



AHPA

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL
REPORT
2022





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2022 Board of Directors

President: Paul Adam

Past President: Anne MacLeod

**President Elect: Patricia Dickson (up to mid-June) and
Samantha Holmgren (as of mid-September)**

Treasurer: Mary Ellen Marcon

Secretary: Vacant

**Sponsorship and Marketing Chair: Petra Kodeda (as of mid-
November)**

**Research Chair: Susan Bartlett (up to late April) and
Karine Toupin April (as of early May)**

Professional and Career Development Chair: Vacant

Membership Chair: Vacant

Communications Chair: Vacant

Member at Large: Vacant

**Webmaster/AV Tech Support:
Jennifer Boyle (up to late June),
Aakanksha Sahu (as of late June),
Ron Yong (as of early October)**

**www.ahpa.ca
connect@ahpa.ca**

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION

We are a dedicated group of health professionals, researchers and administrators from across Canada who are passionate about improving the care of people living with arthritis.

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

Optimal care and quality of life for every Canadian living with arthritis.

Mission

To build and sustain a community of professionals who provide the best possible care to Canadians with arthritis through knowledge translation, engagement, and inter-professional collaboration.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2018-2023

Knowledge Translation

To generate, share, and disseminate the evolving body of arthritis care knowledge by creating opportunities for research funding, collaboration, and education for our members.

Engagement

To maximize the engagement of our members and external partners, leveraging our positive impact on individual professionals, the healthcare system, and better positioning AHPA to fulfill its mission.

Sustainability

To build the resources, organizational structures, and capacity to achieve our goals and provide excellent value to our members.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Despite 2022 being a challenging year, the AHPA Board of Directors was still able to engage in a variety of activities and initiatives on behalf of the membership. This annual report celebrates those achievements, identifies ongoing challenges, and suggests a few possible directions for moving forward. However, as this is the final year of our strategic plan, the creation of our next strategic plan in early 2023 will provide an opportunity to dig more deeply into these challenges and brainstorm potential solutions.

Given the fact that five board positions were vacant for the whole year, this past year's successes were to some degree attributable to others who stepped in to fill the breach. This included the AHPA members who graciously participated in one or more committees. These individuals are acknowledged elsewhere in the report. As well, the three Presidential Officers each took on tasks and activities that would normally be carried out by one of the Board Chairs. These individuals, and their roles, were as follows:

[Samantha Holmgren](#), President Elect, was responsible for the Sustainability Portfolio. This included all internal operations and policies of AHPA (e.g., conflict of interest, procedures, bylaws, organizational structure, and privacy). The President Elect also oversaw the Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Committee.

[Paul Adam](#), President, exercised general and active supervision over the affairs of AHPA, as well as being responsible for the Knowledge Translation Portfolio. This portfolio comprised educational and research activities including overseeing the Professional and Career Development Committee and the Research Committee. The President was also responsible for liaising with the Canadian Rheumatology Association regarding the ASM.

Optimal care and quality of life for every Canadian living with arthritis

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Anne MacLeod, Past President, was responsible for coordinating the annual nomination and election of Board Members, as well as the Engagement Portfolio. This included liaising and communicating with all external stakeholders such as professional advocacy organizations (e.g., Canadian Rheumatology Association) and patient organizations (e.g., Arthritis Consumers Experts). As well, the Engagement Portfolio Presidential Officer oversaw the Website/ Communication Committee, Sponsorship and Marketing Committee, Member-at-Large, as well as the ORA/AHPA Liaison and any other active Liaison Roles.

As noted above, sharing responsibilities among the three Presidential Officers resulted in a more equitable division of tasks and activities, as has a continuing reliance on members who volunteer on our committees. We've recently had many members express an interest in taking on micro-volunteer roles, i.e., becoming involved in small, time-limited tasks. We will also be exploring the possibility of obtaining corporate sponsorship funding in the year ahead, which if successful, would allow us to transfer some tasks to a part-time paid administrative support person.

One of the major projects this year was the unveiling of the new website. The new site includes a discussion forum that we had hoped to launch this year, but which was put on hold as we addressed other unexpected events. The discussion forum has the potential to be a private or open meeting place for members wanting to exchange information, collaborate on projects, etc. The new website also has an enhanced members directory. Clinicians will have the opportunity to be part of a searchable public directory that allows patients to find care providers with the expertise to treat their type of arthritis. There is also a 'Members Only' part of the directory that will allow members to network with each other more easily.

Optimal care and quality of life for every Canadian living with arthritis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As a working board, we are dependent on the efforts of our Board and committee members who volunteer their time to AHPA in ways both large and small.



Karine Toupin April, Research Chair, for stepping forward and taking over the reins from Susan Bartlett. In this role, she worked with the Research Committee to develop a Research Grant Applications, Regulations, Procedures, and Application Form. She and the committee ran a successful Research Grant Competition, as well as reviewing abstracts for the CRA/AHPA ASM.

Petra Kodeda, Sponsorship and Marketing Chair, for recently stepping forward to take on this important role and bringing her knowledge about Pharma, her fundraising ideas, and her boundless enthusiasm.

Mary Ellen Marcon, Treasurer, for management of the budget and banking needs of AHPA, ongoing review of investment options, and researching and trialing use of an online evidence-based information portal.

Kristin Dillon, Past Treasurer, for her considerable hands-on mentoring of the current treasurer and working conjointly with her on special projects, such as an in-depth review of cybersecurity and proposed strategies for countering cyber risks, including the transition to safer payment practices and the purchase of cybersecurity insurance.

Samantha Holmgren, President-Elect, who has brought her organizational skills and creative ideas gained from operating multiple businesses. It is these qualities that make me feel comfortable in passing on the presidency in 2023. Given that she started in this position late in the year, her primary role to date has been in taking on the 2023 Membership Drive that was launched on November 1st.

Anne MacLeod, Past President, who has supported the association in ways too innumerable to fully describe. Two of her major contributions included seeking pharma funding for the Mindful Self-Compassion Training Workshop and the 2023 pre-course, and the engagement of members in one-on-one conversations to gather their suggestions and solicit interest in volunteering with AHPA in the upcoming year. As well, in maintaining contact with our professional and patient partners, she advocated for the interests of our members with the CRA and developed new patient partner relationships. She also took a major role in overseeing the website launch and in working with the website committee to re-imagine the Resources section of the website.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Membership Committee: Identifies and implements strategies to maintain and grow the membership of the AHPA and promotes and administers the Lifetime Achievement Award. Members were Samantha Holmgren (Chair), Kim Arrey, Michael Denton, Patricia Dickson, Robin Ibbotson-Rickard, and Diane Tin. Shawn Brady, Lindsay Burns, Mary De Vere, Natalie McCormick, Jane Prince, and Kristi Whitney assisted in disseminating membership adverts within their respective networks.

Professional & Career Development Committee: Identifies and addresses the learning needs of the AHPA membership and promotes and administers the Clinical Innovation Award. Members were Paul Adam (Chair), Sue MacQueen, Jane Prince, and Kristi Whitney.

Research Committee: Coordinates the annual AHPA grant competition and reviews abstract submissions by the AHPA members to the CRA/AHPA Annual Scientific Meeting. Members were Karine Toupin April (Chair), Susan Bartlett, Linda Li, Laura Passalent, Diane Tin, and Marie Westby.

Website Committee: Ensures processes are in place for regular updates and reviews of content on the website. Members were Anne MacLeod (Chair), Sue MacQueen, and Rashmi Mandhane.

Beyond our board and committee members are the AHPA members who have a formal liaison role with either the Ontario Rheumatology Association (ORA) or the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA):

- ORA - Osk Jenkins
- CRA Transition Working Group - Julie Herrington
- CRA Virtual Committee - Jocelyn Murdoch
- CRA Human Resources Committee - Jennifer Burt

Thank You, One and All!!

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Adam, MSW (retired)
AHPA President



Strategic Pillars: Progress and Priorities

Knowledge Translation

Progress in 2021–2022

- Successful virtual Pre-Course held in February 2022 with 74 participants attending at least one of the two half-day sessions
- 4-part OnlineED webinar series focused on the overall topic of Women’s Health. Individual sessions addressed sexual and reproductive health, medications and pregnancy, and fracture prevention
- Recognizing the stressors faced by our members this year and last, AHPA sponsored a 6-hour evidence-based workshop entitled *Caring for Others Without Losing Yourself: Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC) Training*



Priorities in 2023

- Third virtual pre-course in February 2023
- Learning needs assessment in early 2023
- While continuing to hold the OnlineED webinar series there needs to be a plan to address the significant decrease in member attendance



Engagement

Progress in 2021–2022



- *Engaging our members*
 - Spring 2022: Virtual launch of new AHPA website to gather feedback from members and answer questions
 - Fall 2022: Invitations sent to every member of AHPA to engage in a 15-minute conversation with the Past President about ways AHPA can better meet members needs as well as to discuss opportunities for member involvement in AHPA. Over half of our members engaged in conversation (43 chats and 27 email replies)
- *AHPA collaborates with other Professional and Patient Organizations to advocate for and to provide optimal care and quality of life for every Canadian living with arthritis*
 - Professional Organizations includes the Canadian Rheumatology Association (CRA), Ontario Rheumatology Association (ORA), The Association of Rheumatology Professionals (ARP), and the Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care Program (ACPAC). A new partnership was established this year with the Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network (SPARTAN)
 - Patient Organizations includes the Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE), Arthritis Society, Canadian Arthritis Patients Alliance (CAPA), Canadian Spondylitis Association (CSA), and Cassie & Friends. New partnerships were established with the Canadian Psoriasis Network (CPN), Lupus Ontario, Sjogren’s Society of Canada (SjSC), and Take a Pain Check (TAPC)
 - Initial discussions were held with Research Organizations to better support the work and mentoring of research trainees through AHPA activities and collaboration between organizations

Priorities in 2023

- Engage our members in time limited and task-oriented activities to support the ongoing work of AHPA
- Provide opportunities for networking and connection amongst members including use of discussion forum on website, zoom platform, and possibly in person events
- Continue to engage and collaborate with Professional, Partner and Research Organizations



Membership 2022

Total Membership Numbers, by Year

Year	Total Number of Members
2022	132
2021	134
2020	151

Provincial Membership Numbers, by Year

Province/Territory	2022	2021	2020
British Columbia	20	22	32
Alberta	10	8	11
Saskatchewan	0	2	6
Manitoba	0	0	0
Ontario	86	86	81
Quebec	6	7	10
New Brunswick	0	0	0
Prince Edward Island	0	0	0
Nova Scotia	8	6	6
Newfoundland	2	3	4
Yukon Territories	0	0	0
Northwest Territories	0	0	0
Nunavut	0	0	0



Committee Reports

Research: Dr. Karine Toupin April



Mandate

- Concern itself with research and research training in rheumatology
- Undertake the peer review of all AHPA submitted abstracts for presentation at the CRA/AHPA annual scientific meeting
- Coordinate competition, submissions and peer review of AHPA grants



Achievements

- Coordinated the review of 9 abstracts by 6 Research Committee members. 9 abstracts were accepted for presentation at the CRA/AHPA ASM in February 2023
- AHPA Abstract Awards: recipients to be announced at the 2023 AGM
 - Barbara Hanes Award - Dr. Karine Toupin April
 - Carolyn Thomas Award - Dr. Susan Bartlett
 - Best Trainee Award - Ms. Ellen Wang
- Research Grant Competition: recipient to be announced at the 2023 AHPA AGM
 - Ms. Helen Prlic - “Osteoarthritis and cognitive function: A population-based cross-sectional study”

Priorities in 2023

- Work with the Sponsorship & Marketing Chair to secure long-term funding for the research grant competition
- Collaborate with the Canadian Arthritis Trainees Association (CATA) to further support research trainees



Other Reports

ACPAC SIG Report: Gillian Grant



SIG Working Group Members

- Chair: Gillian Grant
- Vice-Chair: Vacant
- Secretary-Treasurer: Joanne Hill
- Education Committee Chair: Michelle Bridge
- Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs: Chandra Farrer and Sameer Chunara
- Communications Committee Chair: Julie Chung
- Website Liaison: Michelle Bridge
- Ad hoc members: Sue MacQueen, Anne MacLeod, Osk Jenkins, Jennifer Burt, and Julie Herrington



Mandate

- The Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care (ACPAC) Special Interest Group (SIG) has been under the umbrella of AHPA since May 2019 and is composed of graduates and students of the ACPAC program. The pillars supporting all our activities are Advocacy, Research, and Education, all underpinned by Leadership. Objectives of the SIG include fostering collaboration between graduates and trainees, supporting program graduates & trainees, providing strategic direction to those interested in extended-role practice careers, maintaining a collaborative relationship with the ACPAC program, and supporting research and professional development activities



Achievements

- Forty-nine members were registered with the SIG in 2022
- Subcommittees: Advisory, Advocacy, Research, and Education
- Research Subcommittee formalized and prepared to complete a scoping review examining the impact of ACPAC therapists on the health care system, specifically in the advanced practice pillars of clinical practice, education, research, leadership/advocacy, as well as investigating related literature addressing equity, diversity and inclusion principles. This was led by Laura Passalent, Julie Herrington, Lisa Caldana and Kristi Whitney
- In partnership with the Ontario Rheumatology Association, Chandra Farrer worked with Dr. Sahil Koppikar to support clinicians working in Northern Ontario. This initiative involved advocating for an interprofessional model of care utilizing ACPAC graduates to promote sustainable rheumatology care in Northern Ontario. Meetings were held with Ministry of Health representatives to advocate for sustained funding of local ACPAC graduates to work in collaboration with rheumatologists to ensure equitable access to care



Achievements

- Laura Passalent, along with members of the University Health Network, Division of Rheumatology, and the Rapid Access Clinic, Low Back Pain Program worked in collaboration with UCB Inc (Global) to pilot a provincial approach to screen for axial Spondyloarthritis using an interprofessional model that incorporated ACPAC trained providers
- The ad hoc medical directives subcommittee created and recorded an educational webinar on medical directives for inclusion in the ACPAC trainee curriculum
- Communication to the broader membership was achieved through regular newsletters, called “ACTion PACKed News”
- ACPAC SIG members who were 2022 AHPA Award winners:
 - Extraordinary Service Award - Chandra Farrer
 - Lifetime Achievement Award - Sue MacQueen
 - Clinical Innovation Award - Julie Herrington
- The Annual ACPAC SIG Education Event and General Meeting was held virtually on June 3, 2022. This included:
 - Model of care presentations from 3 ACPAC graduates working in diverse settings, including Jocelyne Murdoch (Northern Ontario), Mandy McGlynn (Toronto), and Leah Samson (Saskatchewan)
 - Guest speakers: Dr. Andrea Chan, who presented the Musculoskeletal Lecture on the Evidence-Based Surgical approaches to Hand Arthritis; Dr. Deborah Levy, who presented the Dr. Rachel Shupak Legacy Lecture on the Update on Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis-Related Uveitis and Andre Picard, the award-winning Health Columnist from the Globe and Mail, as our keynote speaker who discussed Innovation in Healthcare Delivery
 - Celebration of Dr. Katie Lundon’s (ACPAC co-founder) retirement from ACPAC

Priorities for 2023

- A webinar for the general AHPA membership to be delivered in early 2023
- The ACPAC SIG Advisory committee will work with members of the SIG and the ACPAC program, along with the involvement of physician and patient partners, to establish strategic goals and directions for the ACPAC network including advocacy, research, and educational activities
- Delivery of 2023 Annual ACPAC SIG Education Event and General Meeting including model of care and guest presentations
- Ongoing Advocacy work to secure funding for an ACPAC position in Northern ON.
- Research committee anticipates being able to share preliminary data at the next AGM in June 2023

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

AHPA expenditures in each of the three strategic pillars: Knowledge Translation, Engagement, and Sustainability. Our overall expenditures in 2022 totaled \$79,626.59.

ENGAGEMENT

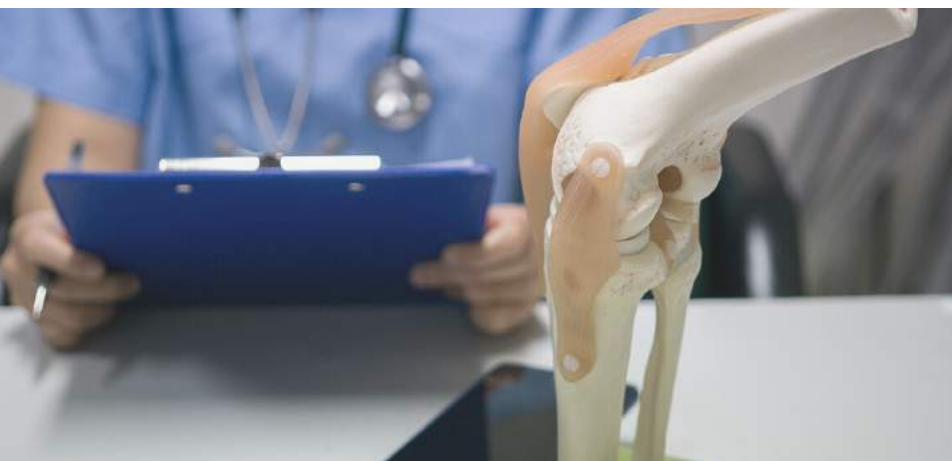
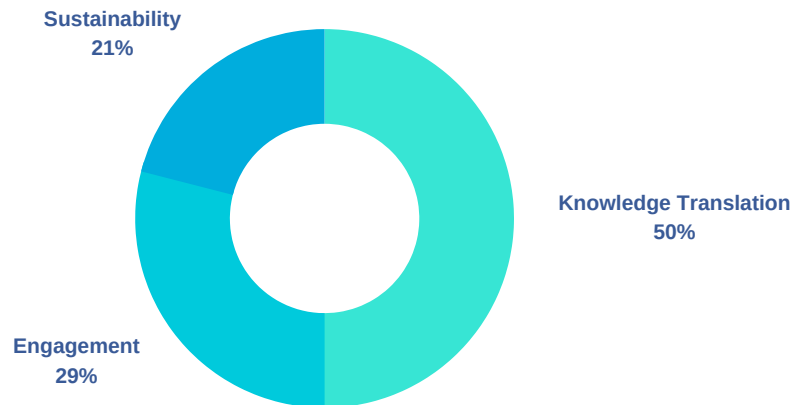
Expenses in this category included costs associated with collaboration with our external partners and marketing our organization.

SUSTAINABILITY

This included costs associated with running an organization such as bookkeeping and accounting fees, insurance, bank fees and website maintenance.

KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION

Expenses in this category are associated with the annual pre-course, AHPA OnlineED offerings and all other educational and research initiatives.



SPONSOR SUPPORT

Thank you to our sponsors who supported our research grant competition, annual pre-course, and other educational activities in 2022.





AHPA

ARTHRITIS HEALTH PROFESSIONS ASSOCIATION

