



College of  
Massage  
Therapists of  
Ontario

## College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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January 23, 2015

Mr. John Amodeo, Director  
Health System Labour Relations and Regulatory Policy Branch  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
56 Wellesley St. West  
Toronto ON M5S 2S3  
Via E-mail: [john.amodeo@ontario.ca](mailto:john.amodeo@ontario.ca)

Dear Mr. Amodeo:

### **Re: Measures For Preventing Sexual Abuse of Clients**

In response to the Minister's letter of December 17, 2014, the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario (CMTO) is pleased to provide you with information on the current status and operations of the CMTO's measures for preventing and dealing with sexual abuse of clients.

The attached program summary addresses our policies, procedures, educational requirements, training, and communications. As will be evident, the CTMO recognizes the seriousness and extent of injury that abuse causes and is committed to a policy of zero tolerance for sexual abuse of clients.

There are references throughout the program summary to various attachments which have been forwarded to you by email along with relevant links to information on the CMTO website.

I can assure you, the Minister and Task Force members, that CMTO strongly supports the Government's action to look more closely at the prevention of sexual abuse by regulated health professionals and to identify measures to strengthen the relevant provisions of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*. In our view, this timely exercise will bring important focus to this issue and, as per the Minister's announcement, will lead to strengthened practices across Health Professions with greater transparency and consistency.

Since my appointment as Registrar in the Fall of 2012, one of my priorities has been to systematically review each area of the College's regulatory and administrative/management

policies, procedures, and operations. The goal of these reviews has been to ensure that our approaches are effective, efficient and reflective of recognized best practices, and that we are achieving a high standard of protection of the public. In 2014, we initiated a review of our Client Relation's Program, including sexual abuse prevention, and had completed our initial analysis just prior to the Minister's announcement. We are also in the midst of a major review and overhaul of our strategy and program for communicating to the public and registrants, which will include hiring a communications manager in the next few months to strengthen our external communications. This means that for the CMTO, the Task Force's reporting timeline of Spring 2015 is ideal and we look forward to integrating our own efforts with the Task Force's advice and recommendations.

If you, your staff, or the Task Force members have questions, I would be very pleased to respond, including making CMTO staff available to the Task Force to provide additional information and insights.

Yours sincerely,

**CORINNE FLITTON**

Corinne Flitton, Registrar & CEO  
College of Massage Therapists of Ontario