

STOP PSYCHOTHERAPY TAKEOVER (SPT)

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c/o 279 Columbus Avenue

Ottawa, ON K1K 1P3



October 18, 2016

Dr. Eric Hoskins

Minister of Health and Long-Term Care of Ontario

URGENT

10th Floor, Hepburn Block

80 Grosvenor Street

Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C4

Dear Dr. Hoskins:

re: request for referral to HPRAC before you allow proclamation of *Controlled Act of Psychotherapy*

Further to your response dated June 15, 2016 that 6 medical-model groups are deciding the definition of the *Controlled Act of Psychotherapy*, we are requesting that prior to recommending proclamation of this amendment to the *RHPA*, you refer the matter to HPRAC and Constitutional experts on an urgent basis.

Based on evidence discovered through Freedom of Information requests, it is clear that HPRAC advised against the *controlled act of psychotherapy*, and that the affected public, practitioners and even psychotherapy groups were not consulted and did not participate in the framing of the legislation.

Further, dictionaries of psychology show that psychotherapy has now been redefined by psychologists, including the APA, to include all manner of assistance for mental and emotional issues and spiritual care, thus enabling the *controlled act of psychotherapy* to be enforced against all manner of valued, proven safe professionals who have never seen themselves as involved in 'psychotherapy', which had historically been defined only as an undefined 'talk therapy' psychological intervention. These practitioners are now experiencing panic, chaos and uncertainty about their futures, while their clients live in dread of losing access to the healthcare options of their own choice.

Also, earlier this year psychology, and by extension psychotherapy, was ruled unscientific and all psychology laws, and by extension all psychotherapy laws, are unconstitutional. This was the finding of the Texas 5th Circuit Court of Appeal in Serafine v. Branaman, No. 14-51151.

The *controlled act of psychotherapy* could not survive a court challenge and it is therefore essential that you do not cause innocent practitioners and their clientele any further unnecessary distress and expense. The College of Registered Psychotherapist of Ontario (CRPO) has already admitted that its applicants are experiencing panic and 'stress up to the eyeballs'.

In addition, both the *Psychotherapy Act* and the *Controlled Act of Psychotherapy* were passed in violation of the *Constitution of Canada* and the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* which requires PROOF of inherent risk to the public before such broad legislation that monopolizes all mental health care in the hands of a select few unscientifically-based psychological groups is passed.

According to the documentation received, not a single independent study, evaluation, or research project was undertaken prior to the in-secret framing of this legislation by psychologists and psychiatrists. Nine years later, we find that the province's regulatory college refuses to clearly define psychotherapy or the controlled act, and that the claims that psychotherapy is a highly complex treatment requiring restriction are still unsubstantiated and unjustified.

Nonetheless, innocent practitioners have already been put out of work, others have been extorted into paying massive fees just to continue working without fear of massive fines or jail, and psychotherapy has been defined as broadly as possible so as to effect complete control over all human-to-human interactions for the purpose of health and wellness... all on the basis of opinion.

We look forward to your confirmation that you will do the right thing and refer the matter back to HPRAC for review and legitimate public consultation before taking any further steps to proclaim the *controlled act of psychotherapy* or allowing 6 self-interest medical-model groups to interpret this legislation.

It is not possible to regulate mental, emotional and spiritual treatments using the same protocols and requirements that regulate physical treatments. To force homogeneity of treatments according to the views of a few people is a gross violation of everything that Canada stands for. It is not possible to force a round hole into a square peg without doing massive damage to the healthcare system.

In addition, there is no evidence (as confirmed by Freedom of Information releases) that psychotherapy is

- (a) a successful treatment for any emotional, mental or spiritual issue,
- (b) that psychotherapists and/or psychologist are best suited to regulate all mental, emotional and spiritual health care, especially when the public is paying out-of-pocket,
- (c) that psychology and psychotherapy are scientific, and
- (d) the psychotherapy and psychology laws are lawful.

We look forward to an early and positive response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Joubarne Christine Massey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Massey" being more prominent.

Grace Joubarne and Christine Massey
Co-founders, Stop Psychotherapy Takeover

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