understanding and value of play therapy, high standards of professional and ethical practice and advocating for our membership.
- The Association maintains a strong, professional organization and promotes professional training and current research in play therapy.

Core Values of CACPT

- Connections/outreach
- Growth and advocacy
- Inclusion and respect
- Education, ethics and professionalism



Critical Issues and Direction

CACPT's 2012 Strategic Plan establishes five important directions for the organization over the next three years:

- Internal Organization and Planning
- Succession Planning
- Financial Oversight
- Growth of the Profession
- Communications

It is through these objectives and by implementing the accompanying strategies that the CACPT will advance the practice of play therapy and the support of play therapists in Canada.

Core Strategies

Training/Education

- Clarify CEUs vs Foundation Training
- Continue to provide quality foundation training across Canada
- Consider on-line training options
- Include more CEUs for senior CPT members

Finances

- Examine alternative revenue sources
- Examine CACPT's fee structure for 2013

Policies

- Review and implement policies
- Develop operational policies
- Develop a method to challenge Certification in CACPT

Succession Planning

- Examine ways in which positions are filled: Board and Committees
- Develop a succession plan for the management role

Communications

- Examine Communications to potential members
- Develop a process for conflict resolution

Growth of the Profession

- Partnering with Institutions
- Forming a Foundation
- Advocacy and Collaboration
- Continued Publishing
- Promote and Publish Research
- Engage Members in Promotion of CACPT

For further information, or to obtain a printed copy of the CACPT Strategic Plan 2012-15, contact:

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