

Newfoundland and Labrador Psychology Board

P.O. Box 8275, Station A, St. John's, NL A1B 3N4

website: <http://www.nlpsychboard.ca>

January 4, 2021

Psychological Services by Out of Province Practitioners to Clients in Newfoundland and Labrador due to COVID-19 pandemic

The Board has had inquiries from licensed psychological service providers from other North American jurisdictions whose clients have remained in Newfoundland and Labrador due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Psychologists Act, 2005 limits the provision of psychological services in the province to Registrants of the Newfoundland and Labrador Psychology Board (NLPB). And we are not able to authorize anyone, other than Registrants of the NLPB and signatories to the Atlantic Provinces MOU, to provide telepsychology services to clients located in the province.

Under normal circumstances, the NLPB views such activities by non-members as "unauthorized practice" and considers whether there is a need for appropriate action. The Board has carefully considered the extreme circumstances in which we find ourselves and recognize that this must be taken into account with regard to duly registered/licensed practitioners from other jurisdictions who must provide telepsychology services into Newfoundland and Labrador for an existing client during the current emergency situation.

Therefore, in response to the urgent COVID-19 pandemic, the NLPB will not initiate an "unauthorized practice" action against an out of province practitioner providing telepsychology services to a single client/patient provided the psychologist has completed and submitted the attached form to the NLPB.

While the Board will endeavour to acknowledge receipt of this information, practitioners need not wait for confirmation before initiating service.

Telepsychology Services Registration

I wish to advise the Newfoundland and Labrador Psychology Board that I intend to engage in telepsychology into Newfoundland and Labrador during the COVID 19 pandemic .

Name _____

Registration jurisdiction _____ Reg. # _____

Address _____

Tel. (Bus) _____ Tel. (home or cell) _____

Email address _____

ATTESTATION

Please read the following, sign below and return this form by regular mail.

1. I am a Registered Psychologist in good standing in the jurisdiction of _____ Yes No
2. I have advised my home jurisdiction of my intention to practice telepsychology with one client into Newfoundland and Labrador. Yes No
3. I consent to have any information relevant to my telepsychology practice in Newfoundland and Labrador shared with my home jurisdiction Yes No
4. I have reviewed the Telepsychology Guidelines on the Board website (<https://nlpsychboard.ca/registrants/telepsychology-documents/>) which guide the practice of telepsychology. Yes No
5. I will practice only with one client, identified below in 6, and within my areas of competence and in keeping with any terms, limits and conditions on my registration. Yes No
6. I will provide the services to _____, a client who resides in Newfoundland and Labrador and, for reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic, is unable to meet in person. Yes No
7. I have determined that it is inappropriate at this time, to transfer service to a registrant of the Newfoundland and Labrador Psychology Board for this client/patient. Yes No

For your information, a copy of the Psychologists Act, 2005, the legislation relevant to the practice of psychology in our jurisdiction, can be found at <http://www.assembly.nl.ca/legislation/sr/annualstatutes/2012/1224.chp.htm> .

*Please advise of any issues or concerns. **This clearance is available until June 30, 2021.** Should you wish to extend access beyond this date, please contact the NLPB.*

Signed _____

Date _____