

**Business / Personal Letterhead**

**Date**

**Employer Name**

**Re: Recognizing Canadian Certified Counsellors in Employee Benefit Plans**

To Whom It May Concern:

Many employer sponsored health plans do not cover the services of counsellors. This limits employee access to available mental health services. Decreased access to mental health services is linked to poor workplace productivity and increased workplace absenteeism. You can help solve these challenges by requiring your employee health plan insurance provider to recognize Canadian Certified Counsellors (CCCs) with the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) in employee benefit plans.

Canadian Certified Counsellors (CCCs), Registered Psychologists, and Registered Social Workers share an overlapping scope of practice. CCCs are highly qualified mental health professionals who deliver excellent and cost-effective services. The CCPA, founded in 1965, has approximately 5,100 Master's level professionals providing services across Canada. CCCs are non-statutorily regulated through the CCPA's Code of Ethics, Standards of Practice, Ethics Complaints Procedures, and a Continuing Education system.

I have attached an infographic with more information about access to mental health services in Manitoba, the impact on Manitoban workers and the economy, and how counsellor and psychotherapists can help. In a growing number of provinces and Manitoba insurance companies, CCC designated counsellors and psychotherapists are now being included in health benefit plans. In the interests of providing optimum accessibility and choice in the selection of services to your employees, I urge you to request that your employee health plan recognize the CCC designation.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,