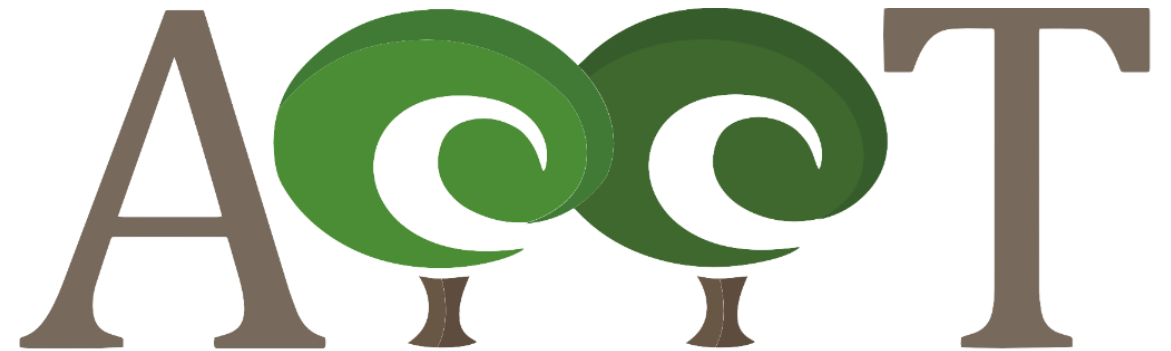


# Information session

held October 21st 2025  
online via Zoom



ASSOCIATION OF COOPERATIVE COUNSELLING THERAPISTS  
OF CANADA

# Agenda



1. Who is ACCT?
2. Why join?
3. Designations and Applications
4. Upon Approval
5. Regulation
6. Questions

# Who Are We?

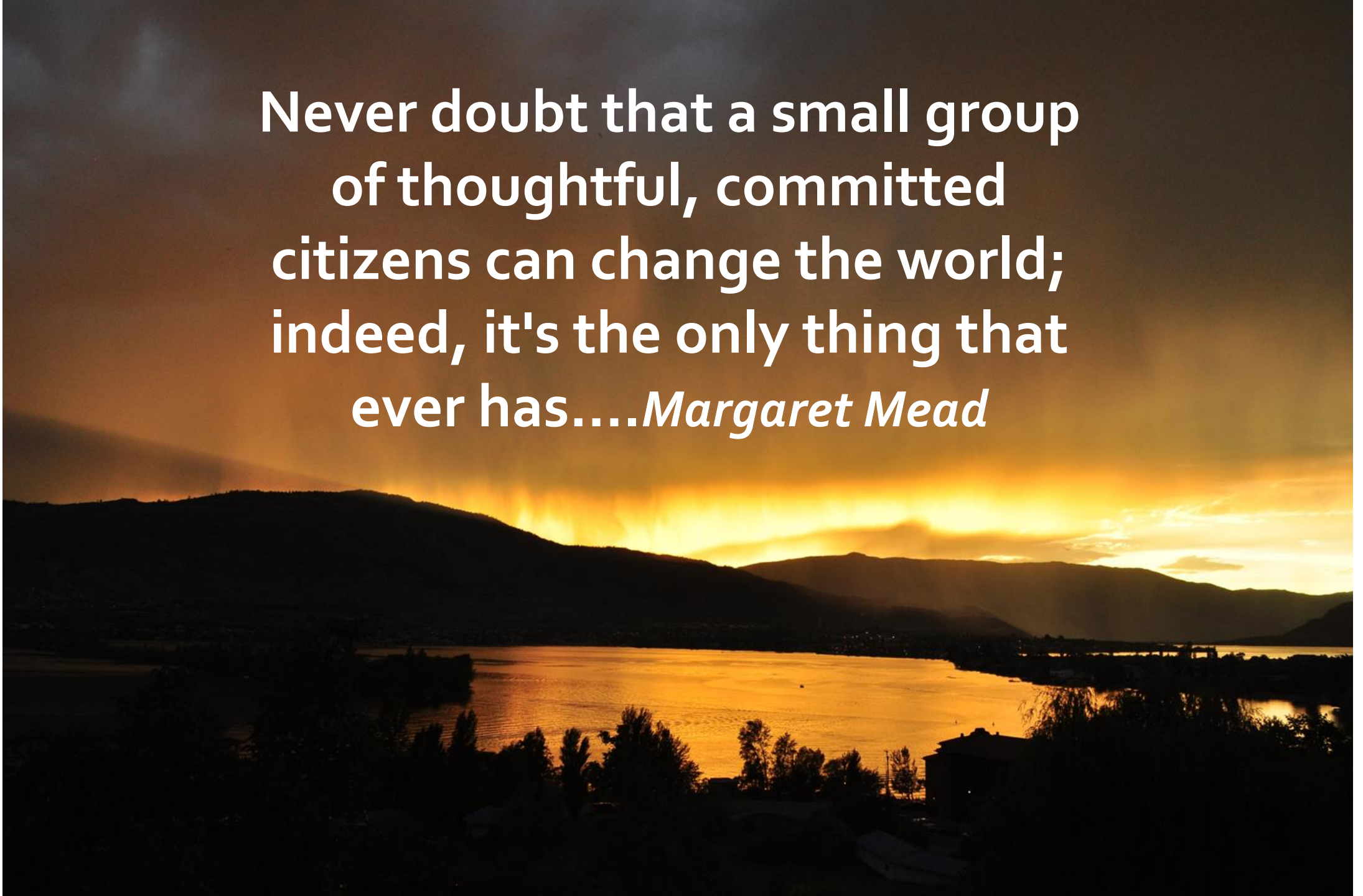


- A body of counsellors and therapists
- Self-regulated, professional association formed in August 2013
- First community service cooperative for competency-based counsellors
- Canada-wide
- Founding member of FACT BC (The Federation of Associations for Counselling Therapists in British Columbia).

# **ACCT Mission Statement**

To cooperatively support excellence in  
competency-based counselling.

Never doubt that a small group  
of thoughtful, committed  
citizens can change the world;  
indeed, it's the only thing that  
ever has....*Margaret Mead*



# Values: We believe ...



- in **collaboration and respect** for diversity in both thought and expression
- in working internally and with other organizations and government in the spirit of **responsiveness and teamwork**
- in the cooperative model, based on **equality and sharing**
- in **competency-based** criteria for counselling regulation, which recognizes **real life experience and enriches the standard of counselling**
- the combination of **knowledge, experience, skill and compassion** are keys to the counselling process
- in **life-long learning** and professional development
- in **transparency and financial accountability** to our members

**Why join ACCT?**

# We Are A Cooperative



- Members are owners and always have a voice
  - Run by volunteers
  - Board, membership committee, regulation committee...etc.
- Full voting rights
- Our financial position is transparent

# Volunteer Opportunities

- Membership Committee
- Ethics Committee
- Mentorship Committee
- Finance Committee
- Professional Development Committee
- Board of Directors
- AGM & Conference



# Benefits



- Group rates for professional liability insurance rates from AON & EasyCover
- Reasonable professional fees
- Mentorship Program
- Focus on building community where counsellors support counsellors through networking opportunities and an active and inclusive FB group
  - Open forums / Educational opportunities

# Student Associates



Fee - \$70

Have the following documents scanned and saved ready to include with your online application:

- A copy of your current resume
- A copy of proof of enrollment in your current counselling education program

Note: in order to qualify for application and renewal, a student must have a minimum of 3 months remaining in their counselling education program. Student Members are not eligible for ACCT group liability insurance rates.

- Students receive all mailings and are eligible to take advantage of the ACCT membership discount programs.
- Students can join the ACCT Members Facebook page.
- Students shall have the right to attend open forums.
- Students do not have entitlement to vote

# Designations and Applications

# Designations



- Registered Therapeutic Counsellor-Candidate (RTCc)
  - 50 hours DCC / 25 hours Supervision
  - RTCc also qualifies for professional liability insurance through the ACCT group plans
  - May offer counselling at a reduced rate of not more than 70% of the industry rate for their geographical area
- Registered Therapeutic Counsellor (RTC)
  - 200 hours DCC / 50 hours Supervision
- Master Therapeutic Counsellor (MTC)
  - 1000 hours DCC / 100 hours Supervision
- Registered Counselling Supervisor (RCS)
  - 1000 hours DCC / 150 hours Supervision post-graduation

# Application Criteria



- Education
- One reference letters form qualified supervisor validating hours
- One (character) reference letter from a professional
- Criminal record check
- Current resume
- Liability insurance/ letter of intent

# Application Criteria: Education



A qualifying program must cover training in a minimum of six of the eight topic areas listed below, and must include the first three bolded areas

- **Basic Counselling Skills including Clinical Assessment**
- **Counselling Ethics and Ethical Practice including Effective Use of Self**
- **Models of Therapy**
- Individual, Couples, Family and Group Counselling Methods
- Trauma and Abuse
- Documentation
- Diversity and Cultural Awareness
- Human Development including Psychopathology/Abnormal Psychology and DSM

# Application Criteria: Reference letters

## Direct client contact

activity in which the client and the therapist are **directly and formally engaged in the psychotherapeutic process**. Also included in direct client contact are:

- conducting a formal assessment as part of clinical interaction with the client; and
- facilitating or actively co-facilitating therapeutic sessions.

## Qualified supervisors / RCS / Non-ACCT supervisors must:

- Hold a certificate or diploma; bachelor's degree; postgraduate certificate; master's degree or Ph.D. in counselling or a related field from a registered school.
- A min. of 5 years of registered counselling practice as an RTC or equivalent
- At least 1000 direct contact hours, and received a minimum of 150 hours of supervision (60 in Canada).
- Be a registered member in good standing in a recognized counselling or related professional association whose members practice counselling therapy.
- Have completed an approved 30 hour supervisor training program.
- Have current liability insurance.
- Accept and work within ACCT's Supervisor Code of Ethics and ACCT's Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

# Application Criteria: Liability Insurance



## Liability insurance / letter of intent

- Protect the public, yourself and the credibility of the association
- AON/ EasyCover

*Your name*  
*Your address*

Date: *May 3, 2024*

Subject: Confirmation of Providing Evidence of Insurance

Dear ACCT,

As part of my application for membership with the Association of Cooperative Counselling Therapists (ACCT), I am writing to confirm my commitment to provide evidence of insurance coverage within **six weeks** of being approved by your regulatory organization.

Sincerely,  
*Your handwritten signature*

# Application Criteria: CRC / resume

## Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable sector search

- Provide a current Criminal Record Check (CRC) with a vulnerable sector search. The CRC must have been issued within the last 12 months
- In order to obtain a CRC, one must visit their local police station or RCMP detachment and request a complete CRC as stated above.

## Resume

- Must be current
- Include your previous experience
- No misrepresentation

# Note on Ethics

It is so important to follow ethical guidelines around how you represent yourself to the public and to your potential clients.

- A reminder that the use of any of ACCT's designations (RTCc, RTC, MTC, RCS) and/or the ACCT logo are not permitted on your website, advertising materials, or social media sites until you have been advised that your application with ACCT has been approved. (This also applies to Student members even though they do not have an ACCT designation).
- As an ACCT member you will be considered "registered", and not "licenced". Licensing is the purview of a governmental regulatory body, such as a College.
- If you live in a province where the act of psychotherapy is protected, you must follow your regulated provinces rules.
- Please ensure that you are operating within your Scope of Practice at all times.

# Application Criteria: RTCc / RTC Fees



## RTCc

- One time administration fee \$150.00
- Professional fee \$150.00
- ACCT Membership Share \$100.00
- Total: \$400

## RTC

- One time administration fee \$150.00
- Professional fee \$350.00
- ACCT Membership Share \$100.00
- Total: \$600

**Upon Approval**

# How do you maintain your good standing with ACCT?

## Continuous Competency Development requirements:

- RTCc, RTC, MTC and RCS are required to receive a minimum of 30 hours of competency development each year, reported at renewal time which includes:
  - Minimum 10 hours of supervision.
  - Minimum 8 hours of Professional Development (PD).
  - Max. 8 hours of self-care hours.
  - Pay your ACCT professional fee yearly at renewal time.
  - Must attest to having current Professional Liability Insurance.

# Annual Renewals

## Student

- Annually renewal fee \$70
- A copy of proof of continued enrollment in a counselling education program.
- If you have graduated and you are applying to become an RTCc or RTC please contact ACCT
- Once graduated your student membership expires

## RTCc and RTC

- Submit CCD report
- Pay professional fee
  - RTCc \$150
  - RTC\$350.00

# Regulation

# The Regulation of Counselling in Canada



Counselling is regulated in Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New-Brunswick, and PEI.

Alberta and BC have recently passed legislation to create a College of Psychotherapy.

Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Newfoundland & Labrador all have regulatory activities underway led by active Federations of Associations for Counselling Therapists

How will it work?

The College will oversee the qualifications and assign designations, their mandate is to “protect the public”

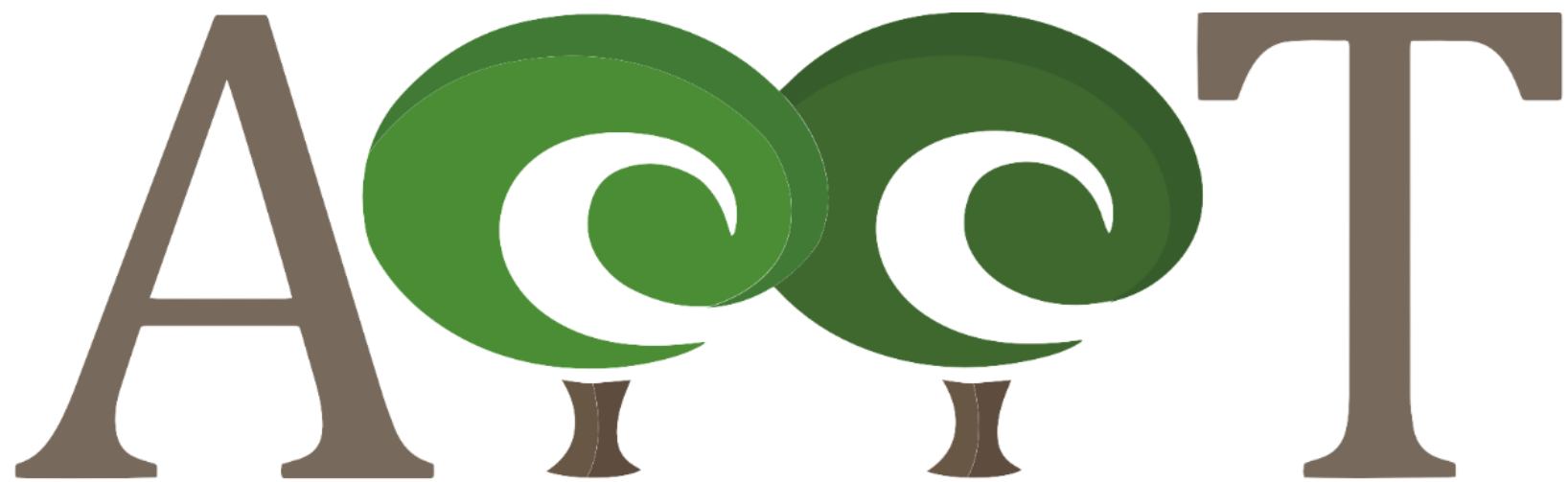
ACCT’s role - we will register members and change our role to one of therapist support, networking, education, insurance, professional development and supervision

# How Can You Prepare?

- Keep a log of all your past and future hours:
  - DCC (during education program and post grad)
  - Supervision received
  - Currency - work that relates to counselling (i.e. PD, continuing education, volunteering, teaching)
- Read the updates and guidelines that come from ACCT



**Questions**



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