

Friday, January 15, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Osteopathic Treatment During Lockdown

I am writing you regarding the restriction preventing Osteopaths from practicing in Ontario due to the current guidelines excluding them as an essential service. As a public health worker, I would like to express my disappointment and would like to request for you to reconsider this decision. The repetitive nature and environmental conditions of my job has led to multiple issues and chronic pain. Although, there are other medical practitioners I can access at this time, none can provide an overall holistic full body approach as an Osteopath. As an example, since I have not been able to access an osteopath – I have had to prioritize my pain to the most pressing issue being my neck that has seized up. Physio can only address one problem – my neck and ignores that I also have issues with my tailbone and hip. Massage is helpful but it's relief is very short lived. The work that my Osteopath, Melissa Kennedy has been providing has provided me with instant relief and long-lasting benefits for multiple issues at once as they are often interconnected. Osteopathic treatment is covered under my benefit plan as a medical service so I fail to understand how it is not considered an essential service under the emergency order. Once again, as a public health worker in pain and working very long hours, I appeal for you to reconsider your decision and include Osteopaths as an essential service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa B." with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melissa B., Brantford, Ontario