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## Meeting of the Transitional Council of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario — January 15, 2014

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

This was a ½ day meeting.

### **REPORTS**

#### *President's Report:*

- Two new members were welcomed to the TC: Kenneth Lomp and Andrew Benedetto.
- Ongoing communication with the OACCPP re: their concerns about relationship between Compass (the organization that will administer and manage the registration exam) and the CRPO
- Dealing with the noticeable increase in anxiety and the increasing number of questions brought to the College in regards to registration; wants to reassure all prospective applicants that ALL applications will be handled on an individual basis and no 'group acceptance' will happen, e.g. all members of XYZ are automatically registered or all people with ABC training are automatically accepted.
- TC received 52 applications for the volunteer position of reviewers for training programs, 13 were chosen, will receive training soon.

#### *Registration Committee Report:*

- No report

#### *Quality Assurance Committee Report:*

- Met once since last meeting
- All of the focus on finishing Professional Practice Standards which will be presented for final approval later in the meeting
- If Standards are approved this is the last time the Chair is reporting to the TC as Chair of this committee. He took the opportunity to again thank his fellow committee members
  - Feels deep pride in the work of the committee, both in outcome and in process
  - Had his eyes opened to the absolute and amazing diversity of the profession and future members of the College
  - Hopes that every new member will find something to identify with in the regulations and standards
  - Thanks his fellow committee members and the staff of the College for their ongoing dedication, hard work, and support

#### *Executive Committee Report:*

- Met twice since last meeting
- Worked on work plans, timelines, committee composition, by-laws, and policy
- In discussion with Ministry over proclamation date
- Connected to a indigenous group and researching possibilities or setting up a study group to find out how indigenous practitioners can be more fully engaged in the College work.

### **Registrar's Report:**

- Feels like being at the beginning of the end of the TC
- Proclamation is in sight
  - It will be this year but it isn't certain that it will be in April
  - MoH is still holding on to Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> but has acknowledged that it may not be possible
  - There are different possibilities that MoH may be considering, but whatever happens, MoH and the TC *will* find a solution
- 1<sup>st</sup> pilot of grandparenting process is done (by TC members)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot coming up soon
- Pre-registration likely to start by early March
- So far 2900 user accounts opened; 2300 of those have paid for the jurisprudence module
- Staff and TC are currently reviewing applications for committee memberships
- College has received over 200 applications for volunteer position of grandparenting process; currently reviewing, hoping to start 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot in early February
- MoH has objected to the TC's idea of expanding the definition of currency hours "in Canada" to incl. work with clients who are working overseas but with / for the Canadian government or Canadian organizations; "in Canada means in Canada"; TC will be rephrasing this.
- Communication with the Ministry of Training and Universities re: status of training institutes; currently training institutes are not required to be registered as Private Career Colleges, however, that may change soon
- Working on the 2014/2015 business plan and budget

### **GRANDPARENTING PILOT REVIEW**

- 22 volunteers took part, incl. all TC members
- 95% completion rate
- 31 pages of feedback were received
- Common concerns incl.
  - Technical process
  - The layout of the form
  - Flow and information gathering process
  - Help / information process
- Staff working with IT to address concerns and get ready for 2<sup>nd</sup>, larger pilot
- Working on an information booklet / electronic booklet to support the application process
- Application incl. some questions that aren't necessary for registration but are required by MoH for their annual statistics; it will be made more obvious which those questions are
- Currently checking volunteer applications for 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot; looking for people who haven't had too much involvement with the process as of yet in order to be better able to gauge timing and difficulties with the more general applicant
- Part of 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot will be the testing of other things such as
  - Portfolio review
  - Public register management
  - MoH database connection
  - Information handbook for applicants
- 1<sup>st</sup> pilot was "affirming", "it may be time consuming but it is manageable, practical, reasonable and relatively easy to do"
- The handbook will ultimately be made for applicants to all categories and through all routes; it will be available online and be partially included in the application form via drop-down menus etc.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

- TC members have been assigned to the new committees
- First or second choice has been honoured for all of them
- Everyone is in one primary committee, ICRC or Registration and then in one or more additional committees.
- Names and assignments were read.

It was moved to accept these assignments. The motion was carried.

### **REVISED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE STANDARDS:**

The final version of the revised Professional Practice Standards was presented. Last changes include:

- **Release of Client Information:**
  - Clarification was made = written consent is needed for all disclosure, incl. to insurers, spouse, medical colleagues
  - Giving information to a medical team in an emergency is still possible; however, practitioner should make sure that client knows what may be shared when
  - Consent can be given to the second party, e.g. insurance company, in which case the practitioner doesn't need additional consent but only proof of primary consent, e.g. copy of the consent given to the insurer
- **Limits of Confidentiality:**
  - Addition was made: mandatory reporting for sexual abuse by a medical professional to a client has to be reported.
- **Touch:**
  - Touching, commenting, recommendations, and questions that are relevant to the practice of the therapist are not considered to be of sexual nature, e.g. a sex therapist may ask sexually explicit questions or refer clients to sexual surrogates
  - Disrobing *and* touching are always considered sexual abuse
- **Sexual Abuse:**
  - If there is reasonable belief of sexual abuse by a medical professional the therapist needs to
    - a. Make a report to the professional's College
    - b. If the professional is the client of the therapist, also incl. a comment regarding the possibility of a repetition in the report
- **Referral:**
  - If a therapist refers a client to another therapist, e.g. because the therapist's practice is full or the therapist does not feel competent to work with the client's issues, the therapist has to ensure that
    - a. The therapist he / she refers to is certified and trained appropriately
    - b. He / she has the informed consent of the client for such a referral, e.g. the client knows why she / he is being referred, to whom, what information may be shared, etc. and agrees to that referral
- **Records of Supervision:**
  - Records of supervision sessions
  - Have to include name of supervisee, number of hours, dates, payment
  - They may include issues and measures discussed

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19th, 2014.

### 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 is purely the notes of the meeting as understood by the author from her position as silent observer.

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