

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN:

Prince Edward Island Psychologists Registration Board,

Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology,

College of Psychologists of New Brunswick,

and Newfoundland and Labrador Psychology Board

Telepsychology can be defined as “the use of information and communications technology to deliver psychological services and information over large and small distances” (adapted from Picot, 1998)¹. Practice within psychology using this modality would include all client-centered services, consultation, supervision of students/professionals/colleagues, and education of the public and/or other professionals.

WHEREAS the psychology regulatory jurisdictions noted are desirous of facilitating the provision of telepsychology services by duly qualified Registered Psychologists and/or Psychological Associates in and between the jurisdictions, and whereas the jurisdictions have endorsed the Model Telepsychology Standards of the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulatory Organizations (ACPRO), the four bodies agree as follows:

1. To the following understandings:

- a) The “home jurisdiction” will be considered to be the psychology regulatory jurisdiction in which the Psychologist / Psychological Associate is licensed for independent practice; and
- b) The “receiving jurisdiction” will be considered to be the psychology regulatory jurisdiction in which the client is located at the time of receiving services from the Psychologist / Psychological Associate; and
- c) This MOU applies only to those who are in “good standing” and are licensed for independent full practice in the “home jurisdiction”, and applies only to those delivering telepsychology from their home jurisdiction and where that home jurisdiction is a signatory to this MOU; and
- d) This MOU applies only to the delivery of telepsychology services, and does not entitle the Psychologist / Psychological Associate to claim licensure in the “receiving jurisdiction” or to provide in-person services in the “receiving jurisdiction”

¹ Picot, J. (1998) *Sector Competitiveness Frameworks Series: Telehealth Industry Part 1 – Overview and Prospects*. Industry Canada: Industry Sector Health Industries (as cited in National Initiative for Telehealth Guidelines - Environmental Scan of Organizational, Technology, Clinical and Human Resource Issues, April 2003, Canadian Society of Telehealth)

2. That each jurisdiction shall require of its registrants, that before commencing telepsychology practice into a “receiving jurisdiction” the registrant shall (1) notify the receiving jurisdiction, providing the registrant’s name, contact information, and registration number, and (2) attesting to familiarity with the Telepsychology Memorandum of Understanding between the psychology regulatory bodies for the four Atlantic provinces, with the Model Telepsychology Standards of the Association of Canadian Psychology Regulations, and with the local jurisprudence and standards for practice in the jurisdiction(s) into which the registrant intends to deliver telepsychology practice; re-notifications would take place at the start of each calendar year as appropriate.
3. That any complaints received respecting the telepsychology practice of persons who are not registrants of the “receiving jurisdiction” will be referred to the “home jurisdiction” as a disciplinary complaint and no prosecution in the “receiving jurisdiction” shall be commenced;
4. That the “home jurisdiction” agrees it will accept and investigate complaints against its registrants; and
5. That the “home jurisdiction” will bear all costs and liabilities associated with investigating and adjudicating complaints against the telepsychology practice of its registrants.
6. This agreement may be cancelled at any time by any party with 2 weeks written notice.

This Memorandum of Understanding was signed this 10th day of November, 2020, and replaces the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 18 November, 2017.

For the Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology


Gordon Butler, PhD, Registrar, Halifax, Nova Scotia

For the Prince Edward Island Psychologists Registration Board


Philip Smith, PhD, Registrar, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

For the College of Psychologists of New Brunswick



Jacques Richard, PhD, Registrar, Moncton, New Brunswick

For the Newfoundland and Labrador Psychology Board



John Harnett, MEd, Registrar, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador