

Transcript: Grace Joubarne in teleconference

Competition Bureau Representatives, August 4, 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4tiM5uBxRgc&feature=youtu.be>

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This is a non-professional transcript of the verbal communication that took place between representatives of the Canadian Competition Bureau and Stop Psychotherapy Takeover on August 4, 2016, regarding SPT's extensive submission of July 2016 to the Bureau requesting an investigation into the pharmaceutical cartel's elimination of the drugless therapy industry in Ontario.

Basically, Bureau representatives advised that they cannot take any enforcement action on anti-competition activities involving the provincial government and that cartels are free to create monopolies in Canada simply by inserting representatives into key government positions (such as Ministry of Health).

'We feel your pain but cannot help you in any significant way', was the take-away message.

To learn more about the escalating attacks on our healthcare freedom and especially on drugless treatment options, and to take action, visit: <http://www.stoppsychotherapytakeover.ca>

Phone call participants:

- *Daniel Jensen, Competition Law Officer for Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, Monopolistic Practices Directorate - Division B*
- *Catherine Hariton, Competition Law Officer for Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, Advocacy and Economic Analysis Directorate*
- *Grace Joubarne, Stop Psychotherapy Takeover Co-Founder*

0:00

Grace: wonderful you know I'm just going to put you.. as Catherine and it's He...

Katherine: ...Hariton

Grace: H a r l t o n... o n?

Katherine: That's right.

Grace: And you're with the Advocacy and what...

Katherine: That's right. And I guess, just to clarify, the Competition Bureau as you probably know is an independent law enforcement agency

0:24

Grace: Yes.

Katherine: Responsible for the administration and enforcement of the *Competition Act*.

Grace: Yes.

Katherine: Typically our activities fall into two general buckets. The first is enforcement, so obviously we're responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Act. So there are provisions related to murders, abuse of dominance, cartels, deceptive marketing.

0:46

Grace: OKAY

Katherine: When we take enforcement action, these things have to fit within the four corners of the Act.

0:55

Grace: OKAY

Katherine: Actually you know we have to prove all the elements before we can take a case forward.

Grace: OKAY

0:57

Katherine: The other thing the Bureau does is where there are regulations or policies that might be interfering with competition to some extent we may advocate in front of provincial governments, or federal governments or regulators.

Grace: Okay,

Katherine: So we really advocate for changes of regulations that are more friendly to competition. We refer to that as competition advocacy.

Grace: Oh, wonderful, okay. I thank you very much for explaining that...that helps a lot.

1:29

Katherine: So I mean...

Daniel: As I told you last week, given the issues that you've raised in your submission to us, we wanted to have both myself and Katherine here so that I can speak to the enforcement side of things and then Katherine can speak to the advocacy side of things....

Grace: Okay, Okay

Daniel: ... raised by this. First, thank you for this submission. I can clearly tell that this is a subject that you care deeply about. Mmmm... when it comes to allocation of the *Competition Act* as an enforcement matter, this sort of thing it is not clear we can do anything in this case. And that's because even assuming everything else lines up, what you're essentially alleging is that certain parties are influencing the Ontario government to adopt a certain regulatory framework. And from the perspective of application of the *Competition Act*, well, the Ontario government is entitled to do what it wants, right. It's entitled to be influenced by what it wants. And, you know, there's various jurisprudence around the intersection between the *Competition Act* and the provincial authority, but what it comes down to ultimately are, given the issues that you raised here is that fundamentally that the Ontario government is making a change and that's what's having an effect. It's very unlikely we can do anything here under an enforcement approach, simply just because of the involvement of the Ontario government.

Katherine: Specifically, the *Competition Act* is seen as legislation of general application in the Canadian economy. There's court cases with precedent that when there is specific provincial legislation, so specific regulatory scheme of the province is enacted, under our *Constitution* it's part of its core jurisdiction. So the problem is when the province makes specific legislation, specific laws concerning how, or property rights, or other things within it's jurisdiction, then typically that will take precedence over the *Competition Act*. So in those cases it's hard for us to take a direct enforcement case as Daniel has explained.

4:10

Grace: Yeah, well, I can see what you're saying but I guess that what that does is it means that anyone who wants to remove their competition all they have to do is insert themselves into one of the ministries and work from there. And then they have complete cover and that's exactly what's done here. I'm sure that you've read the document but what the pharmaceutical companies have done is simply insinuated themselves into the government and they're now even partnering and so on and so forth. Well that's a great cover. I mean they're eliminating, you know, a good portion, a huge portion, of the healthcare system that is their competition and they're doing it by just, you know, coying up to the Minister and some bureaucrats. So I don't know how anybody can be protected from anti-competition behavior when all they have to do-- when the evil people-- all they have to do is just insinuate themselves into one of the ministries and get it done from there. You know...

5:14

Katherine: Certainly regulatory capture is an issue that we see a lot of in governance. As a law enforcement agency, there is not a lot we can do directly towards provincial regulations.

Grace: Well ...

Katherine: Certainly ... I'm curious though. So, I didn't (?) get a chance to read over the material. So thank you for that. In the past practice there is...I don't want to call alternative medicines, because I feel that is pejorative, but

Grace: Well, it is, simply because we were around for thousands of years before pharmaceutical drug companies came along, so it's pharmaceutical drug propaganda that makes us 'alternatives'. That's what they call us, but in fact, you're right, it's pejorative, simply because we've been around and we have coherent education and we have proof and we have scientific support for what we do, but to listen to the pharmaceutical front corporations such as the FHRCO, we're nothing, we just arrived on the scene just because we decided to, so...

6:14

Katherine: So, is traditional medicines a better term to use in this context?

Grace: Just holistic – holistic approach - or non-drug approach.

Katherine: So, holistic then?

Grace: Yeah, yeah, holistic just means non-drug, and non diagnosis in mental illness so we don't see it as mental illness. We see it strictly as somebody needing help with the bumps and bruises of life. But the whole situation now is that under the guise of legislation, this pharmaceutical drug front company--and it's being directed by CLEAR, which is an international drug front company or corporation and what's happening is that all of this stuff is being directed from there. The Minister tells us that once these colleges are put into force that he has no, you know, he has no input into it, he has no real involvement in it. In fact, you saw one of the letters there where it said that they have no interest in the issues that practitioners would be facing or even their economic situation. Well the economic situation is that an entire industry is being eliminated under the cover of being a legislation. But this legislation is all written and driven by the pharmaceutical drug companies. So this is very disheartening because it just means that any industry can be eliminated simply by, you know, getting involved with the ministry at the right level. And in our case it's even tougher because the Minister of Health is actually a medical doctor belonging to the very same college and association that has been trying to eliminate the entire holistic industry for a century now. So that makes it even more difficult because we don't have anybody unbiased to discuss this with.

8:30

Katherine: Yeah. It's interesting because traditionally when we hear complaints from holistic practitioners is that actually that they cannot get themselves regulated.

Grace: Yeah

8:42

Katherine: Regulation has, confers a certain amount of respectability, or in many cases the ability to be funded.

Grace: Yes exactly, except that when this group the FHRCO, that's the front corporation, took over in 1990, then all of that went by the wayside. What now practitioners that did agree to be regulated for those reasons, Okay, that now they are finding themselves being diluted and eliminated. So the scopes of practice are being reduced to the point where they ... if they don't diagnose mental illness and if they don't prescribe drugs, they're being eliminated. And with the Naturopaths for example, they had to agree to prescribe drugs. Well you're no longer a Naturopath then. You know, it's as simple as that. So yes, what happened is that people were hoodwinked -- they were actually hoodwinked into believing that they could preserve their profession and that they could engender even more respect for their profession. And what it turned out to be, is that these colleges are corporations and they're just turned loose. And they can pass whatever regulations they want. And the latest one that we just heard about now, is that the Medical College transferred one of their people--it's the Executive Director and she was also the advisor and she's a lawyer and they transferred her to the College of Physiotherapists (that's Physical Therapists). And she's also now the Director of the FHRCO. And what she has been pushing is the complete elimination of all health and wellness centers such as Reiki, meditation, yoga and so on, so forth. Complete elimination! And also the character-- moral character assessment -- of all healthcare professionals. Well do you get up in the morning having to worry about somebody that you don't even know who's working for an entire industry trying to put you out of work saying 'well we're going to assess your moral character before you can work'?

Katherine: Hummm.

Grace: You know. So it's no longer... these colleges are no longer about assuring training and quality. They are now about moving into areas that they have no mandate for and actually just terrorizing all practitioners. I mean people actually have been put out of work because they cannot afford those high, those massive, membership fees, all of the hurdles. In many of the holistic practices such as mine--I'm a clinical hypnotherapist-- you get trained once ..

Katherine: Clinical hypnotherapist? Unintelligible....

11:37

Grace: I'm sorry? I'm a clinical hypnotherapist yes.

Katherine: What is a Clinical Hypnotherapist?

Grace: I'm trained in advanced hypnotherapy use by an approved and regulated government, BC government Institute for advanced hypnotherapy. What I was trained in is what they train postgraduate medical students at the University of Alberta in, and so I'm already trained. Once you're trained you don't have to...there there's nothing more to take, you're either trained or you're not trained. It's not a fad, it's not a theory, it's not where you have to keep going back to school to find out what the latest theory is. So what they're forcing everybody to do under these scopes of practice now is force everybody to take all kinds of updating at huge cost, thousands and thousands and thousands of dollars and all it is, is somebody's idea of a theory. And so all of these scopes of practice, all of these colleges now, they're all forcing the practitioners that are holistic to now abide by the medical pharmaceutical approach. So you have to maintain records, you have to diagnose, even though you're not trained to diagnose and it's not part of your training and it's not part of your industry and so on and so forth. Matter of fact it's counterintuitive, it's detrimental ...and so on and so forth. So now this FHRCO is actually promoting themselves as speaking to the Minister as one voice for all colleges. That means that all the holistic practitioners who agreed to join--non-drug practitioners who agreed to join--are now being forced to accept the views of the medical pharmaceutical cartel and that's just another way of being diluted. Like our voices are just being completely eliminated. Family therapists no longer can call themselves family therapists; they have to call themselves Registered Psychotherapists and they have to diagnose. Well, who's going to go to a family therapist, okay, with their teens, and so on so forth, only to end up with a mental illness diagnosis and so on and so forth. So they're systematically forcing us to come under the axe of the medical pharmaceutical cartel and this FHRCO, who has no mandate they're not elected and so on and so forth – they're just moving people into positions in this private corporation, and these people are all from the medical pharmaceutical background and so they're just taking over. There is no voice for the holistic industry, okay. They're just systematically diluting every profession, making it impossible for practitioners to pay those high costs and they're just forcing them out. And they've done this in every area—acupuncture, Traditional Chinese Medicine--I gave you lots of evidence there. There are thousands of people that are absolutely distressed beyond words. There are people that have 30 years experience with TCM, that's Traditional Chinese Medicine, who are now almost destitute. They've lost their practice, they've had to be shut down, they were taken to court and given an injunction that they can't practice and... They were doctors in their own country. They were doctors in major hospitals in their own country. How does it happen that you come to Canada and suddenly the medical pharmaceutical cartel sets up a college *that the minister rubber stamps into place?*

Katherine: ...ummm

Grace: *in violation of the Constitution*. And it's in violation of the *Constitution* because to this date they have never even carried out a study to show that any of this is dangerous to the public --of inherent risk to the public. As a matter of fact, they can't even show where there's ANY risk to the public. So all of this is being done by completely ignoring our constitutional rights, completely ignoring things. And we have to go to court! Like we have to take this all the way to the Supreme Court perhaps ...

Katherine: Yeah.

Grace: because they have very deep pockets.

Katherine: Yeah.

16:00

Grace: At the end of the day we can't work because what they do is they get an injunction against us and the lower courts just say 'ah well that's the law, that's the law'. That's what's been happening here. An entire industry is being eliminated before our very eyes through three or four little methods. Here, one of them is that they convince them -- like family therapists-- they told him that it was absolutely essential to join this new college and these people have to just go out of work. They have to just close down, they cannot keep up with the cost and all these new regulations that are being brought in that have absolutely nothing to do with their profession, have nothing to do with protecting the public. They're just there to create bookwork and hurdles and so on and so forth. So, people are just falling off left and right. We know of many practitioners who have left the province, but this is going province [Canada] wide now because we know that the Competition Bureau actually commented in Nova Scotia..... for example.

Katherine: yeah

Grace: They're bringing in a similar law. But it's a slippery slope, where one minute it's about psychotherapy, but then they can't define psychotherapy and then they turn around and define it so broadly that it encompasses anything and everything whenever they want to. And in the last podcast or whatever you call those things, webinar, the college – the new College of Psychotherapy-- actually said that... Can you imagine this? The woman says 'we [the College] don't know anything about energy treatment', Okay. She said 'they probably don't have any coherent education'. Well, you know that's just so demeaning because we have more education and we have more scientific support than psychotherapy has ever had—that's the thing. But they call it --they just make blanket statements like that, so all of the people who have spent thousands and thousands of dollars, you know, educating themselves in energy treatments...

18:08

Katherine: You said that education happened in other provinces?

Grace: I'm sorry??

Katherine: You said that education, people, like hypnotherapy...there's programs for that in other Canadian provinces???

Grace: Oh yeah, there are programs everywhere for energy treatment – all over the world. There are some people like Deepak Chopra, the Dr Deepak Chopra, the one that's widely known all around the world. And oh, what's the other guy's name, he's a scientist from Harvard? Gee, his name just eludes me now. Big, big names in energy medicine, and somebody like this who is just an administrator has decided that no one in energy treatment, who offers energy treatment, can possibly join the college and even if they did, they would have to diagnosed with mental illnesses. Well the thing is that even in the mental illness field they have proven study after study after study that there's no scientific support for any mental illness diagnosis. And what's more, is when you use them, you're actually working up to the detriment of your patient or your client. So it just goes completely against holistic approaches. But the other thing is too that the Fraser Institute proved that the public wants us. They are paying out-of-pocket 14 to 20 billion dollars a year. There's where the rub is --the pharmaceutical drug companies didn't have a problem with us until we started, you know, basically stealing their patients and their lifelong patients. So what you're telling me, now, is that there's no recourse, there's no protection whatever at any level in Canada, which is supposed to be a democracy, for [against] the pharmaceutical- medical pharmaceutical cartel- to wind its way into the Ministry and when it wants, and it as we shown in this psychotherapy issue, when they want to capture a whole bunch of their competitors, they simply put a word out--it's just a whisper and all the sudden there's a new college set up. And that's exactly what happened with psychotherapy. They actually, the advisors actually told the Minister 'it's not coherent, you can't do this'. Like it doesn't make any sense; you can't even define psychotherapy. So eight years later they can't define it but they keep telling us 'well, you better join the college to avoid being a court case'. Well...

20:46

Katherine: Tell us a bit more about the barriers. You mentioned the thousands of dollars in training,

Grace: No, we don't want to join simply because...

Katherine: No, that's understood. I understood that, it's not something that holistic practitioners are interested getting up-to-date because it's not in their....

Grace: Well, it's that we are up-to-date—that's the whole thing. We don't have to keep taking all kinds of courses. In the case of the CRPO, the new college, the training that they approve was just set up, was just set up in 2007. We have training that goes back for centuries. For

centuries, okay. And so in my case, for example, once you learn advanced clinical hypnotherapy, you don't have to keep going back for updates, okay. You take the courses that interest you. For example, you might want to specialize in irritable bowel syndrome, or something like that. But Reiki is reiki; it's not a bunch of psychological theories that all the sudden somebody else comes up with another theory. It's not proven or anything, but you have to take their course at thousands of dollars. And that's time away from your practice and everything.

22:02

Katherine: I see.

Grace: So when they start dictating things like that, yes that's fine in medicine, doctors have to keep up with the latest technology, but we don't use technology. That's not what we use, so at the end of the day if your clients are really satisfied with the method that you're using, you shouldn't be forced to accept somebody else's idea of updating, especially when they don't even treat you with dignity to start with. But, #1, we don't need to be regulated. We are managed by our own associations. Every association that we belong to has a code of ethics. You can be kicked out, and so on and so forth. We don't need another college. We don't need to pay ten thousand dollars a year for the privilege of being able to work and then be under the thumb of people who don't hold you in very high regard in the first place. And when they can't even define psychotherapy, you know that there's a huge, huge problem because they're going to define it, and they're going to interpret the law in whatever way they see fit. In the meantime, they can put you through hell to the point where people just, they just get out, get out of it. And so they win. The pharmaceutical cartel wins that way. Okay. Then you just can't work because you can't afford to keep playing that head game and it's not called for at all. There's no evidence whatever, the required evidence, that an imposition like that is justified. There's no evidence whatever. We've done Freedom of Information requests and they admit there are no studies--there was no, you know, no proof that psychotherapy is superior to any other approach to mental wellness... and so on and so forth.

23:53

Katherine: um (inintelligible)

Grace: So you know that this was just concocted in the background and the Minister just rubber-stamped it.

Katherine: I see.

Grace: And this is what's happening. It happened to the acupuncturists. It happened to the Traditional Chinese Medicine [practitioners]. One of the things they told them was if you were a doctor in your country or where you learned Traditional Chinese Medicine, that's been around for five thousand years. There are something like 14 million treatments a year

worldwide--no complaints. I think three people died but they can be sure that was from the acupuncture or not. And this is, this is a study. This is a legitimate study that shows that there was no reason to do this. But what they did is they promised 'well okay, you know if you joined this College you will have your doctor you will be able to use your doctor title and you will then be seen as equivalent to medical doctors, to conventional. Well, guess what? Five years later they're still not allowed to use the word doctor, the term doctor. And even though they earned it. There's one person that I gave you the case law about. That poor lady, I'm sorry, that man, he was a medical doctor and emergency doctor in a Chinese, a major Chinese hospital for years and years and years. He was a doctor and today he is out of work.

Katherine: Yeah.

25:20

Grace: Now you tell me how we are being protected? But what is disheartening is to know that even our federal government it is not doing something about this. An entire industry is being eliminated but also 14 million people are losing their choices.

Katherine: Have you spoken to Health Canada about this?

Grace: Well, Health Canada is run by the pharmaceutical drug companies. We all know that!

Katherine: Yeah.

Grace: Okay, I mean there were entire websites of abuses of Health Canada. There has been a move to disband Health Canada because it's completely, completely taken over, just like the Ministry of Health in Ontario, by the pharmaceutical drug companies. That's why you can see Vioxx killing hundred and sixty five [thousand] people and still on the market. And yet totally safe natural products that have been around for generations and generations are removed. Why? Simply because the people who are making the natural products, they don't have the deep pockets. They can't pay for the thirty or forty thousand dollars that it costs to prove that their product is safe. Okay. So that's how it works. Is that they put up all these barriers and then they tell you have to join a college in order to be able to be permitted to work.

26:31

Grace: Well you know Katherine, there's a huge problem with this. If an employer charges or asks a fee of an applicant in order to be able to get work, they will be charged. That's against the law. You can't, you can't charge somebody a fee in order to help them find work.

27:02

Katherine: That's correct!

Grace: That's correct. Okay, then how is it that a college can be set up overnight and you can't work unless you pay them?

Katherine: Yeah.

Grace: You tell me that? And that you can't work the way you were trained. You can't work the way that your clients really appreciate and you know they appreciate because you see they keep coming back to you and they keep referring their family and your business grows, and so on and so forth. How is it that we have to pay thousands upon thousands of dollars to a college that has not justified its existence, at all? So...

Katherine: Ya, I know. I hear where you are coming from. I appreciate you bringing this to us. As Daniel said, there isn't a lot we can do directly. However, I'll say that regulating of professionals, including over regulating of professions and issues around recognition of foreign credentials is something that the Bureau's looked at in the past. Now, our advocacy team is quite small here, but I will flag it.

Grace: Okay.

Katherine: We'll see. Unfortunately, there's not a lot we can do in the short term.

Grace: Yeah, it's too bad because there are thousands of people now actually on welfare because of this. They just lost everything.

Katherine: Yeah, that's sad.

Grace: You know what? Somebody pointed out to us that this is exactly the way the Mafia works. If you move into a mafia district you have to pay them to be able to keep your business going. If you don't, they will force you out of business. And that's exactly what these colleges, this whole regulatory system is about. You pay to play, and if you don't, we are going to end your business and that's exactly what happens. Now, they can claim that it's to protect the public, but as the Fifth Estate pointed out in their documentary about how, for example, the most well-known college--College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. That, even though there are eleven, twelve, thirteen complaints of sexual abuse against the doctor, the doctor is still working. And in fact, Fifth Estate showed how, when the police went to get the evidence from that doctor's office, the college had already gone, taken all the evidence and wouldn't give it to the police.

Katherine: Yeah.

Grace: So somebody needs to tell us how we're being protected here. How are we being protected when the professional of our choice is eliminated --that we have to go to a professional that is going to guarantee us a mental illness diagnosis and drugs.

29:49

Katherine: One of the issues for us is obviously we're experts in competition law but not in medical evidence. But like the real crux of this issue here is the medical establishment probable (??unintelligible) refusal to acknowledge holistic practitioners.

Grace: Well what do you expect? The Minister is a medical doctor. His allegiance is to his profession. His profession has repeatedly, for the last 65 years, said they want to eliminate holistic practice. This went back to Daniel Rockefeller in 1930, when he took over all the medical schools in the United States. In the United States until 1930, the only thing that was taught was homeopathy, hypnotherapy, all the natural treatments. He came in and he said well I'll donate to the medical schools, but I want to set the curriculum. Well, a lot of people don't understand that pharmaceutical drugs, okay, the basis of them is petroleum. Virtually all the psychiatric meds are based in petroleum. They're petroleum by-products. So when he realized that they could sell this--the first one was the Thorazine-- it was two petroleum-based ingredients and when he realized this he said 'well, we'll just switch the whole medical system over to pharmaceuticals'. Well he owns most of the pharmaceutical drug companies, he and the elite. So of course there's nothing taught at any medical school about nutrition. Not even five minutes about holistic approaches, non-drug approaches. The idea is to sell drugs. You can't sell drugs if you show people options. But they also through this latest little scheme, they're eliminating all holistic education.

Katherine: Yes.

31:55

Grace: You will not be permitted to tell anybody that you know instead of taking antibiotics for this little infection you can just put a black tea bag on it and it will draw it out and so on and so forth. So people are learning on their own, thanks to the internet, and then there's all of us that have managed to survive despite, you know, constantly being under the thumb and being smeared by the pharmaceutical drug fronts. And this FHRCO they are bold. I mean they will say things like, you know 'a person is not qualified unless they belong to the College'. We I'm sorry, but the college entry requirements are minimum standards. For us to survive, okay, in the open market, we have to have maximum standards. You can't be a clinical hypnotherapist and just have basic training. You have to have the best, otherwise people just won't keep coming back to you--they'll find somebody else.

32:55

Katherine: Um!

Grace: Okay, but because these people go around and say oh well I'm you know, I'm a Registered Psychotherapist. Well, people don't realize that these people only have to have the basic. They just have to have the minimum.

Katherine: Yeah.

Grace: Yeah, but where did the competition go? Where did the people with the maximum training go? Well they're eliminated.

Katherine: Yeah, well I know, I understand it's frustrating with a provincial legislation is like that.

33:20

Grace: It's not just frustrating, it is really dangerous; it is really dangerous. We have millions of kids right now being drugged for ADHD, when all of the studies have shown that those drugs cause permanent brain damage, okay. And that holistic education—helping parents to change the child's diet, to raise the child holistically with more exercise and so on and so forth, and help parents deal with the neglect, and so on and so forth. When that will help a child through childhood, they're throwing these babies, there are actually newborn babies now by the thousands being put on psychiatric drugs that are not approved for babies.

Katherine: Ummm.

Grace: Not approved for children at all. A Canadian study of 17,000 children that were put on these psychiatric drugs, schoolchildren, showed that not one single one improved and many worsened and many committed suicide. So at the end of the day, its really dangerous not to give parents a place to go with their child.

Katherine: Ya, no. I definitely understand your concerns. Unfortunately, frustrating as it is, there is just nothing we can do.

Grace: Well, that's Incredible!

Katherine: So, I'll definitely bring it forward. I'll bring it forward. Part of our local regulations and the regulation of professions, but ultimately it's provincial legislation, and I mean, frustrating as it is, I understand your concerns. There isn't anything the Bureau can do directly.

34:53

Grace: But you know we have a province now that is completely dictatorial.

Katherine: Uh hum.

Grace: Completely dictatorial. So, how can we go forward next year and celebrate our democracy when there is no democracy in Ontario? When competition to the pharmaceutical drug companies are being eliminated and everybody tells us they can't do anything about it. Now you tell me that. If you can explain that to me then...because what it means is that anybody can get into power, any place in Canada and then just take over.

35:32

Katherine: I...(unintelligible). I understand. Obviously the systems of government have their flaws.

Grace: Well, that's not a flaw. That's a violation of our democratic rights. It's not just a flaw in the legislation. This is set up to undermine our *Constitution*, in the process putting out of work thousands and thousands and thousands of innocent practitioners that the public needs, that the public wants. Obviously the public is paying out of pocket 14 to 20 billion dollars a year. Obviously the public wants us.

Katherine: Yes

Grace: So there's something radically wrong here if somebody is going to say that Canada is a democracy and yet a handful of people in the province can completely eliminate one whole section, one whole industry that's obviously desired by the public. If the public didn't desire us and didn't find us safe, they would just not give us their money.

36:33

Katherine: Unfortunately, we are bound by our Act. By the powers that Parliament has given us. So..

Grace: Okay

Katherine: I do understand your concerns, but unfortunately I can't promise you something we can't do.

Grace: No. Okay, well that's pretty shocking, but the ... okay.

Katherine: Thank you for this call.

Grace: Is there any way for you to just confirm what you told me in writing so that I don't get it wrong?

36:58

Daniel: Providing substantive responses in writing is not our typical practice. Ummm, we can look into it, and I suspect you'll be receiving some sort of a letter saying that we have had a conversation and we will see to what extent our organization is comfortable with putting more than that, but it may not happen.

Grace: Yeah well that's interesting because how am I going to explain this to all the people who are waiting on an answer. The best that I can do is just, you know, give them my interpretation of what you said, which is 'Well, tough luck!' That's what I'm hearing you know 'tough luck'.

Daniel: Well, I mean if ... The way we see this is that you brought an issue to our attention. We considered it and we provided you with our responses. Umm, I mean, if you want a legal opinion as to the application of the *Competition Act*, you are perfectly free to retain a lawyer. This is.... (unintelligible)... as an organization we considered it, discussed it with you and we have provided our response. We'll see what we can do in terms of a written response, but that is simply just generally how we operate.

Grace: Hmmm.

Daniel: I just don't want to give you any false hope.

Grace: Yeah, well, it's pretty stunning. I mean, we're sending people over to other countries to ensure their democracy, meanwhile Ontario is just being de-democratized. Well, okay, I have to accept your answer. I will do my best to share it the way you explained it, to others, because there are many thousands of people waiting to see what will be done here.

Daniel: Uh uh.

39:05

Grace: Well, okay, well thank you very much, I appreciate it.

Katherine: Thanks for your call.

Daniel: We appreciate your bring this to our attention Grace. I mean, what we can do is limited. Though, we always appreciate when we are made aware.

Grace: Well, what is it that you can do?

39:22

Daniel: Well, as Katherine said, this is like something that we can consider as an advocacy project. But in terms of enforcement, you know, bringing legal (?) action of the *Competition Act*, there isn't much there. So ultimately what we could at best do, is advocate for change ourselves. But, we have no legal power in this case to compel change.

Grace: Okay, well, can you tell me a little bit more about what you can and what you will do to advocate for the change?

Katherine: We have a small advocacy team. Certainly we have looked at professions in the past. Potentially for the future, I have to put this through our triage. There is a lot of aspects of the Canadian economy that are regulated and maybe right??? for more competition. So, I have to put it to our advocacy triage process.

Grace: Okay, and would you be able to let me know what they decide?

Katherine: Oh, I can follow-up.

Grace: Okay, so you can follow up. When do you think that that might happen?

Katherine: Given that it's the summer, it might be a while unfortunately. These things never proceed quickly.

Grace: And so perhaps the ... okay. Is there any place where I could find out what the triage that you do is about and what the process is like?

40:57

Katherine: We have an advocacy page on our website.

Grace: You do eh? Okay.

Katherine: ...on the Competition Bureau website and we can refer to speeches by our Commissioner, John Pecman, that he made in the past.

Grace: Okay, okay. When you do advocacy, what form does it take? Do you write a letter to them?

Katherine: It can take a variety of forms. It can take the form of a letter, it can take the form of a formal discussion with the government officials and sometimes formal regulatory intervention. Typically, they take place as an ongoing process we can see to. So typically in a case like this, where there is no formal review being done by the government, it might take the form of either a letter or a discussion.

Grace: I see. Okay, okay, so there's a good chance they are going to hear from you, right?

Katherine: I can't promise that unfortunately, but like I said, that's out of my hands.

Grace: Okay, okay. Well thank you very much. That helps, maybe there's still a little flicker of hope because I'm sure that if they heard from the Competition Bureau, even as advocacy, that maybe they will give it a second thought. You know. Because we've had two lawyers write them and the Minister won't even respond. He just says basically, 'I will have, I've assigned 6 groups to decide what the *controlled act of psychotherapy* will be and when I'm satisfied, then I will proclaim the law.' In other words, he's going to leave it up to six medical-model advocacy professions to decide...and that'll be it. Well, they don't have the right to decide for 14 million Ontarians what treatments we should have, but that's essentially that's what he's told us...is that, you can have all the choice you want, you can have any kind of treatment you want, as long as it's the kind, our kind.

Katherine: Yeah.

Grace: Okay, well, there's a flicker of hope still. Thank you, very much, appreciate it.

Katherine and Daniel: Thank you.

END