

**Member
institutions:**

*Adler School of
Professional Studies*

*Advanced Training
Program in
Psychoanalytic
Psychotherapy*

*Canadian Association for
Spiritual Care (Ontario)*

*Canadian Association for
Sandplay Therapy*

*Centre for Training in
Psychotherapy*

*Gestalt Institute of
Toronto*

*Hincks-Dellcrest/Gail
Appel Centre*

*Institute for the
Advancement of Self
Psychology*

*Institute for Studies in
Psychotherapy and
Emotional Bodywork*

*International School of
Interdisciplinary Studies*

Hypno-Healing Institute

*Ling Yu International
Psychology Centre*

New Realities

*Ontario Association of
Jungian Analysts*

*Ontario Psychotherapy
and Counselling Program*

*Ottawa Institute for
Object Relations Therapy*

*Southern Ontario Society
for Bioenergetic Analysis*

The Living Institute

*Toronto Advanced
Professional Education*

*Toronto Art Therapy
Institute*

*Toronto Child
Psychoanalytic Program*

*Toronto Centre for
Psychodrama and
Sociometry*

*Toronto Institute for
Relational Psychotherapy*

*Toronto Institute of
Psychoanalysis*

*Transformational Arts
College of Spiritual &
Holistic Training*

*Transpersonal Therapy
Centre*

The Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Hepburn Block
10th Floor
80 Grosvenor St
Toronto ON M7A2C4

Dear Dr. Hoskins:

Re: Proclamation of the Psychotherapy Act

The Alliance of Psychotherapy Training Institutions (APTI) is an organization that represents the majority of psychotherapy educational programs in Ontario and the psychotherapy profession in its diverse forms. On behalf of the APTI member institutions, I am writing to support the proclamation of the Psychotherapy Act before the end of 2014 or as soon as possible thereafter.

APTI has monitored the progress of the Transitional Council (TC) of the College of Registered Psychotherapists since its inception. We value the TC's efforts to provide a framework for psychotherapy registration and believe that its members have designed procedures that protect the public while respecting the realities of the profession. In fact, we believe that the TC's efforts have enabled Ontario to take a leading role in psychotherapy regulation both nationally and internationally.

We recognize that the question of proclamation is complex and do not presume to understand the whole picture. However, it is our understanding that part of the delay in proclamation has to do with the question of how to deal with those practitioners who were previously defined as Registered Mental Health Practitioners (RMHPs).

In previous consultations with Ministry personnel, we understood that a resolution to this issue was under consideration. We attended a stakeholder meeting with TC representatives in January, 2013, where it was suggested that a legal exemption for practitioners who offer psychotherapy as only a small part of their service to the public (RMHPs) would be defined sometime after proclamation of the Psychotherapy Act. It is our position that persons who are having conversations with disturbed people, but not intending thereby to take on the disturbance and treat it by means of psychotherapy would not in fact be doing the controlled act.

Our concern is based on the fact that we are already experiencing confusion among students and other members of the public because of the delay in proclamation. We answer questions almost daily about who is permitted to provide psychotherapy services and what training is required and by when. Certainly, assurance of quality control for psychotherapy clients or potential clients is not served by this delay. We are also concerned about possible

erosion of public confidence in your government's commitment to excellence in mental health.

We encourage your Ministry to work with those who, as a result of their hard work and commendable patience, have become experts in solving problems of psychotherapy regulation: the members of the TC themselves. We believe that through such collaborative efforts, and through consulting with experienced members of related regulatory bodies, it is possible to overcome challenges to proclamation and achieve a solution that meets the needs of the public for safe and effective access to mental health care.

APTI supports immediate proclamation based on our belief that the general public as well as the psychotherapy profession are eager that the current framework defined by the TC be implemented in the interest of public protection.

We deeply appreciate your commitment to providing mental health services for Ontarians and stand ready to help in this endeavour in any way we can.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Page', written in a cursive style.

Linda J. Page, Ph.D., Chair
Alliance of Psychotherapy Training Institutions

cc: Joyce Rowlands, Registrar, College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario