



## CACAP EXECUTIVE UPDATE

# A legacy of mentorship and guidance by child and adolescent psychiatrists

### **Raj Rasasingham, Bsc MD FRCPC DAPN FAPA**

Vice President, Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

As I reflect on the success of the academy in the last few months, I am pressed to mention the significant role senior members of the academy have played in its success. We are all grateful for their mentorship and guidance that has led to success of the academy's strategic priorities. Many of these leaders have personally guided so many of us over the years. It is your sacrifice and time commitment that has allowed us to achieve our goals over the last year.

As Dr. Lila Amirali takes over the leadership of our academy, I would like to thank our outgoing president, Dr. Claire De Souza. Claire has been a visionary for our academy and has led our board to achieve significant milestones. She has been a strong advocate to advance our strategic missions as an academy.

I also would like to thank Dr. Jordan Cohen for his leadership as our secretary for the past cycle. He has been the chair of our membership and awards committee. He has spearheaded numerous new engagement initiatives with our membership. Sincere gratitude to his leadership and commitment over the last number of years. We also welcome Dr. Jennifer Russel to the role of secretary of the academy.

We are also grateful to Dr. Alexandra Manning, our Member-in-Training (MIT) rep., for her extraordinary work in supporting our MITs. She was also instrumental in developing our mentorship program for CACAP.

I also want to thank the membership for attending our joint CACAP/ACCAP conference in October 2022. Sincere gratitude to our scientific programme committee director,

Dr. Daphne Korczak and the committee for putting on a wonderful conference. I want to thank Ms. Elizabeth Waite, the general manager of CACAP, as well for all her tireless work to make this conference a success. We are hoping to continue the collaboration with the AACAP team at future conferences. Gratitude to Dr. Warren Ng, President of AACAP, and their conference planning team for their kind collaboration on this conference. We are hoping you will all join us for the CACAP's 43 Annual Meeting in Calgary, Alberta from Sept 10-12, 2023.

I would also like to thank our advocacy committee as well, for their continued work on position statements for the academy. They are also working on further engagement with government and other advocacy organizations to advance the academy's mission.

We also want to thank the education committee for their work on many educational initiatives over the last year. Dr. Khalid Bazaid and the educational committee has also updated our resources on our website. The communications committee led by Dr. Matthew Morrisette has also been very active in improving communication and social media presence of our academy. Special mention to Dr. Nikhita Singhal for all her efforts in this area for the academy.

The journal editor-in-chief, Dr. John McLennan, and our clinical editor, Dr Lind Grant- Oyeye, have continued to do an exemplary job in leading our journal. Please look out for new journal features on our website including early releases articles and interviews with key child psychiatrists.

Engagement with our membership is also a key priority and we are working on this as an organization. In that regard,

we will be disseminating two surveys to our membership. We hope CACAP members will be kind enough to give their feedback on these membership and workforce surveys. This will allow us to improve and advocate for various initiatives on behalf of our members.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the board, the representatives in particular, for their consistent advocacy for various regional initiatives and causes. It is their dedication and commitment that helps us reach our national

membership. The CACAP executive team is sincerely grateful for their support and leadership.

Lastly, on behalf of the CACAP executive and board, I would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous 2023. Thank you for your commitment and service to the child and adolescent psychiatry community. The executive and I continue to cherish your engagement and commitment to our academy.