

## **Fraud Alert – False Use of RSW Credentials**

The Manitoba College of Social Workers (MCSW) has been informed that the names and registration numbers of registered social workers in Canada have been used to create fake profiles on the website [Psychology Today](#). These profiles have been inaccurately marked as "verified" with a large checkmark next to the registration number. While the name and registration number in the "verified" box belong to a legitimate social worker, the profile name has been altered slightly to resemble a registered social worker's name.

### **What social workers can do:**

- Verify that no unauthorized profiles have been created using your name and registration credentials on Psychology Today.
- Regularly search for your name and RSW number online to monitor for unauthorized use of your professional identity.
- If you discover unauthorized use of your name and social work credentials, report to:
  - relevant website and request its removal
  - MCSW and any other jurisdiction where you are registered as a social worker
  - Local police
  - [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#).

Although this issue currently concerns Psychology Today, other online advertising platforms for mental health services also exist. MCSW does not endorse or promote any specific advertising platform. Social workers are reminded to advise service participants that they can verify registered social workers authorized to practice in Manitoba through [MCSW's public online register](#).

**Have questions?** Please direct any further inquiries to [info@mcsw.ca](mailto:info@mcsw.ca).