



College of Audiologists and
Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario
Ordre des audiologistes et
des orthophonistes de l'Ontario

June 15, 2015

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

VIA REGISTERED MAIL & E-MAIL: laura.niles@ontario.ca

Minister's Task Force on the Prevention of the Sexual Abuse of Patients and the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (Sexual Abuse Task Force)
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Health System Labour Relations and Regulatory Policy Branch
12th Floor, 56 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON, M5S 2S3

Attn: Laura Niles, Task Force Administrative Coordinator

Dear Ms. Niles:

Re: Sexual Abuse Task Force

We are responding herein to Professor Marilou McPhedran's letter of June 5, 2015. We are pleased to provide our responses to the questions contained in your letter, in support of the work of the Task Force regarding this very important area of public policy.

1. We confirm that, in our letter to the Task Force of March 4, 2015, we provided full information about each of the following:

- a.
 - i. Initial allegations that:
 - were dismissed at the investigation stage; or
 - are still being investigated/pending investigation.
 - ii. Complaints/reports that were sent after investigation to the ICRC and:
 - were resolved at that level, e.g., by undertakings or other decisions;
 - were sent on to committees other than the Discipline Committee; or
 - for which an ICRC decision is still pending.
 - iii. Complaints/reports that were referred to the Discipline Committee, and hearings:
 - were concluded; or
 - are still pending.

To reiterate: The College has reviewed its files from 2004 to the present and has not identified any complaints related to sexual abuse, boundary violations of a sexual nature or other matters that pertain to the mandate of the Task Force in relation to a patient. We have located one complaint filed in 2010 wherein one of the concerns expressed by the complainant was that the member did not respect boundaries with colleagues by making inappropriate comments. After a thorough investigation of this concern, the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee ("ICRC") determined

that the evidence was inconclusive and took no further action in regards to this aspect of the complaint. If you would like further details about this complaint, we would be happy to provide them.

- b. Please **send information for any of the above about which you have not already informed us**, using the spreadsheet tool you were originally sent.

N/A

2. That we are not inadvertently double counting as might have happened, e.g., if a college indicated that a member had other complaints made against him/her but did not tell us where else in the spreadsheet those complaints appeared. To that end, please **provide a final count**, from your records, of:

- a. The **total number of patients**, across all of the reference years (2004 to most recent), that were referred to in all complaints or reports made to your College about sexual abuse or boundary violations of a sexual nature.

N/A

- b. The **total number of College members**, across all of the reference years, that were referred to in all complaints or reports made to your College about sexual abuse or boundary violations of a sexual nature.

N/A

We trust the above satisfactorily answers the questions contained in your June 5, 2015 letter. We would be pleased to answer any further questions or receive any comments on this response at your convenience. We wish to again express our support for the work of the Task Force and look forward to reading your report and recommendations. We welcome any advice to the Colleges on improvements in this area.

Yours sincerely,



Scott Whyte
President



Brian O'Riordan
Registrar

- cc: Members of CASLPO Council
Beth-Ann Kenny, Executive Coordinator, Federation of Health Regulatory Colleges of Ontario
Mary Cook, Executive Director, Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (OSLA)
Joanne Charlebois, Executive Director, Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC)