



Christa Hale-Atkinson, ECE, B.Ed., MA, RP (Qualifying)

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Professional Disclosure Statement and Informed Consent

Personal Statement

As a qualifying Registered Psychotherapist with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario (CRPO), I, Christa Hale-Atkinson, affirm that I will maintain the high standards of professional practice and competence outlined by the CRPO. Through psychotherapy, I will apply a variety of therapeutic techniques for the purpose of helping my clients to achieve improved emotional, social, and/or personal development. My approach is client-centered and strengths-based. I, Christa Hale-Atkinson, do *not* discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, gender, religion, ethnic background, or sexuality. My practice is LGBTQ2S+ friendly.

Education, Qualifications, & Experience

I, Christa Hale-Atkinson, graduated from the Concurrent Education program at the University of Windsor in 2007 with an Early Childhood Education diploma (from St. Clair College), a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, and a Bachelor of Education. I went on to further my education through the Ontario College of Teachers and earned two specialist certificates (one in Health and Physical Education, and another in Media Literacy). Following this, I attained my Principal's Qualifications from the Ontario Principal's Council. Realizing that I wanted something "more", I earned my Masters of Arts in Counselling Psychology from Yorkville University in 2019, and in the same year became a qualifying Registered Psychotherapist, an RP(Q), with the CRPO (Registration #008322).

I have been an elementary teacher with the Lambton-Kent District School Board for the past eleven years, and I therefore have over a decade of experience in working with children and adolescents in an educational and mentorship capacity.

Conflict of Interest

Due to the fact that I am employed by the Lambton-Kent District School Board, I am unable to accept clients who: 1) Are current LKDSB employees or; 2) Are children/adolescents who have attended the school in which I work. However, I am happy to make referrals to other qualified professionals in such cases.

Confidentiality

Psychotherapists have a legal obligation to maintain professional standards. Information that is discussed within our therapy sessions will remain strictly confidential, as per legal requirements laid out in The Regulated Health Professionals Act, The Psychotherapy Act, and the Health Care Consent Act. Information can only be given out following consent of the client (you), or the client's legal representation. There are, however, *three* situations in which information may be released *without* the client's (your) permission. These are as follows: a) Where the client has disclosed threat/danger to himself/herself or others (i.e., suicide or homicide); b) Where there is a child in need of protection (i.e., suspected neglect or abuse of a minor); c) In the event of a subpoena from a judge. In such cases, I, Christa Hale-Atkinson, am required to "break" confidentiality and report relevant information to the proper authorities.

It is your legal right to request to view your records, and you may make an appointment to do so. You are invited to make summary notes of the information contained within your chart, but are not permitted to

photocopy your records. Client records/notes are kept for a minimum of ten years after discontinuation of services, or ten years after the client's 18th birthday. Attendance and billing records are kept for ten years from the date of the final contact.

Fee Schedule

Individual and couples sessions are one-hour (60 minutes) in length. Psychotherapist services are NOT covered by OHIP, however, insurance or employee assistance programs will often cover partial or full session fees, so it is *highly advisable* to contact your insurance provider to determine your eligibility for coverage. The "FAQ" section on my website contains a list of questions that you may ask your insurance provider.

Except in cases of emergency or serious/contagious illness, failure to provide 24-hour notice to cancel an appointment will result in *half of the full session fee being charged* (\$50), with the exception of clients funded through Victim Services.

You, as the client, agree that it is not your intention to subpoena or demand any psychotherapy records or testimony for the purposes of any legal or administrative proceeding. In the event that you choose to do so at a future date, it is understood that you will be billed at the regular session rate (\$100/hour) *for each hour* of file preparation, court attendance services, etc.

I accept payment via cash, credit card, or email money transfer. The fee for individual sessions is \$100 (tax included). More detailed information, including Frequently Asked Questions, can be obtained on my website: <http://www.rewritewellness.ca>

Handling Complaints

I, Christa Hale-Atkinson, will strive to provide you with the best service that I am capable of, in order to help you reach your therapeutic goals. I would like you to communicate directly with me if you are in any way dissatisfied with my services. You may also contact the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario if you wish to file a formal complaint. The CRPO can be reached at: 1-888-661-4801. Their mailing address is 163 Queen Street East, Fourth Floor, Toronto, ON M5A1S1.

Informed Consent

If therapy is no longer indicated (i.e., you have met or exceeded your therapeutic goals), or if it has proven to be ineffective for any reason, I will discuss with you the option of discontinuing/terminating. If mutually agreed that it would be beneficial for you, I may provide you with a referral to another professional.

You have the right to terminate psychotherapy at any time, and may ask me for a list of referral sources.

By signing below, you agree that you have read, understand, and consent to the terms as stated above.

Client Name (Please print)

Client Signature

Date