

Statement of Work Intentions
Prof. Gary Chaimowitz
Zone 1 Representative, Canada
2026

As part of my application to continue to fulfil the role of World Psychiatric Association (WPA) Zone 1 Representative for Canada, I provide my statement of Work Intentions. If I am successful in retaining this position, I will work collaboratively with all stakeholders to achieve the goals and objectives of the WPA.

I plan to continue to advocate for equity, diversity, indigeneity, inclusiveness and accessibility (EDIIA) across all levels of our work from practice to education and policy. I have an interest in promoting EDIIA, previously co-chairing the Canadian Psychiatric Association task force working to improve this area. I hope my work with committees within the WPA will allow me to promote these principles in the work I will do.

I have a particular interest in trauma, the impact of torture, as well as the reduction in the use of seclusion and restraint. I will continue to assist the Board and Executive in identifying the needs of Member Societies and finding ways to meet these needs, such as providing guidance in clinical practice, research and develop training programs.

I am a committed member of the WPA Education and Publication Committee, including publishing articles in its journal. I remain active with the Forensic Psychiatry Section and am an active contributor to WPA and related meetings.

I believe that we, as members of the WPA, need to work together to strengthen mental health services, improve the social determinants of health and share our knowledge and experience. I will work to outline WPA policies and actions with international goals outlined by other organizations.

As this will be my second term as a zone representative, I commit to continue to learn and understand the issues that our Member Societies face as well as the concerns of stakeholders.

As the Zone 1 Representative of the WPA, I will foster collaboration between Member Societies and improve the dissemination of information and educational materials related to the WPA. In addition, I explore institutional partnerships that are helpful to the WPA and its Member Societies with a view to strengthening the WPA's position as a global authority in psychiatry. My roles at the CPA and my international connections will allow me to fulfil this role to explore opportunities to promote the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

I will work closely with the Board to identify areas where Member Societies require additional support and will endeavour to develop appropriate strategies to address those needs. My connections internationally and my own history of being born in and trained in the Global south will assist me in fulfilling this part of my role.

In summary, I remain committed to working closely with Member Societies, the Executive of the Board and other stakeholders to promote collaboration, disseminate information and educational material, as well as support Member Societies in achieving their goals. Through the efforts outlined, I hope to contribute to the advancement of psychiatry globally and improvement of patient care worldwide. Thank you for considering my statement of work.