



Canadian
Physiotherapy
Association

Association
canadienne de
physiothérapie

CPA GLOBAL HEALTH AWARD

**The CPA awards program runs on a biennial basis, aligning with CPA Congress (even years). Only the Helen Saarinen Rahikka Student Leadership Award will be open for nominations during non-Congress (odd) years.*

Philosophy

Global Health is “an area for study, research, and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving health equity for all people worldwide. Global health emphasizes transnational health issues, determinants, and solutions; involves many disciplines within and beyond the health sciences and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration; and is a synthesis of population-based prevention with individual-level clinical care” (Koplan et al., 2009).

Having its roots in public health and international health, global health devotes attention to humanitarian and multicultural issues and perspectives that transcend national boundaries. Canadian physiotherapy professionals involved in global health work may be involved in initiatives addressing health issues affecting individuals residing in countries other than Canada, affecting marginalized or disadvantaged populations within Canada, or affecting all individuals globally.

The physiotherapy profession values globalism and those individuals involved in activities that further the profession globally. These activities include global partnerships for planning, implementing and evaluating initiatives in the realms of education, research, and the delivery of physiotherapy services. These activities would be initiated in response to local needs and would include local input.

History

The Global Health Award, formerly the International Health Award, was first presented in 2002 as a means to recognize Canadian physiotherapists engaged in global health initiatives.

Purpose

The CPA Global Health Award serves to:

- Increase the awareness and the importance of global health;
- Recognize outstanding contributions made by a physiotherapist to promote the profession internationally through educational ventures, program and / or policy development, practice or research collaborations; and



- Promote the development of global health activities within the profession and CPA.

Criteria for Selection

Individuals considered for this award must be working, or have worked, in the field of global health. Activities include clinical practice, educational projects, research collaborations, program and community development. Due to the nature of global health, projects are not required to be physiotherapy specific but may have a broader focus. The principles that are of importance are:

- Participation in programs that focus on sustainable development and capacity building;
- Promoting the use of local resources and technology to develop aspects of rehabilitation; and
- Adapting and applying knowledge and expertise to suit the need and wants of the local community.

Eligibility

The nominee must be a physiotherapist who is working or has worked in the field of Global Health. The individual will ideally be a current member of CPA; however the CPA Awards Committee may waive this requirement in certain circumstances for past members, particularly when the individual has been working abroad for a considerable duration. Current members of the Global Health Division leadership are not eligible for nomination.

Selection of Candidate

The CPA Awards Committee, in consultation with the chair of the CPA Global Health Division or delegate, will select the recipient.

Presentation

The award will be presented biennially at Congress.

Form of Award

- Recognition at Congress
- A framed certificate signed by the CPA President and CPA Awards Committee Chair
- \$200 towards Congress registration.



Nomination Procedure

Nominations must be made by either a CPA member or CPA Component (CPA Branch, CPA Division, or CPA Assembly). All nominations are confidential between the nominator(s) and the CPA Awards Committee.

The nomination must include the following:

1. At least two but not more than four letters of recommendation, none of which shall exceed four pages. At least one letter of recommendation will be from a CPA member. At least one must be a letter of support from the global partner(s), global agency or global member of the profession.
2. One of the nominators must be identified as the primary nominator.
3. The candidate's Curriculum Vitae or equivalent.

Nomination Process

The call for nominations typically launches at the end of the year (December), through a CPA member e-blast. Nominations must be submitted online, typically by the end of February the following year. Award winners and primary nominators will be notified in April.