Late submission been overseas not sufficient notice (School Holidays)

Michael Brett to natboards 09/04/2010 03:55 PM

Chiropractic Board of Australia
PO Box 16085
Collins Street West
Melbourne, Victoria
8007

9th April 2010

Dr Phillip Donato
Chair Chiropractic Board of Australia
Attention Chair: natboards@dhs.vic.gov.au

RE: National Registration Guidelines

Dear Dr Donato,

Being school holidays, I have just flown in from overseas and therefore had no time to draft a full submission.

There are so many problems with the additional code of professional practice for chiropractors, it would take me too long to address. Having made 15 phone calls this morning to members of the profession, all unreservedly felt strongly that the addition to the Cross Professional Code of Conduct (referred to as **C-PC** henceforth) should be deleted.

For example, attempting to be specific with scheduling will ultimately lead to some parameters of "normal" to be specified. This is quite simply impossible as people's individual response rate varies with so many complex issues. With the advent of new techniques and knowledge these schedules could be quite different in the passage of time further complication specification at this point.

When coupled with the mandatory reporting to the CBA of instances 'considered outside the new guidelines', there becomes a danger where normal practitioners find themselves defending normal practice because someone with an extremist view has reported them. This could also readily occur from health practitioners that have little or no understanding of chiropractic reporting to the CBA an instance which they 'feel' is unjustified. The time and mental anguish associated with preparing a submission to defend this complaint would be a huge drain on both the practitioner and his/her family despite the complaint having no

substance once it had been investigated.

A bureaucratic nightmare may also occur as evidenced in the British Chiropractic Registration Board with approximately 600 cases still to be heard.

Every other National Board has left their professions to openly regulate under the terms of the **C-PC**, which are fair and general. The fact that the Chiropractors Registration Board of Australia have created the specified addition shows a lack of maturity and overreaction for behaviors of individuals indiscretions.
The same poor behavior by individuals is exhibited in every other health profession and in fact is a larger problem for insurance companies such as the Insurance Commission of WA than it is for chiropractors.

Everywhere there are extremists, our profession included. There is a minority group within our profession with a very limited model of chiropractic who outwardly express that their limited model, become the new face of chiropractic.
The Victorian Registration Board attempted to pass these, or very similar restrictive guidelines through their board. Having almost no notice, the chiropractors in Victoria convened a meeting of which 600 chiropractors attended. All but nine voted to issue a vote of no confidence in the Victorian Registration Board. This is one small incident indicating the views held by these board members to be the minority and not reflective of our profession.

I have no confidence in the two members of the CBA from the Victorian Registration Board based on their voting and reported views outlined above. It appears that they hold the view of a minority of our profession typified by these restrictive guidelines. I also fear these guidelines will be used in an irresponsible manner to push the agenda of this minority group in the future.

I feel like apologizing for discussing this minority group however this has reached a ridiculous stage without far reaching consultation.

Yours sincerly

Michael Brett B.App.Sc. (chiro)

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