
Meeting of the Transitional Council of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario — September 21, 2012

Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, and Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting.

REPORTS

President's Report:

- Irene Keroglidis resigned from the Transitional Council due to personal / family reasons
- President's letter to the Ministry (as posted on the website and in the newsletter) was written to acknowledge that much done on the TC level with the regulations is groundbreaking and needs to be recognized as such
- The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care is currently consulting about the RMHT title and how it may impact other Colleges with the right to use the Psychotherapy title in a varied form
- The Executive Committee is working on the College's by-laws trying to get them ready for the date of proclamation
- The president took part in a graduation ceremony of a bridging training program. It underlined for her the importance of the work done on council level

Registrar's Report:

- The Professional Misconduct Regulation has been approved by the Ministry, sealed, and won't be changed anymore until approved by the government
- The Registration Regulation is still under consideration. The TC expects feedback by early October.
- TC is looking for consultants for the task groups.
- Annual report is done and was delivered
- Framework for the the educational program requirements has been put up on the website although it is still very preliminary

Quality Assurance Committee Report:

- The Jurisprudence handbook is with an editor
- The format for the e-learning module is under consideration
- The guidelines for the professional conduct regulation is ready; the committee is currently negotiating with an editor and writer to bring it into good shape. Hoping to have a first draft by November
- The Professional Misconduct Regulation has been finalized and is sealed. Committee Chair believes that the integrity of the regulation has been maintained and that anything that had to be removed or 'diluted' can be added in the guidelines

Registration Committee Report:

- The Ministry is currently discussing the RMHT title again with special attention to how it may impact other Colleges who do mental health work.

Education Framework Task Group:

- In acknowledgment of the need of educational institutions for more detail for preparing the coming academic year, the preliminary draft for the framework has been put up on the website.
- The committee is looking forward to working with a consultant on creating a more detailed version.
- Hoping to have a draft ready in enough detail for a pilot project in early fall
- Goal for completion in spring 2013 so that the fall curriculum can be adjusted accordingly

Prior Learning Assessment Task Group:

- Changes were made according to the feedback received from stakeholders
- Committee is now looking for a consultant
- Now working on finalizing the portfolio process for the grandparenting process; hoping to have it ready for presentation for the next meeting

REGISTRATION PROCESS REVIEW

- It has become clear that the proclamation date of April 2013 is not any longer likely but the College is hoping to be ready for work some time in 2014.
- Presented application process; working on 'fleshing it out'.
- Process for regular application and grandparenting (not including Temporary, Qualifying, and Inactive categories; pathways between RMHT and RP categories; internationally-trained applicants; applicants under the Labour Mobility Act)
 - Registrar / Registrar's Office views and decides on applications that meet all requirements for full membership
 - Those applications that don't meet all the requirements will be referred to the Registration Committee for further evaluation and processing
 - The Registration Committee decides based on different consideration such as:
 - Does the applicant meet all non-exemptible requirements?
 - How many / which exemptible requirements does the applicant not meet?
 - Is the application advantageous to public interest?
 - Is there a conflict of interest?
 - Are there precedents to such applications being handled in a certain way?
 - Are there human rights questions involved?
 - What is the legal advice in this situation?
 - Etc.
 - The Registration Committee's other responsibilities:
 - Granting registration ...
 - ... in full
 - ... after completion of exam or training
 - ... with terms, conditions, or limitations
 - ... not at all (denying registration)
 - Appeals of denial of registration can be made to HPRAC
 - Maintaining registration
 - Developing policies

- Application process:
 - Planning on online application process that can be completed over time (up to three years)
 - **Stage 1:** Profile Information
 - Basic personal information (name, address, etc.)
 - Allows access to Professional Practice and Jurisprudence programs
 - Adding proof for application requirements over time (e.g. training and educational information, passing entry exams, etc.)
 - Generally the sign for completed application is payment of the application form at which point the registration process starts.
 - After educational information and registration exam (or portfolio evidence for grandparenting process) have been passed, the following steps conclude full registration:
 - Disclosure (of previous charges, professional misconduct findings etc.)
 - Statutory declaration
 - Proof of liability insurance (within 2 weeks after application)
 - Membership fees
- Upcoming tasks for the Registration Committee:
 - Developing the grandparenting process, tolls, and materials
 - Developing the process, tools, and materials for reviewing and recognizing education and training programs
 - Policy Development
 - Pre-registration
 - Supervision (case, clinical)
 - “Good Standing”
 - Language proficiency
 - Currency
 - Pathways
 - Labour mobility
 - The national exam for psychotherapists that is currently is being developed is close to being ready and will most likely be the exam used by the College. A similar exam will be developed for RMHTs once the Ministry gives final approval of the way the title is used.
 - The College is hoping to be able to make a pre-registration process available approximately 6 months before date of proclamation.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO REGISTRATION REGULATION

Provision 2.1.10:

Remove “successfully” and changing “exam” to “learning module”

New text to read:

“The applicant must have completed within the three years prior to the date of his or her application a professional practice and jurisprudence learning module set or approved by the Registration Committee.”

Motion passed, new text was approved.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND JURISPRUDENCE HANDBOOK

- The jurisprudence and professional practice learning module must be completed *before* prospective applicants apply for registration.
- Process of development:
 - Legal council provided a first draft of the jurisprudence handbook based on the overarching regulatory framework of other Colleges and relevant regulation
 - Quality Assurance Committee did a detailed review of the content to ensure that the content reflects the practice of psychotherapy, reflects both RPs and RMHTs, and has appropriate language.
 - An editor has been contracted to simplify the language, smooth the flow of the text, and bring consistency to the document's format.
 - Legal counsel will provide a final review to ensure that the integrity of the original text was maintained throughout the process
 - Hoping to have the handbook (not the questions) will be ready for the November meeting
 - Development of the e-learning module to be based on the handbook once it is ready

A motion to accept this process for the development of the handbook was passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Code of Conduct:

Re-assignment of Council members and registrations nearing completion seems like a good time for Council members to re-introduce, review, refresh, restore, and renew commitments and conduct rules. It presents a natural opportunity for re-affirmation.

Review of Governance work:

- By-law development is on course
- Will be presented when completed (planning to be ready for November meeting)

CLOSING

After closing comments, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 21st, 2012.

Disclaimer:

The notes in this document are **not** official minutes. The author does not claim the content to be 100% correct or to express the intent of the discussions perfectly. These are purely the notes of the meeting as understood by the author from her position as silent observer.

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