

Thank You for Your Input!
Code of Ethics Draft Consultation
September 2019

The College of Massage Therapists of Ontario (CMTO) is in the process of refreshing its Code of Ethics. CMTO developed a survey to engage registrants and other stakeholders in an early discussion about some of the ethical issues within the current practice environment, and ultimately what should be included in the refreshed Code of Ethics. The survey was launched on January 24, 2019 and closed on March 24, 2019.

CMTO used findings from this survey to develop a draft Code of Ethics, on which we consulted with registrants and other stakeholders. This consultation was open from July 10, 2019 to August 14, 2019. CMTO heard from 813 respondents in total, 750 of whom answered at least one question. Of these 750 useable responses, 725 (97%) were CMTO registrants (General or Inactive).

Content and Effectiveness of Draft Code of Ethics

Respondents were **generally satisfied with the content of the draft Code of Ethics**, both in terms of what the document includes and what it excludes. Almost 94% of respondents agreed that “everything that is important to ethical practice of Massage Therapy is included” and 93% of respondents agreed that “everything in the Code of Ethics is relevant to the ethical practice of Massage Therapy.” Similarly, almost 92% of respondents agreed that the “**principles presented in the draft Code of Ethics are reasonable and implementable.**”

Ultimately, respondents **generally agreed that the document is an effective resource** to support Massage Therapists in understanding the ethical principles and values which are foundational to the practice of the profession. While 615 respondents (82%) agreed or strongly agreed that the document is an effective resource, 70 respondents (9.3%) disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Document Style

Some respondents **struggled with the length, wording and/or voice** of the draft Code of Ethics. Revising the document and simplifying language to promote readability, ease of understanding and ultimately accessibility to CMTO’s registrant base is a key takeaway from this consultation.

Next Steps

Key findings from this second survey show that respondents generally agreed with the overall content and themes of the draft Code of Ethics, with some requests to edit the wording, length, and/or style of the document to make it easier to understand and more accessible. CMTO will implement this feedback by revising the draft and hopes release a refreshed version of the Code of Ethics by the end of 2019 – in time to celebrate 100 years of Massage Therapy regulation in Ontario.