



Criminal Record with Vulnerable Sector Check

Verification of Requirement

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter will verify that, pursuant to the *Counselling Therapists Act*, S.N.S. 2008, c. 37. and its associated Regulations, Bylaws and Policies, and for the exclusive purpose of registration and licensure with the Nova Scotia College of Counselling Therapy,

is required (NSCCT Policy R-07.0 and R-07.1) to produce a *Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Check* conducted by either the RCMP or Halifax Regional Police, at the time of initial licensing and again at five-year intervals.

This information is collected under the authority and protections of Section 40 (c)(i) of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Working as a *paid* counselling therapist, will require the above-named individual to provide short and/or long-term one-on-one *care* to a variety of children, adolescents and adults of various capacities and levels of *mental and/or emotional distress or disability* (often with *addictions* and in some cases *victims of crime*). The typical counselling therapy encounter occurs in private, most-often in a closed room. Discussions routinely involve disclosure and discussions of *intimate matters* (including of a *sexual nature*). Importantly, the counselling therapy relationship is one that has *trust* at its core. The intimate and trust-based nature of counselling therapy creates an environment in which sexual misconduct is of significant concern to NSCCT as the regulator governing the conduct of counselling therapists. Currently, 32% of misconduct complaints made against a counselling therapist involve an accusation of sexual misconduct.

If there are any questions in this regard, please feel free to contact me at the coordinates below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Hemeon", written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Hemeon
Executive Director and Registrar (acting)
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902.225.7531