

GST Exempt

Revenue Canada recognizes Social Work as a health profession and exempts Registered Social Workers from charging GST for their clinical counselling services. Registered Social Workers, along with psychologists and psychiatrists, are the only clinical counselling groups exempted from charging GST.

Accessible

Timely access can make a difference. By adding RSWs to your benefits plan, employees and family members can obtain mental health services in communities underserved by other counselling professionals. Throughout BC, hundreds of RSWs provide private practice services, often in communities where an RSW is the only mental health professional available.

Affordable and Cost-Effective

Registered Social Workers are well qualified to treat the many issues and disorders for which employees seek help through their extended health plan. Because RSW fees are reasonable, an employee's allotment for mental health and family counselling services offered through their benefits plan will go farther.

In the long run, employers should expect a \$2-\$3 return for every dollar invested in mental health support services.

Contact your insurance provider and request that they add Registered Social Workers to your benefits plan — it makes good business sense!



**Social Workers
Help starts here.**

For more information, contact the BC Association of Social Workers at:

604 730 9111/800 665 4747

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Registered Social Workers: Adding Value to Workplace Benefit Plans

Registered Social Workers provide skilled professional counselling for personal, family and work-related problems. Covering their services under extended health plans improves the chances employees will get the help they need — from the right people at the right time.



Employers and Human Resources Managers:

Three-quarters of Canadian employers report that mental health issues are the leading cause of short and long-term disability claims in their organization. Mental health concerns are now the fastest rising source of workplace disability in Canada, accounting for 70 per cent of total disability costs.

Early intervention is the key to dealing effectively with emotional problems, yet all too often people encounter barriers when they seek help.

Every workplace extended health plan should include the services of Registered Social Workers — for the right help, from the right people, at the right time.

Here is your opportunity to:

- increase options for employees to get timely access to affordable services for their personal problems
- find effective and durable solutions to retain and sustain healthy and productive employees as well as improve morale, safety, attendance and workplace relationships

without incurring additional costs to obtain these benefits.

Most group health insurers will reimburse the services of Registered Social Workers if employers request this coverage.

Why upgrade your current plan?

Quite simply, the coverage you now offer may not be sufficient to address the variety, complexity and severity of issues that can affect job performance. Many employees need help beyond what an Employee Assistance Program may offer, and they, or their EAP provider, will look to their extended health plan. When coverage includes RSWs in clinical practice, you can be confident that employees and their families will receive services that are:

Professional, Qualified and Competent

Registered Social Workers are among the largest providers of mental health services in North America. With university degrees primarily at the Masters or Doctorate level, they are skilled clinicians who provide counselling and therapy for:

- stress, depression, anxiety
- life transitions, grief and loss
- trauma and abuse
- family, marital and relationship issues, including parenting and eldercare
- drug and alcohol dependency
- anger management and conflict resolution

Social Workers bring a unique perspective to these issues — focusing not only on the person but the social context in which they live and work.

Regulated and Accountable

Social Work is a regulated profession, legislated under the Social Workers Act. Registered Social Workers are governed by a regulatory body and adhere to a strict Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

