

From: Joyce Rowlands <j.rowlands@crpo.ca>

Date: Mon, Oct 26, 2015 at 10:13 AM

Subject: Response to your Sept 3, 2015 letter (and follow-up letter of Oct 16, 2015)

Dear Ms. Joubarne,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of the two letters referenced above.

Please be advised that many of the questions raised in your first letter can be answered by information on our website or by referring to the legislation, specifically, the Psychotherapy Act, 2007 (the Act) and the Regulated Health Professions Act (see links below).

Having sought legal advice, and due to the length of your inquiry, the College is not obliged to provide a detailed response to each of your 115 questions. In fact, some of the questions are based on false assumptions and/or misinformation; some require expertise we do not possess; others would require us to speculate.

It is important to understand that CRPO Members are not authorized to diagnose nor to prescribe medications. In addition, the controlled act of psychotherapy has not been proclaimed (the rest of the Act has been proclaimed). There is no list of practitioners who perform the controlled act (we do not possess such a list and know of no such list).

At the request of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, CRPO is working with five other health regulatory colleges to clarify the meaning of the controlled act of psychotherapy. Our understanding is that, when this work is completed, the controlled act of psychotherapy will be proclaimed.

Currently, the Act limits the use of restricted titles (Registered Psychotherapist, RP, Registered Mental Health Therapist and RMHT) to CRPO Members. In addition, the Act prohibits non-Members from holding themselves out as qualified to practise as a psychotherapist in Ontario. The legislation does not prevent alternative/holistic/wellness practitioners from continuing to practise; it does prevent them from using any restricted title and from holding themselves out as qualified to practise psychotherapy.

If and when the controlled act is proclaimed, the Act will further restrict unauthorized persons from performing the controlled act of psychotherapy. The controlled act is worded as follows:

“...to treat, by means of psychotherapy technique delivered through a therapeutic relationship, an individual’s serious disorder of thought, cognition, mood, emotional regulation, perception or memory that may seriously impair the individual’s judgement, insight, behaviour, communication or social functioning.”

Below, please find the links mentioned above:

CRPO website: www.crpo.ca

Government of Ontario e-Laws: www.ontario.ca/laws

I hope this response is helpful.

Sincerely,

Joyce Rowlands | Registrar

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