

Canadian Society of Homeopaths

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The Canadian Society of Homeopaths represents nearly 400 homeopaths and students from across Canada, over 200 of whom reside in the province of Ontario. On behalf of those members in Ontario we urge you to support our opposition of the proposed legislation contained in Schedule P of Bill 171 that pertains to the regulation of homeopathy in Ontario.

Our concerns about this proposed legislation are based on the following:

- The legislation is based on the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, which requires broad consensus within any profession that is being considered for regulation – a condition that clearly does not exist at this time within the homeopathic profession in Ontario.
- Homeopathy presents no significant risk of harm to the public (another RHPA requirement for considering regulation of a profession).
- The homeopathic part of the legislation is based on the HPRAC **Regulation of Health Professions in Ontario: New Directions** that contains inaccuracies and faulty analysis of the practice and profession of homeopathy.
- Regulation at this time would cause many part-time homeopaths in Ontario to lose their livelihood, being unable to afford to pay the fees and associated costs required by regulation.
- Professional regulation, which is intended to protect the public from questionable practitioners would, in this case, hurt the public by limiting the availability of many trained part-time homeopaths – a particular hardship for those citizens who live in small communities.

Homeopathy is a respected and viable health care system practiced throughout the world, with a 200-year history of success. As a medicine it is far safer than aspirin and poses no significant risk of harm to the public. There are different approaches to the practice of homeopathy and, at this time, the homeopathic profession in Canada needs time to mature, develop common standards, and build a consensus regarding future regulation. At this time, homeopathic practitioners in Canada are well-served by three national professional associations that maintain standards of education, professional development, codes of ethics and practice, and grievance procedures. These independent associations should be given the opportunity to continue to protect the public interest until such time that the homeopathic profession in Ontario reaches consensus in support of legislated regulation.

Please support our members and their patients by insisting that the proposals affecting homeopathy are removed from Schedule P of Bill 171.

Very best wishes,

Jo Twiss
President