 **Important Additional Information Regarding COVID-19**

*This sheet provides important information regarding accessing counselling services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please read in this information carefully and ask your therapist any questions that you have.*

**Accessing counselling services safely**

*We ask that* ***you do not attend*** *the office if you are:*

* Symptomatic of any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (a fever, a new or changed chronic cough, a sore throat that is not related to a known or pre-existing condition, a runny nose that is not related to a known or pre-existing condition, nasal congestion that is not related to a known or pre-existing condition, shortness of breath that is not related to a known or pre-existing condition.
* If you have been exposed to anyone who is symptomatic, is a probable or confirmed case or if you or someone you’ve been exposed to has traveled outside of the country within the previous 14 days.

*When you arrive at the office:*

* We ask that you arrive at the time of your appointment and not before to minimize time spent in the waiting room.
* That you do not bring any visitors with you, and if you are dropping someone off, we ask that you do not stay, but instead leave and then come back to pick them up. If you are required to wait in the waiting room we ask that you wear a mask.
* That you use the provided hand sanitizer upon entry into the office
* That you complete the provided COVID-19 screening checklist

**Risks of in-person counselling**

* We cannot guarantee that you will not contract COVID-19 despite the safety measures in place
* If your counsellor/you have symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19/recently travelled outside the country your session will either be re booked or you will be offered a tele counselling session (if appropriate).
* Some modalities of counselling will not be offered due to maintaining physical distancing requirements.

**Additional limits to confidentiality**

* Your counsellor is required to report to the Medical Officer of Health if they are made aware of any individual with symptoms or with a confirmed case of COVID-19 is acting in a manner that is likely to cause transmission or of the individual is not complying with the Alberta Health mandatory measures to stop the spread of COVID-19.
* Your counsellor is required to save your COVID-10 screening checklist for the purpose of contact tracing while the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing. This information may be shared with Alberta Health Services is asked.

I agree and understand to the information in this document and have had the opportunity to ask my counsellor any questions or concerns I have.

Date: Client: