MADELEINE MEILLEUR, MPP / DÉPUTÉE

Ottawa - Vanier

September 9, 2015

Ms. Grace Joubarne
Co-founder, Stop Psychotherapy Takeover
279 Columbus Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
K1K 1P3

Dear Ms. Joubarne:

Thank you for your email correspondence of September 8, 2015, regarding three legislative amendments affecting the Registered Health Professions Act (RHPA), the Psychology Act and the Psychotherapy Act.

Our government is putting patients first. On April 1, 2015, the College of Homeopaths of Ontario and the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario were officially proclaimed under the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991(RHPA).

By establishing these self-regulating Colleges, the public can be assured that the services they are receiving are being provided by qualified and competent individuals. The new Colleges will ensure accountability of the profession as well as ensuring that important safeguards are in place to protect patients.

The transitional Councils of the Colleges were established to develop the regulations, standards, operational processes and infrastructure necessary to support a self-sustaining College. A significant amount of this work required awareness building and consultation with stakeholders and the profession to establish this framework prior to the establishment of the Colleges.

With regards to homeopaths, prior to the regulation of this profession, there was no clear way of knowing whether a provider was educated and trained to provide service. Regulating the profession will ensure that homeopaths are accountable to a governing body and its members will now be subject to the complaints and discipline processes of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA), if there are allegations concerning professional misconduct or incompetence.

Ontario respects alternative health therapies and the diverse population interested in different traditions of health care.

With regards to psychotherapists, the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario is being proclaimed without a "controlled act". The College will be charged with bringing the sector together to determine what the "controlled acts" are.

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Not proclaiming the controlled acts means that it will remain in the public domain and anyone may perform this activity until the controlled acts are determined.

The ministry will look to the professions to assist with defining what this activity will mean to their members and the public with a view to ensuring that it is clear and transparent, so that patients will understand what kinds of treatment they can expect to receive.

This time-limited option recognizes the individuals who have been practicing psychotherapy in Ontario and is intended to addresses concerns about potential service disruptions.

Comments or concerns can be submitted by contacting the CRPRMHTO directly at:

College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered
Mental Health Therapists of Ontario
163 Queen Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5A 1S1

If you prefer to submit your comments by telephone, you can call 1-416-862-4801 or toll free at 1-888-661-4801. A fax can also be sent to 416-874-4079 and an e-mail to info@collegeofpsychotherapists.on.ca

I thank you again for taking the time to write.

Best Regards,

Madeleine Meilleur, MPP
Ottawa-Vanier

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