

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
EXTENSION OF DEADLINE FOR NEW CLIENTS TO GET
COUNSELLING SUPPORT AT THE
CORNWALL PUBLIC INQUIRY**

QUESTION: What has changed about Counselling Support?

ANSWER: We were no longer going to accept **new** clients for Counselling Support after March 31, 2008. Those already approved would continue with counselling until the report of the Cornwall Public Inquiry is released plus 90 days, but no new clients would be approved. So, for example, if someone who wanted counselling came to ask for it in April 2008, they would be too late to get approved.

This deadline for new clients is now extended from March 31 to August 31, 2008. Nothing else is changed.

QUESTION: Why did the Commissioner decide to extend new intake to August 31, 2008?

ANSWER: There was a public consultation and people were asked for their advice. Most thought that people could continue to be affected by the Cornwall Public Inquiry as long as Phase 1 hearings were going on. These hearings are scheduled to end this summer. The Commissioner wanted to ensure all people who were affected by the hearings had an opportunity to get counselling.

QUESTION: What happens after August 31, 2008 to people already approved for counselling?

ANSWER: **Those already approved for counselling can continue their counselling until the release of the Report of the Cornwall Public Inquiry plus 90 days.**

QUESTION: Will there be a further extension?

ANSWER: No.

QUESTION: How can I get counselling?

ANSWER: You can call the Cornwall Public Inquiry at 613.938.6640 and speak to Patrick Lechasseur. You can arrange for a confidential discussion with Patrick to see if you qualify for Counselling Support and to arrange for a qualified counsellor for you. Your privacy is protected and the processes are straight-forward. Every effort is made to treat people with kindness and dignity.

QUESTION: Are there counselling services I could get in Cornwall other than through the Inquiry?

ANSWER: Absolutely. For local services, please look at the document called “Counselling Support Service Providers and Community Based Cornwall Services” under “Healing Work – Phase 2 – Counselling Support” on the Cornwall Public Inquiry website at www.cornwallinquiry.ca. Counselling through the Inquiry is not your only option

QUESTION: Do I have to live in Cornwall to get Counselling Support?

ANSWER: No. You have to be affected by the Cornwall Public Inquiry to qualify for Counselling Support but you do not have to live in Cornwall or go to counselling in Cornwall.

Date: February 2008