

Discipline Hearing Summary

Paul Wolfe (Ottawa, ON)

July 6, 2022

Decision

On July 6, 2022, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Wolfe engaged in acts of professional misconduct because he:

1. failed to reply appropriately or within a reasonable time to a written inquiry made by the College that requested a response;
2. engaged in conduct 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
3. engaged in conduct that would reasonably be regarded by registrants as conduct unbecoming a Massage Therapist.

Mr. Wolfe admitted that he did not comply with a 2019 order of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (ICRC) and failed to respond to any of the College's communications about that order from 2019 to 2021.

Penalty Order and Costs Award

The Discipline Committee's order included the following:

1. Mr. Wolfe must appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee immediately following the hearing of this matter to be reprimanded, with the fact of the reprimand and the text of the reprimand to appear on the College's Public Register.
2. The Registrar is directed to suspend Mr. Wolfe's Certificate of Registration for six (6) weeks, to begin on August 1, 2022.
3. The Registrar is directed to impose the following terms, conditions or limitations on Mr. Wolfe's Certificate of Registration:

- a) Mr. Wolfe must comply with the outstanding requirements of the ICRC's order dated November 19, 2019, within six (6) months of the date of this order, at his own expense.
 - b) Mr. Wolfe must provide proof, acceptable to the Registrar, of successful completion of an individualized ethics course with a course provider approved by the College regarding the issue raised in this case, within six (6) months of the date of this order, at his own expense.
 - c) Mr. Wolfe must respond to all future communications from the College within fifteen (15) days.
4. Mr. Wolfe must pay the College costs in the amount of \$3,475.00 within one (1) month of the date of this order.

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

Reprimand Delivered to Mr. Wolfe

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

Mr. Wolfe, 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 unacceptable for a Registered Massage Therapist and a regulated health professional. It is extremely important that members of the profession remain responsive and accountable to their regulatory body.

The panel recognizes that the pandemic has been exceptionally difficult for all healthcare providers and, in fact, for everyone. That being said, it is not a reason to ignore your professional obligations. The panel encourages you to reflect on this and recommit yourself to upholding your professional responsibilities.

The panel also wishes to remind you that the suspension is not a vacation; rather, it is an opportunity for you to refocus, learn and recommit yourself to fulfil your professional obligations. Actions such as yours undermine the College's ability to regulate in the public interest. This can, in turn, erode the public trust and confidence in the profession. It is our expectation that you will have learned from this process and that you will take that into your future practice.