

Draft Memorandum of Understanding Between  
The Manitoba chapter of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association;  
The Manitoba chapter of the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care;  
The Manitoba branch of the Professional Association of Christian Counsellors and  
Psychotherapists; and the Music Therapy Association of Manitoba; and the Manitoba  
Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.  
(April 16, 2016)

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets out the terms and understandings between the Manitoba chapter of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, The Manitoba chapter of the Canadian Association for Spiritual Care, The Manitoba branch of the Professional Association of Christian Counsellors and Psychotherapists, and the Music Therapists Association of Manitoba to represent the profession of counselling therapy in Manitoba for the purposes described below.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this MOU is to work together towards enhancing the protection of the public in Manitoba who access counselling therapy services. This enhancement will be accomplished through preparing and submitting an application for self-regulation under the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA).

**Statement of Mutual Interests and Benefits:** The above-named associations' chapters are dedicated to enhancing the protection of the public accessing counselling therapy services in Manitoba. The parties agree that provincial regulation of the counselling therapy profession in Manitoba will formally establish the credibility of the profession in the eyes of the public at large, potential employers and third parties who may fund therapeutic services. In order to achieve this, we agree upon the formation of a regulatory college under the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA). This MOU is established between the above-named counselling associations' chapters to help them prepare and submit a successful application for regulation of the profession under the RHPA. Specifically, the participants in the MOU:

1. want members of the public to have access to a clear complaints process;
2. want members of the public to be protected from individual(s) who have not been recognized by their peers to have met an objective standard of practice;
3. want members of the public to have assurance that counselling therapists are adhering to a sound code of ethics;
4. want members of the public to have assurance that counselling therapists are continuing their education and so maintaining their competence;
5. want employers of counselling therapists to have a recognizable standard by which to identify competence;
6. want third-parties who fund counselling therapy to have a recognizable standard by which to identify competence;

In consideration of the above premises, the parties agree:

1. To collaborate on the preparation and submission of an application for self-regulation to the RHPA;

2. To collaborate in representing, reflecting, and promoting the diverse community of counselling therapists in Manitoba, aspiring to being inclusive in its membership with a strong unified voice. counselling therapy;
3. To maintain high standards of competence as to preserve the credibility of the profession in the eyes of the public;
4. That participation in the coalition is open only to those associations that require its' members adhere to a code of ethics and have an ethical investigation procedure in place to respond to complaints made against its members. Or an equivalent mechanism;
5. To invite other organizations such as training institutions, certification bodies and agencies that support the goals and principles of the Coalition to observe and submit input into the Coalition's process, though these observers do not have voting privileges;
6. That each participating member association will appoint a representative to a Coalition committee which will serve to guide the work of the coalition;
7. That each participating member organizations' representative have one (1) vote in the Coalition committee;
8. That additional association's members may participate in the Committee in a non-voting capacity.
9. That the Coalition committee may form subcommittees comprised of at least one committee member and other association members for specific related tasks;
10. That as much as possible the Coalition committee will use consensus decision-making, and where consensus is not possible, majority vote;
11. To share costs related incurred in the preparation of the RHPA application and subsequent processes advancing the cause of regulating the profession.
12. That each participating association contributes an amount proportional to their membership in the province.
13. Each participating member association is free to opt out of the Coalition at any point in the process;
14. Amendments to this MOU may be made at a Coalition Committee meeting, provided the changes are approved by a majority vote;
15. That Committee Members or Officers hold office with protection of their own organization. The Coalition is not responsible to indemnify members against any or all costs or charges that result from any act done in his/her role for the Coalition, nor does it protect any member for acts of fraud, dishonesty, or bad faith.

We, the undersigned, have agreed on the contents of this MOU. Any changes must be agreed to by both parties.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Title Date

Revised June 10, 2016

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Title Date

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Title, Date

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Title, Date

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