



NSBEP Email Update

Welcome to the most recent update from NSBEP.

In this format of communication with registrants, the Board strives to provide updates on subjects of interest to registrants of the Board.

In this update:

- NSBEP Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Request from the Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment
- Social Media
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- Telepsychology

NSBEP Diversity and Inclusion Committee

NSBEP's Diversity and Inclusion Committee is looking for registered psychologists from the community to join the Committee.

The purpose of the Committee is:

- to identify and address diversity and inclusion issues in the regulation of psychology in Nova Scotia
- to eliminate discrimination and exclusionary practices that could undermine the ethical principles of the profession and interfere with the delivery of appropriate psychological services to the public.

For more information, the Terms of Reference of the Committee are available by [clicking here](#).

If you are interested in being considered, please submit your contact information, and tell us – in two or three sentences, why you would like to be part of the Committee.

You can express your interest to us at nsbep@nsbep.org - Please use the subject line "Diversity and Inclusion Committee".

Request from the Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment

The Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment intends to conduct a survey of psychologists to understand the factors that shape their decisions on whether to work in the private and/or public sectors. To help inform the design of this survey, they would first

like to complete 6 semi-structured interviews with psychologists: two that work exclusively in the private sector; two that work exclusively in the public sector; and two that work in both sectors. The interviews will take no longer than an hour and can be completed in-person or through MS Teams. To participate in one of the interviews, please contact:

Greg Auton
Senior Policy Analyst
Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment
Department of Health and Wellness
E-mail greg.auton@novascotia.ca

Social Media

The NSBEP does not have social media guidelines per se, but there are several resources that would be relevant to this topic.

NSBEP Publication: Communication by Registrants
<https://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Communication.pdf>

ASPPB Social Media Guidelines
[https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/guidelines/final oct 9-2020 guidelines .pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.asppb.net/resource/resmgr/guidelines/final_oct_9-2020_guidelines.pdf)

NSBEP Binder of Legislation and Standards
[https://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Binder Standards Legislation Guidelines.pdf](https://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Binder_Standards_Legislation_Guidelines.pdf)

Some recent guidance for regulated professionals and regulators can be found in a legal article, Striking a Balance: Freedom of Expression & Professional Obligations.

This article is available from the following URL:
<https://www.mcinnescooper.com/publications/striking-a-balance-freedom-of-expression-professional-obligations/>

Ultimately the NSBEP does not approve specific approaches used in social media. It would be up to registrants to use their professional judgment and diligence to ensure they are following the relevant legislation and standards that effect their activities as a psychologist.

Legislation Updates

Note that the NSBEP Binder of Legislation and Standards should be reviewed regularly by all registrants and by candidates preparing for their oral exams. https://www.nsbep.org/downloads/Binder_Standards_Legislation_Guidelines.pdf

This list is updated as needed by NSBEP and recent additions or updates to the list include:

- Patient Access to Care Act
- An Act to amend the Criminal Code (conversion therapy)

Telepsychology

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick

In the context of telepsychology, NSBEP & CPNB interpret “practice” as occurring in the jurisdiction where the psychologist is registered. Accordingly, psychologists registered and licenced to practice by a regulatory authority elsewhere in Canada may deliver telepsychology services to clients in Nova Scotia & New Brunswick without having to obtain additional registration. For clarity, when providing in-person psychology services in Nova Scotia, psychologists registered and licenced in other jurisdictions must first obtain registration with NSBEP. For the temporary provision of in-person services, NSBEP has a Courtesy Register available.

For the position from the College of Psychologists of New Brunswick, please visit their website or see the below URL:

<https://cpnb.ca/2022/02/14/telepsychology/#:~:text=Psychologists%20registered%20and%20licensed%20to,to%20obtain%20registration%20with%20CPNB>

Atlantic MOU on Telepsychology

The provincial regulators in PEI and NL have decided to update their approach with telepsychology to require temporary registration/authorization from their respective jurisdictions. As a result, the Atlantic MOU on Telepsychology is no longer in effect.

Starting at the beginning of 2024, NSBEP has been required to complete the specific forms that are now required by regulators in PEI and NL to enable registrants who are practicing telepsychology with clients there to continue to do so. NSBEP is required to charge a \$40 fee to cover the work and costs associated with completing the specific form required by each jurisdiction in a timely manner.

These changes in PEI and NL are outside the control of NSBEP. If psychologists have any concerns about these changes, they are free to contact the regulatory authority in the province.

For NSBEP Registrants wanting to provide Telepsychology Outside of NS & NB

If a NSBEP registrant intends to provide telepsychology services to a client outside of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, the registrant should first contact the regulatory authority of the jurisdiction to determine what applicable requirements may be in place. The Board expects that registrants will investigate and respect the requirements of other jurisdictions when providing telepsychology or in-person services in other jurisdictions.

Most other jurisdictions may require at least some form of temporary registration in their jurisdiction. You are required to check with the jurisdiction to see what is required to see a client(s) who may located in their jurisdiction (or if you will be located in their jurisdiction when providing telepsychology services).

For the listing and contact information of Regulatory Bodies in Canada, please click [here](#)

on the URL below:

<https://acpro-aocrp.ca/about-acpro/canadian-psychology-regulatory-organizations>

For the listing of Regulatory Bodies in the United States, please visit the site of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards or the visit the following link:

<https://www.asppb.net/page/BdContactNewPG>

Kind regards,

Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology

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