



CRPO / OPAO

College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario
Ordre des psychothérapeutes autorisés de l'Ontario

March 28, 2017

Gail Czukar
Addictions and Mental Health Ontario
2002-180 Dundas St. West
Toronto, ON M5G 1Z8

Camille Quenneville
Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario
180 Dundas Street West, Suite 2301
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Kim Moran
Children's Mental Health Ontario
40 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 309
Toronto, ON M4T 1M9

Re: Request for Extension of Deadline for Grandfathering for Registration in CRPO

Dear Ms. Czukar, Ms. Quenneville and Ms. Moran:

Thank you for your letter of March 24, 2017 regarding the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario's (CRPO) upcoming grandparenting deadline. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with what I hope are useful clarifications about both the grandparenting process and regular route applications, as well as about the controlled act of psychotherapy.

While I agree that we want to see as many qualified candidates as possible registered with CRPO, the March 31, 2017 end to grandparenting was set out in the College's Registration Regulation and, as such, we do not have the authority to extend the deadline.

It is important to note that the grandparenting route to registration was meant for those who were already practicing psychotherapy prior to the April 1, 2015 proclamation of the *Psychotherapy Act*. Moreover, CRPO made the grandparenting registration process available beginning in April 10, 2014. This means that anyone meeting the grandparenting requirements has had three years to complete and submit an application through this route. Finally, the regular route application process remains available for those who qualify.

While I can appreciate that there is concern about the controlled act of psychotherapy, the information circulated in February of this year by five of the six regulatory colleges whose members will have the authority to perform the controlled act once it is proclaimed was intended to gauge the level of understanding of the specifics of the controlled act. It was not new information – in fact, the statutory provisions related to the controlled act of psychotherapy have been in legislation awaiting proclamation since 2007.

We still do not know when the controlled act will be proclaimed into force. Until this proclamation, anyone may perform the controlled act. Once the controlled act is proclaimed, CRPO will take a risk-based approach toward enforcing compliance with provisions respecting the controlled act of psychotherapy. The following criteria indicate a low risk of harm to the public. In general, CRPO does not plan to take enforcement action with respect to individuals who:

1. Are appropriately trained in an unregulated mental health field
2. Practise within their scope of practice
3. Belong to a recognized professional association in their field
4. Work under appropriate supervision
5. Are employed within a publicly funded or accountable organization
6. Are not using the titles "psychotherapist", "Registered Psychotherapist" or any abbreviation thereof

I do hope that this information helps to ease your concerns. That said, I would be glad to speak with you at any point to discuss this further.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Sincerely,



Deborah Adams, MA, MHSc, CHE
Registrar

Copy: Andrew Benedetto, CRPO President