

Editor's Remarks

This collection of articles and practice notes reflects current trends and important themes in our field. As evaluators, we are increasingly required to conduct evaluations of complex interventions that have moved beyond simple program structures. We must innovate and consider the cultural, environmental, and political contexts within which we work in order to serve our clients and stakeholders to the best of our abilities. The articles included in this issue provide evidence to support some of these innovations, whether they involve evaluating new ways of working together (McKellar and her colleagues), working with Indigenous communities (Gillespie), structuring our evaluation efforts against rigorous theories of change (Lam), or considering program sustainability as part of our evaluations (Mayne).

The practice notes thoughtfully submitted for this issue are also focused on innovation in evaluation: Dinca-Panaitescu attends to the evaluation of Social Innovation Labs, which represent an emerging intervention in many fields; Lavelle focuses on the professional practice of evaluation and how to teach communication skills; Renger and his team describe an example of System Evaluation Theory; and Halar et al. share their experience in developing a collaborative evaluation framework. All of these papers include concrete illustrations from the field and inspire us to continue to innovate and improve our evaluation approaches, methods, and interpersonal skills.

Finally, Gowensmith and O'Reilly contribute to our continued professional learning through two book reviews—I encourage you to read them and find inspiration for your own practice.

Thank you to all of our authors for these excellent contributions to evaluation research and practice. In closing, I would also like to encourage our readers to send me their thoughts and comments on *CJPE* papers. I recently received one such letter from Dr. Oralia Gomez-Ramirez, an emerging evaluator keenly interested in the paper recently published (in *CJPE* 35.1) by Lawson, Hunter, and McDavid on the current profile of the Credentialed Evaluator designation. Dr. Gomez-Ramirez provided insightful comments on the credentialing program and shared with us some interesting suggestions for the integration of emerging evaluators into this process, which have been passed on to CES. This type of conversation is exactly what we are trying to achieve; I am pleased to see that our articles, practice notes, and peer reviews are stimulating thought, discussion, and new ideas.

Isabelle Bourgeois
Editor-in-Chief