EDITORIAL

Persons

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Thinking about groups of people or populations rather than individuals is my default when considering our field of child and adolescent psychiatry, and human development more broadly. Most progress in our field comes through an understanding of variations within and across populations. However, there is a fascination with considering what we can learn about and from individuals. In this issue, I would particularly like to highlight the interview with Dr. Margaret Steele in our new column “Apercevoir: The People of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry”. Dr. Steele is an exceptional leader. She has not only made important organizational contributions to our field of child and adolescent psychiatry, including involvement in getting our subspecialty officially recognized by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, but has also made substantial educational contributions, including her current role as Dean of Medicine at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Leadership is our informal theme for this column for 2022. You may have had the opportunity to read the inaugural Apercevoir column in our last issue, with a conversation with another leader, Dr. Peter Szatmari (1). Please watch for a third interview to appear in our November issue of another leader in our field.

I would also direct you to the Arts, Literature and Nature (ALAN) section in this issue. Each of the three contributors highlight a personally inspirational person. I was especially interested in learning about the artist David Wojnarowicz, whom I previously knew nothing about, but who has clearly left his mark in a number of areas that interface with our field. Also new to me was Canada’s first female Dominion Sculptor, Eleanor Milne. If there is an inspirational person for you who has contributed to the arts, literature or nature, consider writing a blurb on them and submitting it to us at ALAN for consideration in future issues to share with our readership.

And we again bring you an interesting mix of research papers. The first examines anxiety and sleep in children, and while not a brand new domain of investigation, one that needs further investigation and new data to clarify relationships and their implications for interventions (2). The next paper provides a welcome introduction to help the reader with understanding cross-lagged studies, an important research methodology in our field (3). The third aims to contribute to the important exploration of the role of social determinants of health for our population with some surprising findings (4). Finally, we continue with our instalment of invited commentaries, this one focused on the intriguing outbreak of rapid onset functional tic-like disorders, intertwined with the pandemic and social media (5).

Finally check out the CACAP Executive Update at the end of this issue including the invite to the upcoming combined CACAP/AACAP conference this fall where we hope to see many of you live in Toronto.

References