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Dear Ms. Betteridge

Over the past several years I have unsuccessfully attempted to communicate with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (OCSWSSW) regarding, what I perceive to be, the unlawful practice of social work by persons employed by Children's Aid Societies under the guise of 'Child Protection Workers'.

I've been clear with the OCSWSSW about the public harm that I have personally witnessed to be caused by such a deceptive practice and the OCSWSSW refuses to take my concerns seriously. Please see the letter that I wrote to the OCSWSSW on June 18 2012. I did not receive acknowledgment of receipt when I sent the letter in 2012 nor did I ever receive a reply and so I re-sent the letter on March 12 2016. Recently I finally received a reply from the OCSWSSW via email. The email provided me with an overview of the complaints that I have made to the OCSWSSW while completely ignoring the letter that I wrote in regards to the unlawful practice of social work.

To date, the OCSWSSW refuses to communicate with me beyond the refusal to proceed with my complaints. The OCSWSSW refuses to acknowledge my letter where I clearly site how unlawful social work practices are occurring, while the OCSWSSW condones such. I stated in my letter how the problem could be remedied through particular legislation.

It appears to me, at this time, that the OCSWSSW, the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, the Ontario and/or Canadian Labour Unions and potential other key players in the Ontario Child Welfare System are colluding together to change the whole face of traditional social work. It appears to me that the 'system', which the OCSWSSW is a part of, is attempting to circumvent accountability for Child Protection Workers while sneakily attempting to redesign the system to suit it's own objectives.

I cannot state things any simpler for the OCSWSSW and though, in my opinion, the OCSWSSW is being evasive with me in a broad sense, I feel that I am receiving a very clear

and direct message from the OCSWSSW in one regard. The message that I have received loud and clear from the OCSWSSW is that the OCSWSSW condones and authorizes certain persons, such as unregulated Child Protection Workers, to hold themselves out to be Social Workers and to further actively engage in the practice of social work without compelling those certain persons to become registered members of the OCSWSSW.

The OCSWSSW, through written correspondence, has directly and repeatedly told me that there is absolutely nothing that the OCSWSSW can do to govern the practice of unregistered social work in Ontario, although, in my opinion, section 54 of the Social Work and Social Service Work Act of Ontario gives the OCSWSSW the complete and total power to do so. I believe the OCSWSSW is compelled to regulate the practice of social work, especially if people are engaging in the practice of social work while failing to be a Registered member of the OCSWSSW. To me, this practice seems unlawful and covert, however, the OCSWSSW seemingly disagrees with my opinion and refuses to compel Child Protections Workers to be registered members of the OCSWSSW if those workers are engaging in the practice of social work.

I realize that I'm 'not now, nor have I ever been, a member of the OCSWSSW'. The OCSWSSW has clearly stated to me that a membership with the OCSWSSW is not required for a person to practice social in Ontario and that the OCSWSSW enables and further condones such practice. As such I endeavor to practice social work while referring to myself as a 'Child Protection Consultant'. Child Protection Work is an unregulated profession in Ontario, however, I am confident that I'll do a great job, a far better job in fact than many of the so called 'Child Protection Workers' are doing in my opinion. I would be so grateful for the opportunity to re-build my life after the damage that unskilled and unregistered social workers have caused by unlawfully interfering in my personal affairs. I am, however, on a provincial disability and getting back to work will be a process.

I am hopeful that my overall health soon improves so that I may return to full time employment in the near future. I have personally racked up a lot of hours over the years by volunteering in the social justice advocacy field whereby I've had to clean up a lot of messes left behind by Child Protection Workers. I have relevant education to that of a social worker which also coincides with my life experiences. Furthermore, and unlike many current Child Protection Workers, I actually upgrade my education periodically through online courses with organizations such as the United Nations, The Centre for Disease Control, various child protection agencies who offer online training, human rights organizations and various mediation educators, just to name a few. I also have a great deal of common sense, strict morals and a burning passion for justice. At any rate, based on my own personal direct experience with the OCSWSSW, it would seem that the OCSWSSW is uninterested in the qualifications of persons engaged in social work if those persons are not members of the OCSWSSW.

While it's true that I'm not an authorized child protection worker as defined in section 40 of the Ontario Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) it should be clearly understood by the OCSWSSW that a Child Protection Worker is only authorized, in the first place, to 1) apprehend child(ren); and to 2) take the child(ren) to a place of 'safety'. With that being said, I do not engage in the practice of apprehending children, though legislation would not prevent me from doing so if a particular situation warranted such. If a child is in danger I will help that child and I believe that everyone else in society is morally compelled to do the same whether

they are 'authorized' to do so or not. For the record, I do not consider the foster care system to be a place of safety nor do I agree with the rate of unlawful apprehension of children by Child Protection Workers who, in far too many cases, are unregulated and therefore unaccountable to the public. At any rate, an authorized Child Protection Worker who performs duties beyond beyond section 40 of the CFSA is unlawfully acting outside of section 40 of the CFSA.

Once the duties of a Child Protection Worker have been fulfilled, the child's ongoing welfare becomes the issue at hand whereby the practice of social work comes into play. An assessment, diagnosis and remedy for the welfare of the child(ren) needs to be determined and this practice has traditionally called for far more skill and oversight than that of a mere Child Protection Worker, as defined in the CFSA, whereby a Child Protection Worker duties begin with the apprehension of a child(ren) and ends with the child(ren) being taken to a place of 'safety'. If a child protection worker makes assessments, provides a diagnosis or further treats or offers remedies for a person and/or a family then they, at this point, are practicing social work in my opinion. Many Child Protection Workers are actively engaging in this practice while deceptively using the title of Child Protection Worker. There is very little oversight and/or accountability for Child Protection Workers because Child Protection Work is not a regulated profession in Ontario.

Though I'm confident that the OCSWSSW has been historically aware of this deceptive practice of social work by unregulated Child Protection Workers I most definitely made the OCSWSSW aware of the issue in my letter addressed to the OCSWSSW on June 18, 2012 and whereby the OCSWSSW has refused to provide a reply.

So essentially, it seems that I can call myself a 'Child Protection Consultant', which has just as much weight and merit, in my opinion, as the unregulated profession of a 'Child Protection Worker' while engaging in the practice of social work. Many Child Protection Workers are currently engaging in this practice and there should be nothing at all that the OCSWSSW could possibly do to stop me from doing the same without treating me indifferent to the 'Child Protection Workers' that I have complained about to the OCSWSSW and whom the OCSWSSW has enabled and supported by refusing to govern as per the Social Workers and Social Services Workers Act of Ontario.

If the OCSWSSW were to attempt to refuse me to the same rights that have been granted by the OCSWSSW to unregulated 'Child Protection Workers' then I would, obviously then, be treated very differently than those of whom I've personally made complaints to the OCSWSSW about and of whom the OCSWSSW has fully condoned the actions of. I would view this as discrimination. The grounds for discrimination, in my opinion, would be that I am disabled given that the other unregistered social workers, who the OCSWSSW allows to be Social Workers, are not likely disabled or cannot be reasonably considered disabled and who are not in receipt of social assistance for such. Another potential basis to discrimination, should it occur, would be my perceived associations considering that I am not employed by a Children's Aid Society. I would also view it as harassment if the OCSWSSW will actually spend time and resources to regulate me and what I do when the OCSWSSW has blatantly refused to do the same for the people that I have made complaints to the OCSWSSW about.

The title of a person engaging in an unlawful practice should be totally irrelevant to the OCSWSSW, however, the OCSWSSW has made it clear through its own written

correspondence to me that the OCSWSSW has enabled me, and further supports me, to engage in the practice of social work simply because 1) I am not now, nor have I ever been, a member of the OCSWSSW, and that 2) I will operate using a fancy title such 'Child Protection Consultant'.

In my capacity as a 'Child Protection Consultant' (or whatever name I choose so long as it's not a regulated profession in Ontario) the OCSWSSW should understand that I will choose how and when to upgrade my skills and that I regulate myself with very little oversight beyond that of my peers and next to no accountability from the public beyond expensive and confusing civil action remedies, which often become corrupted and offer no real sense of justice in the long run despite the intense efforts and investments from the person seeking remedy.

If I have made any incorrect assessments of the situation that I present to the OCSWSSW in this letter or should the OCSWSSW have any objections or comments to make about my stated intentions I expect to be made aware of such within 15 days. I will otherwise move forward and make the necessary investments into my new career as a potential 'Child Protection Consultant' whereby I arbitrarily employ social work skills as necessary, with, what I will consider to be, the indirect approval of the OCSWSSW.

Most Sincerely
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