



The Senate - Le Sénat
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By e-mail

Monday, January 31, 2005

David Reville
Email : david.reville@sympatico.ca

Dear Mr. Reville:

Please accept this letter as a confirmation of your appearance before the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology for its study on Mental Health. The Committee will be travelling across Canada from February to June 2005.

You are scheduled to appear in Toronto:

Date:	Tuesday, February 15, 2005
Time:	4:00 p.m.
Place:	Royal Meridian King Edward Hotel, 37 King Street East Vanity Fair Ballroom

You will be asked to make brief opening remarks for 5-7 minutes followed by a period of question and answer with members of the Committee. The Team will appear as part of a panel with other witnesses to be confirmed.

FOCUS OF THE SESSION

In February 2003, the Committee, chaired by Senator Michael Kirby, undertook an in-depth study of the state of mental health services and addiction treatment in Canada. On November 23, 2004, the Committee tabled three interim reports.

The first report examines the current state of mental health and addiction services in Canada. The second report compares the structure and funding of mental health care in four countries (Australia, New Zealand, England and the United States). The third report draws on the first two and formulates a series of questions and options for action that need to be addressed in order to restructure and improve the delivery of mental health and addiction services in Canada.

Together, these reports provide the first national overview of mental health policy and programmes in Canada, and allow people to compare the state of affairs in Canada with what has been achieved in other countries.

The Committee's interim reports also set the stage for another round of extensive consultations with Canadians that will culminate in the release of a final report that will contain comprehensive recommendations for reform.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to assist the Committee in preparing its final recommendations by commenting on the third report that the Committee released last November, its *Issues and Options* report. In particular, the Committee would like to hear from witnesses on:

- the strengths and weaknesses of the options outlined in the third report;
- their own preferred option(s); and
- other suggestions warranting consideration.

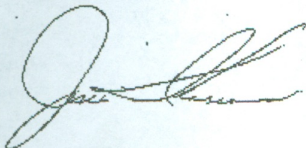
The Committee is, of course, especially interested in your views in those areas where you have relevant experience or special expertise. However, witnesses are also encouraged to share their views on any of the issues covered in the reports, as well as to inform the Committee of additional matters that it should address.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

The Committee would appreciate if you could provide a written submission outlining your oral presentation in detail as well a short biography and description of your organization. Please send any written material you wish to submit to the Committee to my office at least two week in advance of your presentation so that sufficient time is available for any translation and distribution. If this is not possible, I kindly request that you bring 20 copies of your brief (or any other material) to the meeting for distribution. Witnesses are urged to prepare succinct briefs, generally not exceeding 10 pages, or to provide an executive summary to accompany their brief.

Should you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 990-6080.

Yours sincerely,



Josée Thérien
Clerk of the Committee
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Enclosures

www.parl.gc.ca

(Committee Business – Senate – Committee List – Social Affairs, Science and Technology)
to view the reports, membership, press releases etc.