



College of
Massage
Therapists of
Ontario

College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Amanda Dingman (Dundas, ON)

April 9, 2021

Decision

On April 9, 2021, the Discipline Committee found that Ms. Amanda Dingman committed acts of professional misconduct in that she:

1. engaged in conduct or performed an act relevant to the practice of the profession that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by registrants as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional; and
2. engaged in conduct that would reasonably be regarded by registrants as conduct unbecoming a Massage Therapist.

The findings of professional misconduct stemmed from the registrant's behaviour as an instructor at an educational facility in Ontario. During her employment there, the registrant engaged in an intimate relationship with one of her students and, more generally, failed to maintain appropriate boundaries with students.

Penalty Order and Cost Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Ms. Dingman is required to appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee immediately following the hearing to be reprimanded, with the fact of the reprimand and the text of the reprimand to appear on the public register of the College.
2. The Registrar is directed to suspend Ms. Dingman's Certificate of Registration for a period of two (2) months, commencing on the date of this order (i.e., April 9, 2021).
3. The Registrar is directed to impose the following specified terms, conditions and limitations on Ms. Dingman's Certificate of Registration.
 - a. within six (6) months of the date of this order, Ms. Dingman must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of an individualized course pre-approved by the Registrar, consisting of a minimum of two (2) sessions,

relating to ethics, boundaries and professionalism, which is to be taken at her own expense; and

- b. within six (6) months of the date of this order, Ms. Dingman must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of the College's Professionalism Workshop, which is to be taken at her own expense.
4. Ms. Dingman is required to pay to the College costs in the amount of \$5,000.00, within thirty-six (36) months of the date of this order, at a rate of \$138.88 per month.

The complete Decision and Reasons will be available online on the Canadian Legal Information Institute (CanLII) [website](#).

Reprimand Delivered to Ms. Dingman

The following reprimand was delivered by a panel of the Discipline Committee:

The panel would like to acknowledge your cooperation in arriving at an agreed statement of facts and a joint submission on penalty, which assisted in the process and lessened the burden of time and resources upon the College and the profession. We also appreciate your presence here today.

Having said that, the panel finds that your conduct was totally unacceptable for a Registered Massage Therapist, an educator and a regulated health professional. As an educator, you were in a position of trust and authority to not only teach new students but also to set an example for them. You deliberately and knowingly engaged in behaviour that caused significant distress and potential harm to a future generation of Massage Therapists.

Massage Therapists who act as practitioners and educators are expected to maintain a commitment to follow the principles outlined in the Code of Ethics and maintain the Standards of Practice for the profession.

This panel would like to remind you that being a Registered Massage Therapist is a privilege and not a right. Actions such as yours undermine the public's confidence in the profession and are not tolerated by the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario. It is our expectation that you have learned from this experience and that we will not see you before this Committee in the future.