

Editor's Remarks

It gives me great pleasure to introduce my last issue as Editor-in-Chief of CJPE. I feel that with this issue, I am going out with a nice splash.

CJPE has been at the forefront of publishing scholarly writing on the Theory of Change, and John Mayne has been a prolific contributor to this discourse. It is an honour to end my tenure at CJPE with an issue that contains two Theory of Change articles authored by John. The first introduces criteria and approaches for assessing theories of change. It follows on John's 2016 best article of the year, published last year in English and reproduced here in French, which provides a structured framework for developing useful theories of change.

The two remaining full-length articles contribute new knowledge to specific evaluands. Gilbert and Cousins present a participatory evaluation approach to patient engagement and suggest ways in which the evaluation community can better engage in advancing effective patient engagement. Affodegon and Jacob seek to advance evaluation approaches for something quite different—the work of ombudsmen. Their critical review of evaluation approaches will undoubtedly prove helpful for future evaluations of rights protection agencies.

The Practice Notes section starts with two pieces that highlight innovative approaches to evaluation at the federal government level in Canada. Gingras et al. demonstrate the utility of small targeted studies and rich administrative panel data for evaluations in Employment and Social Development Canada. Tremblay, Bertrand and Fraser offer insights into the value of evaluation rubrics in a science organization.

Following on a recent CJPE Special Issue on cultural evaluation, Boyce and Chouinard present a framework for helping evaluators translate theoretical understanding of cultural evaluation into practice. A second Practice Note by the same authors similarly highlights translation of theory into practice—this time for students enrolled in an evaluation theory and practicum course.

It has been a great privilege to serve as Editor-in-Chief of CJPE. I have enjoyed the opportunity to learn so much from reviewing a wide variety of submissions and from guiding a good proportion to publication. Isabelle Bourgeois is so very well placed to take the baton and to lead CJPE through its next new and exciting phase.

Signing off,
Rob