



October 25, 2014

Dr. Katie Landon & Dr. Rachel Shupak,
Program Directors
Advanced Clinician Practitioner In Arthritis Care (ACPAC) Program
500 University Avenue, Suite 650, Toronto, ON, M5G 1V7

Dear Drs. Shupak and Landon,

It is my pleasure, as President of the Arthritis Health Professions Association (AHPA), to provide this letter of support for the Advanced Clinician Practitioner in Arthritis Care (ACPAC) Program. The ACPAC Program represents an excellent example of clinical education in advanced musculoskeletal/arthritis care. The interprofessional, academic, competency-based approach that you have developed, allows for training extended role practitioners who can contribute to development of progressive models of care for those affected by arthritis. We congratulate you on the extensive curriculum you have developed, the excellent faculty, and for expanding admission to clinicians from across Canada, where the graduates are key to innovative arthritis care delivery models.

AHPA is a national organization that seeks to improve the care of people with rheumatic diseases through the promotion of education and support of research among health professionals. The membership of AHPA is comprised of a variety of regulated health professionals including physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, and dietitians; as well as health educators and researchers. Members come from a variety of clinical and administrative settings, such as hospitals, clinics, community programs, and universities.

AHPA's mission includes the promotion of research and education in the field of rheumatology. The ACPAC Program provides post-graduate arthritis education. In addition, your team has published peer-reviewed research related to the ACPAC Program, and the impact of the graduates on the health care system. AHPA's fundamental principles of research and education align well with the ACPAC Program.

If you have communication needs, AHPA's monthly Newsbrief is an informative newsletter that is delivered to our membership electronically. Feel free to contact me or our Communications Chair, Karen Gordon, with submissions for consideration for inclusion.

On behalf of AHPA, I wish you continued success with the ACPAC Program.

Sincerely,

Leslie Soever, BScPT, MSc
President, Arthritis Health Professions Association
