



Information Sheet on Inter-Provincial Counselling

1. RCTs and RCT-Cs Providing Service Outside of Nova Scotia

As licensed registrants of the College, RCTs and RCT-Cs are permitted to provide counselling therapy services to clients who reside outside of Nova Scotia when all of the following conditions are met:

- That clients are advised of where you are located, that you are regulated by NSCCT, as well as the website, email and phone number of the College.
- That your liability insurance coverage extends to counselling out-of-province clients.
- That your videoconferencing platform is PIPEDA compliant and that the servers are located in Canada (the college cannot recommend or provide advice on the use of any platform).
- That, if you are an RCT-C, your candidacy supervisor indicates their agreement to supervise you while counselling clients out-of-province.
- That you have obtained confirmation from the regulator in the province in which the client resides that their rules permit you to counsel clients in their province. And that you abide by any guidelines or limitations they set upon your practice in their province. (Note: Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario are currently the only other regulated provinces).

Quebec (OCCOQ)

To provide counselling services in Quebec (even virtually) you must first be a member of OCCOQ). They deem the service to be given where the client is located. Thus, engaging with a Quebec client is equivalent to practicing in Quebec.

Ontario (CRPO)

CRPO does not require practitioners who reside in another jurisdiction to become registered in order to work with a client in Ontario providing:

- That the therapist does not intend to advertise or otherwise promote their services in Ontario; and
- That Ontario-based clients do not form a substantial proportion of the therapist's workload.

New Brunswick (CCTNB)

Counsellors from other provinces are not prohibited from providing counselling to clients in New Brunswick as long as this is permitted by their own regulator. In New Brunswick, "Licensed Counselling Therapist" and its derivatives are protected and can only be used by CCTNB registrants.

Therapists who are not regulated in New Brunswick should provide clear and succinct information to potential NB clients that details their licence number, in which province they are regulated and the name and contact information for the College with which they are registered.

Therapists who are not CCTNB registrants should also clearly inform clients how and where they should report any concerns or complaints and advise them that the College of Counselling Therapists of NB would not be involved in the process.

2. Counselling Provided in Nova Scotia by Practitioners from Outside the Province

Individuals from outside of Nova Scotia are not prohibited from providing counselling to clients in Nova Scotia, as long as this is permitted by their own regulator. Because counselling is not a 'controlled act' in Nova Scotia, this applies regardless of the profession of the individual. The *Act* does, however, provide title protection; this means that only individuals licensed in Nova Scotia are legally authorized to use the designations: "Counselling Therapist," "Registered Counselling Therapist" (or "RCT"), "Registered Counselling Therapist – Candidate" (or "RCT-C"). It also prohibits anyone other than an RCT from describing or advertising the services they provide as "counselling therapy."

In addition:

- They should advise the client where they are located and who their regulator is. They should also provide the website, email and phone number of the regulator in their home jurisdiction.
- They should ensure that their liability insurance coverage extends to counselling out-of-province clients.
- If counselling is conducted by way of videoconferencing, the therapist should be aware of, and comply with, federal laws (e.g., PIPEDA) requiring the use of a compliant platform, and ensure that the server is located within Canada.