

**Agenda Item 4(e)(ii)**  
**February 15/22 EOC Meeting**

**From:** Meighan Pears <events@cafii.com>

**Sent:** February-08-22 2:54 PM

**To:** EOC Members

**Cc:** Jake Becker <jake.becker@cafii.com>; Brendan Wycks <brendan.wycks@cafii.com>; Keith Martin <Keith.Martin@cafii.com>; Janet Pacini Thibodeau <Janet\_Pacini\_Thibodeau@manulife.ca>

**Subject:** CAFII March 2022 Webinar | Seeking Panelists for Webinar on Mental Health Issues and Challenges in the Workplace, At Home, and In Society: Coping With The Persistent Pandemic's Impact

Good afternoon, CAFII EOC Members:

This message is being sent on behalf of CAFII Co-Executive Directors Keith Martin and Brendan Wycks.

Based on EOC member feedback following the January 18/22 meeting, we are currently attempting to organize an early March CAFII webinar on ***Mental Health Issues and Challenges in the Workplace, At Home, and In Society: Coping With The Persistent Pandemic's Impact.***

This webinar is tentatively scheduled for either ***Wednesday March 2, 2022 or Thursday March 3, 2022 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm EST.***

We are currently seeking three CAFII member company human resources (HR) professionals; or a human resources law expert(s); or a mental health practitioner(s) who have expertise in/knowledge about helping people to deal/cope with and recover from mental health issues/challenges in the workplace and/or other social contexts, and who would be willing to participate in CAFII webinar Fireside Chat panel with two other experts and moderator Keith Martin.

If you know of a suitably qualified HR professional from your member company or another organization, human resources lawyer, or mental health practitioner and would like to recommend him/her for our CAFII webinar panel, please reach out to me at [events@cafii.com](mailto:events@cafii.com).

Please see below for some discussion points that we would potentially like to address in this webinar. Feel free to share these points with any HR professional, HR law expert, or mental health professional whom you think would be a great fit for this panel.

**Discussion Points:**

- Impact of the pandemic on the mental health of employees and customers;
- Emerging societal recognition that just as anyone can get physically sick, mental health issues and challenges are no different;
- Has the stigma around mental health issues really gone away?, or can a person's career still be negatively impacted if they reveal that they suffer from mental health issues?;

- Not all mental health issues have to be major incidents—the pandemic has caused low-level, chronic stress and anxiety in a lot of people's lives—is this currently a major concern, and/or something with potential long-lasting implications?;
- In addition to helping their own employees, are CAFII member companies and/or industry peers trying to help customers cope with mental health issues and challenges caused by the persistent pandemic?

If you have any questions about this request, please reach out to me directly. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

**Meighan Pears**

Event Planner

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