Blackwood Chiropractic Centre

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ATTN: Chair – Board of Chiropractors

Dear Board Members,

I write to meet your unreasonable deadline of widespread consultation with the profession.

This is my first point, i.e your consultation process is absolutely restrictive. I'm thinking this would be more by design than accident. The code itself seems to have been put together by people who either didn't read the cross professions code or they want to stifle chiropractic and squeeze the very life out of it.

This document is basically an expanded copy of the cross professions code. Indeed it would be better for all of us if you filed the chiro code in the waste paper bin and used the cross professions code which appears to be a fair, positive, and common sense based document that you have turned into a negative arrogant and dictatorial piece of literature.

You may say there are those that do not adhere to ethical practice and I would agree but these are such a minor part of our profession, furthermore you will not get rid of those people by your draconian methods. They are too smart for you, or I should say the marketers they subscribe to are too smart – they have the resources to get around your legislation. Believe me they will find ways to do it. They are like a pimple on the backside of a camel, you need to squeeze the pimple not beat the camel to death.

I respectfully suggest the way to deal with them is to educate the public, educate the practitioners, educate the students before they graduate. Eventually the camel will get rid of the pimple but if you keep beating the camel it will either die or it will turn on you.

On the subject of treating children, you seem to have got things back to front. When children have been checked and cleared of subluxation on a regular basis for several generations very successfully, it is not for you to say we can't continue to do this because you don't have evidence that it's necessary. It is up to you to provide irrefutable evidence that this practice causes widespread and consistent detrimental affects and I'm quite sure you don't have that. That's more than likely why you worded this section in the way you did.

I would also point out here that there is very little hard evidence for most professions in the health arena, why are you supposing we should be different.

On the CPD if you want chiropractors to go and do more formal educational conferences, seminars etc, get together with the association to get a decent deal for the practitioner, for instance, all costs should be up front and in Australian dollars, not U.S. Demand a full and comprehensive set of notes be included for later reflection. Delegates should know when the advertisement comes out how many hours they will get accredited for CPD so they can make an informed decision about attending or not. Give the seminars a rating on value for money. There are lots of ways you could help instead of being dictatorial.

If you wish me to re submit this in another format and argue point by point I am happy to do this given a reasonable extension of time. Given that I believe there is no part of the Act that says you need to do this at all, let alone by a certain date, you really do have all the time you want to take, despite what you claim.

In conclusion I am disappointed that a group of individuals like yourselves would embark on such a ridiculous exercise of duplication and enlargement to produce a document that is so utterly demeaning to our profession. I find it offensive to myself, my colleagues and our profession.

Yours faithfully,

N.F Holdback