

Minister of Finance



Ministre des Finances

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G5

2006FIN193735

JAN 31 2007

Dr. Rick Morris
Deputy Registrar/Director, Professional Affairs
The College of Psychologists of Ontario
500-110 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, ON M4R 1A3

Dear Dr. Morris:

Thank you for your correspondence of August 11, 2006, regarding the ability of Psychological Associates to certify eligibility for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) in Ontario. Please excuse the delay in replying.

The list of health practitioners who can certify eligibility for the DTC, based on the nature of the impairment, is specified in the *Income Tax Act* (the "*Act*"). The *Act* specifies that, where the reference is used in respect of a certificate issued for a taxpayer, a reference to a psychologist is a reference to a person authorized to practice as such pursuant to the laws of the jurisdiction in which the taxpayer resides or of another province or territory.

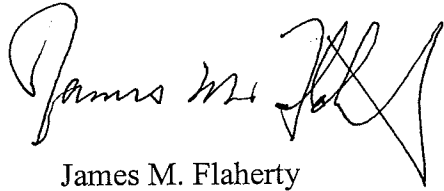
It is my understanding that the Ontario *Psychology Act* authorizes both Psychologists and Psychological Associates to practice psychology. Accordingly, holders of both titles are allowed to certify impairments with respect to an individual's ability in mental functions necessary for everyday life for purposes of eligibility for the DTC.

My officials have contacted their colleagues at the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to communicate this understanding. The appropriate changes have been made to CRA's administrative practices to ensure that Psychological Associates are allowed to certify impairments in mental functions necessary for everyday life.

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Thank you for communicating your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Flaherty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J" and a prominent flourish at the end.

James M. Flaherty