

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

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HLTC2968MC-2017-174

AUG 04 2017

Mr. Thomas Corcoran
Chair
Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council
56 Wellesley Street West, 12th Floor
Toronto ON M5S 2S3

Dear Mr. Corcoran:

In its 2006 report, *Regulation of Health Professions in Ontario: New Directions*, the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council (HPRAC), recommended that a number of professions, including psychotherapy, be regulated under the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (RHPA). In response, the *Health System Improvements Act, 2007*, regulated the profession of psychotherapy and added a new controlled act of psychotherapy under the RHPA, among other things.

As you know, the section of the RHPA dealing with the controlled act of psychotherapy was not proclaimed when the profession of psychotherapy was brought under the auspices of the legislation. Despite best efforts by the profession, there continues to be uncertainty around the meaning of the controlled act and who may perform it. Therefore, I am asking HPRAC to:

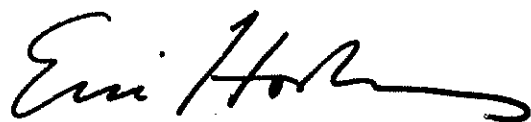
1. Provide advice on how to make clear the meaning of the controlled act so that it is understood by members of the professions who may be granted the controlled act, prospective applicants to the professions and, most importantly, to the public. I ask that you use the clarification documents created by the six regulatory colleges whose members may be granted the controlled act as the foundation for your work.
2. Recommend criteria for determining whether there are certain providers, who are not members of a regulated health profession, who may require an exemption from the performance of the controlled act so that they are not unduly prevented from providing services to their respective client population. Examples of these providers may include but are not limited to those providing children and youth services, peer support/counselling activities and sexual assault support services.

In your analysis, I would ask that HPRAC place equal weight on the dual values of access to care and protecting the public from harm.

I recognize that my request deals with complex issues and will take some time to consider. However, I would like HPRAC to provide me with its advice no later than November 1, 2017.

Lastly, I would like to express my appreciation to you and members of the Council for supporting this important initiative. If you have any questions, please contact Denise Cole, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Workforce Planning and Regulatory Affairs Division, (HWPRAD) at denise.cole@ontario.ca or 416-212-7688.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister

c: Dr. Bob Bell, Deputy Minister, MOHLTC
Denise Cole, Assistant Deputy Minister, MOHLTC, HWPRAD
Presidents and Registrars of the Regulated Health Professional Colleges
President and Registrar of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers