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President's greeting

Hello members,

I am honoured to be greeting you with our official first newsletter. Much has happened since our AGM in October, and I cannot believe we are already in April. I write to you to provide you with a short summary of highlights in our profession nationally, as well as provincially, to keep you all up to date on things relevant to your professional development. The newsletter will also be used as a way for us to communicate the challenges we face at the agency level that may have created some frustration for you. I have had the distinct privilege to assist with growing this college. We have a whole new team that have all been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that what we are doing on a regulatory level serves the public to the best of its abilities, and we wish to engage our members more often while doing so.

In this edition, you can find information related to the progress of proposed changes to mental health taxation in Canada, volunteer and career opportunities for new and continuing initiatives at the college, updates to our membership renewal processes, and some details about our website. CCTNB's board has been meeting monthly to consider, discuss, and make decisions always with the focus of protecting the public and upholding the highest standards with regards to counselling therapy within New Brunswick. We work closely at times with stakeholders provincially, or nationally, to coordinate and facilitate changes within the field of counselling. This work can be very sensitive, but rewarding all the same, to make the profession of counselling safe and exceptional.

Lastly, I want to take the time to thank all of you for the work that you do for New Brunswickers. Mental health is a vital part of healthcare that is only growing in prominence, but there is still so much work to do. You are all so busy caring for others, I want to take some space to remind you all to please take a moment and also take care of yourself. Whether it be in the form of a few seconds of gratitude for who and what you bring to the forefront of mental health and celebrating the fruits of that labour, some much needed yoga poses away from the desk, a few minutes tending to your gardens or pets, or a needed hour away to simply exist as yourself without the hat of "therapist". From the bottom of my heart, thank you all.

Sherry Law
President, LCT, CCC



Tax-Free Therapy

Did you know that there has been an ongoing initiative to make mental health services across Canada tax-free? Please see the following for an update from the official national campaign, #stoptaxingmytherapy. For more information, please visit <https://www.stoptaxingmytherapy.com>

Dear Supporters of Tax-Free Therapy,

We have more good news to share, and another request to make.

The good news is that even the Finance Committee of the Federal Government has recommended eliminating the GST/HST on our work.

The March 2023 "FINA" Report from the Standing Committee on Finance recommends that the Minister of Finance: "Exempt counselling therapy and psychotherapy from the application of GST/HST." (1)

This is a tremendous endorsement. But it is not the end of this long road.

The FINA report contains 230 recommendations. Not all will be implemented.

So we need you (and everyone who supports this) to write (another!) letter to your MP, cc-ing the Minister of Finance, highlighting this recommendation, as well as the recent new Private Member's Bill tabled in the House of Commons by MP Stephen Ellis, the Conservative Shadow Minister of Health.

We have attached a template in WORD with everything you need in it.

We want to emphasize bi-partisan support, from NDP Lindsay Mathyssen's original Bill tabled back in December 2021, to the petition she tabled this month, with its 14,244 signatures; from the PC Party's new Bill; and now the Finance Committee, Chaired by Liberal MP Peter Fonseca.

Cabinet Ministers including the Minister of Finance need to understand that the time is now to make this change, and that thousands of Canadians support this recommendation -- no matter our political affiliations.

The media release is also attached. Please share with friends and colleagues.

We know you are busy. We know that we have asked you many times to pitch in. We are coming to you today because we want to know that regardless of the outcome, we did everything we could to remove this unfair tax.

Thanking you in advance,

The National Coalition for Tax Free Therapy

(1) p. 53, Recommendation re: GST/HST: [FINANCE Cttee Report #32 March 2023](#)

LetterToMyMP cc to MinisterOfFinance.docx 21.3 KB [Download](#)

FINA, PC and NDP AGREE ON REMOVING HST FROM THERAPY SERVICES Media Release.pdf 72.6 KB [Download](#)

#stoptaxingmytherapy www.stoptaxingmytherapy.com started this petition on Leadnow.ca.



TRC Call for Volunteers

CCTNB has recognized that the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada has [produced 94 "calls to action" since June of 2015](https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/1-Honorer_la_verite_reconcilier_pour_lavenir-Sommaire.pdf) (French version: https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/1-Honorer_la_verite_reconcilier_pour_lavenir-Sommaire.pdf). It is due time that our establishment formalizes the relevant "calls to action" from the report of the TRC into our work. We call upon our membership to consider volunteering your time to see how these "calls to action" can be incorporated into the work we do. Please reach out with a 250 word biography of yourself and a one page (maximum) description of your interest and how you envision this work can be done. Please send this to info@cctnb.ca. We are open to all ideas but would love your involvement in a working group dedicated to bringing the TRC's "calls to action" into the work of our College.

Membership Renewal

The end of April means renewals for your memberships. Please note that our membership renewal process is on our [website](https://www.cctnb.ca/). Please follow all instructions and considerations on dues provided within the renewal form. Note also, that we have decided at the board level that new graduates will be able to pay their membership fee in installments for the first year after graduation, waiving any late fees. CCTNB recognizes the financial challenges that come with being a new graduate so we have decided to reduce the barriers for our new therapists from entering practice. Thank you for being a part of our profession.

This is a gentle reminder that with the coming of spring comes the renewal of your CCTNB license. The renewal form and instructions can all be found on our website at <https://www.cctnb.ca/> or this link(<https://www.cctnb.ca/en/renouvellement>). Please note the following:

- Fees are sent to dues.cotisation@cctnb.ca
- Renewal forms AND updated liability insurances are sent to info@cctnb.ca
- New graduates (first year of graduation) may pay their fees in installments. You will not accumulate late fees.
- Late fees begin to accumulate after May 31, 2023 (more information on the renewal form)

We want to thank you all for your attention. Please reach out to us at info@cctnb.ca with any questions or concerns.

Call for Registrar

Our beloved registrar, Andrea Sullivan, will be leaving her position at the end of her contract in June. We thank her for her tremendous work in fortifying the practices, administrative, and legal requirements of the college and commend her for dedicating so much of herself and her expertise to this pursuit. This means that an opening will be made in preparation for June. We seek any LCTs in New Brunswick to apply. Please see this link (attach document) for a job description.

Call for Public Member

We are still looking for a public member to complete our board. A public member is a member of the board that is not a part of the agency or the membership. If you know someone who may be looking to volunteer time and contribute to the world of mental health in New Brunswick, please



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send them our way! Commitments are that we meet once a month for two hours via Zoom. Meeting times are 6pm to 8pm usually on a Thursday or Friday.

Call for Committee Volunteers

We are recruiting for more volunteers to oversee our committee work! If you have any interest in these positions, please send a 250 word bio to info@cctnb.ca and indicate some of the skills you can bring to our team. Most committees meet once every 2-3 months.

Here are some of the committees that require volunteers:

- Communications committee - preference for bilingual and Indigenous volunteers
- Governance committee - preference for members with governance experience (working on a board)
- Registration committee - one to two openings available (meeting four times a year)
- **Complaints Committee - one to two openings available**

Website Updates

You probably have noticed by now that our website redesign has been live. We apologize for any technical difficulties, especially around the issue of profile login. We kept it up without recognizing the frustrations that would come from "not being able to sign in" when there were no profiles available, so we have decided to take down the login button until further developments of the site have taken place.

For now, our website will give you information to the following:

- Member search (with status of member and expiration date available)
- Information on registration
- Our act, bylaws, and rules in official languages
- Membership renewal processes
- Ethics training videos
- Decisions of the discipline committee

Coming soon are:

- Complaints process instructions
- Member portal through Service NB
- Newsletter page/archives
- Emergency resources for the public

Maintaining a website can be challenging and take time. We appreciate any and all feedback that you've provided our agency to maintain visitor satisfaction. Please be patient with us as it is the work of volunteers who are not trained professionals in technology to maintain our website.



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Address change

CCTNB will no longer be using the PO Box address that might be found on older documents. Going forward, please make sure you are using updated forms, and, if required, that they are being mailed to:

205 - 236 St. George Street
Moncton, NB
E1C 1W1

Official CCTNB rules

Official CCTNB rules can now be found on our website (cctnb.ca) at the bottom of the webpage. Please do not save this document as it is important to always use the most up-to-date information and changes to the document may occur without notice.