



Registered Massage Therapists'
Association of Ontario

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April 24, 2025

Hon. Andrea Khanjin
Minister of Red Tape Reduction
Ministry of Red Tape Reduction
7th Floor
56 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3

Re: Amending the Statutory Accident Benefits Schedule (SABS) to Include Registered Massage Therapists as Health Practitioners for OCF-18 Forms

Dear Minister Khanjin:

As the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario (RMTAO), I am writing to request your support in amending the Statutory Accident Benefits Schedule (SABS) to include Registered Massage Therapists (RMTs) in the definition of "health practitioner" under Subsection 3(1). This amendment would enable RMTs to independently sign the OCF-18 Treatment and Assessment Plan form, streamlining access to care for Ontarians injured in motor vehicle accidents.

Currently, only those professions explicitly listed in the SABS can sign the OCF-18 form, which is required for approval of medical and rehabilitation benefits following an accident. As a result, RMTs—despite being regulated health professionals with training in the assessment and treatment of musculoskeletal injuries—must obtain the signature of another listed practitioner before submitting an OCF-18. This additional step creates an unnecessary administrative burden and delays the initiation of essential treatment.

Reducing Red Tape and Enhancing Patient Care

Allowing RMTs to sign OCF-18 forms would directly support Ontario's ongoing efforts to reduce red tape and the administrative burden in healthcare, which is an important part of your ministry's mandate. The current requirement for a co-signature:

- Adds unnecessary steps and paperwork, diverting time and resources from patient care;
- Delays timely access to treatment, which is critical for optimal recovery following an accident;
- Increases costs for both healthcare providers and insurers due to duplicated administrative processes.

RMTs are highly trained, regulated professionals who assess and treat physical dysfunction and pain of the soft tissues and joints, without the need of supervision or approval of other

professionals, contributing significantly to patient recovery and rehabilitation. Their inclusion in the OCF-18 process would improve efficiency, and ensure that patients receive the right care, at the right time, from the right provider.

Alignment with Government Priorities

This proposed change aligns with Ontario's broader strategy to streamline healthcare forms, digitize processes, and empower health professionals to work to their full scope of practice. It would mirror recent government actions to simplify and clarify health assessment forms, saving thousands of hours annually for providers and improving patient outcomes.

Request for Action

We respectfully request that your ministry work with the Ministry of Finance and other relevant bodies amend the SABS, recognizing RMTs as health practitioners authorized to sign the OCF-18. This simple regulatory change will reduce red tape, accelerate access to care, and support Ontario's commitment to efficient, patient-centered health services.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this recommendation further and provide any additional information you may require.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours truly,



Michael Feraday
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario

cc. Emily McLaughlin, Director of Policy, Office of the Minister of Red Tape Reduction
Emma Williamson, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the minister of Red Tape Reduction
Logan Kanapathi, MPP Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Red Tape Reduction
Joseph Racinsky, MPP Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Red Tape Reduction
Miles White, Director of Tax and Expenditures, Office of the Minister of Finance
Navreet Hundal, Director of Stakeholder Relations, Office of the Minister of Finance
Syed Raza, Director of Policy, Office of the Minister of Health
Sidney Hall, Director, Issues & Legislative Affairs, Office of the Minister of Health