



PRACTICUM JOURNAL 1

By

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My practicum project this semester is a research project on ethics. The current codes of ethics for community rehabilitation and disability studies professionals was created in 2002 and has some parts that are no longer relevant, things that needs to be included. My task this semester is to examine other codes of ethics to understand what might be important to include in the new CRDS code of ethics and what might need to be remove. This practicum is a research intensive practicum that involves lot of dissecting of several information. Initially, I was unsure of how to approach this project. After all, I have never been tasked with taking on such an enormous responsibility of creating a document that reflect the interdisciplinary nature of our profession yet stay true to many of the ideals that we hold as community rehabilitation practitioner. I found the meeting with Carla and Anne particularly beneficial because they provided me with some guidance on some of the things to consider when taking on the task of reviewing codes of ethics. For example, considering the role of the history of CARP will provide me with some of the major

principles that inform the creation of the current CARP. On a follow up meeting with Carla, she further informed me of some of the struggles that the founders of CARP faced in getting their documents recognized by the “powers that be”. This will be particularly helpful to me in further discussing with Susan to get a firsthand experience of what were the challenges she faced. I am looking forward to this.

This past few weeks of going through many codes of ethics has really provided me with not only a broad understanding of why codes of ethics are vital to a profession’s quest to gain some legitimacy, but also the importance of having an aspirational document that professionals can refer to for guidance on ethical dilemma. For example, the Canadian Association of Social Worker’s (CASW) code of ethics has some really important pieces which I think are important to take into consideration when creating codes of ethics. Firstly, they made it specifically clear that the goal of a code of ethics must not be to guarantee ethical behaviors, but rather to provide guidance to people so that they can know what is expected of them. Secondly, I found that (CASW)’s core values really resonated

with me as a community rehabilitation practitioner.

Value 1: Respect for Inherent Dignity and Worth of Persons

Value 2: Pursuit of Social Justice

Value 3: Service to Humanity

Value 4: Integrity of Professional Practice

Value 5: Confidentiality in Professional Practice

Value 6: Competence in Professional Practice

These values I think are important especially when working with venerable population.