



May 4, 2023

Dear colleagues,

I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Robin McLeod will serve as the inaugural Senior Director for Strategic Relations and Leadership for the American Psychological Association (APA) in the Practice Directorate.

Dr. McLeod will lead the Association's efforts to strengthen relationships and align strategies between APA staff and governance, practice communities, and practitioners. These efforts are ultimately expected to advance the work of psychologists, advocacy for the profession, policy and leadership development, and member engagement and belonging.

Dr. McLeod brings her experience and understanding of APA, affiliated groups (Divisions and SPTAs), and the practice and regulatory communities to this new role. She is a licensed psychologist, a well-known and respected leader, and an expert in psychology regulations and practice. She has recently served as President of Division 42 (Psychologists in Independent Practice), member of APA's Council of Representatives, 2022 Chair of APA's Board of Professional Affairs (BPA), member of the Minnesota Board of Psychology and Chair of this licensing board for the past four years (2019-2022), 2016 President of the Minnesota Psychological Association, member of the PSYPACT Commission, and several other roles.

Dr. McLeod received her PhD from an APA-accredited program in Counseling Psychology at the University of Minnesota, where she also completed her clinical internship at University Counseling & Consulting Services.

Dr. McLeod's career has been dedicated to developing and implementing innovative business and practice strategies that enable psychologists to maintain viable practices within the evolving health care industry. Over the past 20 years Dr. McLeod grew her solo, independent practice into a group practice that served clients in six locations across the Twin Cities. Her practice set leading-edge standards of care for pediatric and immigrant populations, built strong relationships with payers to meet measurement-based quality standards, and embedded practicum, internship, and postdoctoral fellowship training experiences. These extensive, real-world experiences will help Dr. McLeod appreciate and give voice to the perspectives of practicing psychologists and trainees in order to collectively prepare the profession for the future.

Dr. McLeod will begin work in APA's Practice Directorate on July 10, 2023. In anticipating how she will connect with psychologists, trainees, and groups such as APA Divisions and SPTAs and others, Robin reflected that, "As our profession evolves in response to the demands of a changing world, it is vitally important that psychologists work together and lead the way to have even greater impact on improving peoples' lives. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with and support psychologists as we prepare the profession for the future."

Please join me in warmly welcoming Dr. Robin McLeod to her new leadership role in APA.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared L. Skillings". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Jared L. Skillings, PhD, ABPP  
Chief of Professional Practice, American Psychological Association