



Notes from the College October 20, 2015

Purpose: To provide information to members about professional regulation, the functions of the college and its committees, practice guidelines and practice advisories. Each email will highlight one committee, one professional practice guideline, and one practice advisory. Committee highlights will give you some idea of what kind of commitment a member makes to serve on a committee, or council.

Professional Conduct Committee (PCC):

The PCC is tasked with the responsibility (Sections 27 and 28 of the Psychologists Act 1997) to receive, review, and investigate all complaints received in writing or received from the Executive Council, alleging that a member is guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence. The outcome of an investigation may result in a recommendation for a formal hearing, a resolution through an alternative dispute resolution process, or closure of a complaint file as the facts of the case do not support further action. The PCC meets approx. 10 times a year (4 hour meetings), currently alternating between Regina and Saskatoon. Each complaint warranting investigation is managed by two members of the PCC. The PCC as a whole determine the disposition of a complaint once the investigation is complete. The time spent on an investigation will vary depending on the complexity of the case under investigation. The Committee has available to it the use of a paid investigator which reduces the time required of the case managers.

Professional Practice Guidelines:

Thanks to those members who responded to the special note on Yellow Page listings. A number of members raised two other important guidelines which pertain to how we advertise:

10.6 Registration number - A member must include their registration number from the College Register on all advertisements of their practice.

10.8 No solicitation of testimonials – A member must not solicit testimonials from clients or former clients.

Practice Advisory:

All members will be aware of the duty to report even suspected child abuse or neglect. There is a practice advisory entitled “Child Abuse Protocol – Revision” on our website.

I would also like to bring your attention to the practice advisory entitled “Release of Psychology Records” which the Ad Hoc Committee on Privacy worked hard to research and draft. This advisory discusses the issue of requests for the release of a client’s personal health information, and how these should be managed. If you receive a request from a client or third party to release your client’s health information, this is an important practice guideline to review as it defines practice records, test material and test results, in relation to a request for your professional records.

Cheers,

Glenn Pancyr, President SCP

Protecting the public by encouraging excellence in psychology.