

## **CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY**

Any information provided to psychologists by their clients is private and confidential. This information is only released to third parties (e.g., insurance companies, other health professionals, school) with your informed, written consent. You can withdraw your consent, in writing, at any time. There are certain circumstances where psychologists may have a legal obligation to disclose personal information about you to a relevant third party without your explicit consent. These include:

- If there is reason to believe that you or your child pose an imminent and serious danger to yourself or others.
- If you or your child discloses ongoing physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse or neglect or risk of such abuse. The Children's Aid Society has to be informed.
- If you advise me that you have been sexually abused by another regulated health professional (e.g., physician, dentist, chiropractor). The healthcare provider's professional association has to be informed but the disclosure of the client's identity is not necessary.
- If a court of law issues a subpoena for your file or requires my testimony.
- All psychologists can be subject to peer reviews required by the College of Psychologists of Ontario. In this case, an onsite review of a
  member's practice will be conducted by two members of the College who will have access to some of the psychologist's files.

These situations are rare. Where appropriate, I will make every effort to fully discuss the situation with you before taking any action.

Please don't hesitate to ask questions or ask for clarifications to your psychologist if you have any concerns.