

## Telepractice Requirements for Ontario Family Counsellors

Detailed below are the requirements for Family Counsellors to provide electronic services to residents of provinces **outside** of Ontario. Note that the requirements for Psychotherapists in most jurisdictions is subject to change as many regions do not yet have a regulatory body in place. As opposed to professional associations, regulatory bodies – such as a College (College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario) or an Order (Ordre des Psychologues du Québec) exist to protect the public interest and can discipline non-members performing regulated acts or members who have acted in a manner inconsistent with their expectations.

### **British Columbia**

#### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in British Columbia **must** be registered with the British Columbia College of Social Workers with either a *temporary* (90-day permit that is **free**, does not require a full application, and is extendable) or *permanent* licensure. More information can be attained by contacting [info@bccsw.ca](mailto:info@bccsw.ca). This licensure must be clearly indicated on required paperwork and provided to the client (electronically or otherwise).

#### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

The practice of psychotherapy/counselling therapy is not yet regulated in British Columbia. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

### **Alberta**

#### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in Alberta must complete a **Courtesy Application** for either a 3 month (\$25.00) or 12 month (\$100.00) licensure. More information can be attained [here](#).

#### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

The practice of psychotherapy/counselling therapy is not yet regulated in Alberta. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

## **Saskatchewan**

### *Social Workers*

Social workers wishing to see clients in Saskatchewan must be registered in their home province and must apply for a no-cost, 4-month temporary license that can only be given out once in a 12-month period. More information [here](#).

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

The practice of psychotherapy/counselling therapy is not yet regulated in Saskatchewan. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

## **Manitoba**

### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in Manitoba must apply for membership with the Manitoba College of Social Workers which includes completing the application process found [here](#).

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

The practice of psychotherapy/counselling therapy is not yet regulated in Manitoba. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

## **Quebec**

### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in Manitoba must apply for membership with the Ordre des travailleurs sociaux et des thérapeutes conjugaux et familiaux du Québec which includes completing the application process found [here](#).

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

Practitioners may provide virtual services to residents of Quebec as long as they are authorized to practice in their own jurisdiction. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

## **New Brunswick**

### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in New Brunswick must apply for membership with the New Brunswick Association of Social Workers which includes completing the application process found [here](#).

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

The College of Counselling Therapists of New Brunswick has no jurisdiction where a person seeks assistance. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

## **Nova Scotia**

### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in Nova Scotia must apply for membership with the Nova Scotia College of Social Workers which includes completing the application process found [here](#).

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

Individual practitioners from outside Nova Scotia are not prohibited from providing counselling to clients in Nova Scotia as long as they are permitted to do so by their regulator and have adequate insurance to provide the service out of province. Providers **must** use the title provided by their regulator and cannot use a title like “Counselling Therapist,” “Registered Counselling Therapist,” or “Registered Counselling Therapist – Candidate.” Additionally, no one other than an RCT may describe their service as “counselling therapy.” More details [here](#).

## **Prince Edward Island**

### *Social Workers*

Awaiting a response from the **PEI Social Work Registration Board**.

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

Registered professionals from jurisdictions outside of Prince Edward Island may provide telepractice services to residents without registering as members of the College of Counselling Therapy of Prince Edward Island if (1) they do not advertise their services in PEI, (2) they do not

maintain more than 3 “clients” (residents of PEI on their caseload) at any given time, and (3) their PEI clients do not form a substantial portion (greater than 20%) of their total caseload. More information on telepractice requirements may be found [here](#).

## **Newfoundland & Labrador**

### *Social Workers*

Over and above requiring registration with the regulatory body for the province in which they reside, social workers providing virtual/telephone services to clients residing in Manitoba must apply for membership with the Newfoundland and Labrador College of Social Workers which includes completing the application process found [here](#).

### *Psychotherapists/Counselling Therapists*

The Federation of Associations for Counselling Therapists in Newfoundland and Labrador are working toward full regulation. As such, the practice of psychotherapy/counselling therapy is not yet regulated in Newfoundland and Labrador. Members of other regulatory bodies are expected to assure their clients are aware of how to contact their College or Order, such as in the situation where a complaint needs to be filed.

## **Northern Territories**

The practice of Psychotherapy/Counselling Therapy is not yet regulated in any of Canada’s Northern Territories. Yukon and Nunavut do not yet regulate the practice of Social Work. Awaiting a response from the Northwest Territories regarding telepractice for Social Workers outside the territory.