

College of Massage Therapists of Ontario

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Discipline Hearing Summary

Megan Harrison (Newmarket, ON)

August 9, 2022

Decision

On August 9, 2022, the Discipline Committee found that Ms. Harrison engaged in acts of professional misconduct in that she:

- 1. failed to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Committee or any assessor appointed by that Committee;
- 2. failed to reply appropriately or within a reasonable time to a written inquiry made by the College that requested a response;
- 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
- 4. engaged in conduct that would reasonably be regarded by registrants as conduct unbecoming a Massage Therapist.

Ms. Harrison did not comply with the requirements of the College's Quality Assurance Program when she failed to complete the 2019 STRiVE requirements by the deadline, despite being granted multiple extensions. In addition, she failed to participate in a mandatory virtual Practice Assessment and did not respond to numerous College communications.

Penalty Order and Costs Award

The Discipline Committee issued the following order:

- 1. Ms. Harrison must appear before a panel of the Discipline Committee for a reprimand with the date to be scheduled with the Hearings Office within three (3) months of the date of the order, and 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 Ms. Harrison's Certificate of Registration for two (2) months, beginning on August 9, 2022.

- 3. The Registrar is directed to impose the following terms, conditions or limitations on Ms. Harrison's Certificate of Registration:
 - a) Ms. Harrison 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 issues raised in this case, which is to be taken at her own expense, within six (6) months of the date of this order;
 - b) Ms. Harrison must respond to all College communications within 15 days; and
 - c) For each calendar year, Ms. Harrison must provide to the College proof of completion of all STRiVE or other Quality Assurance Program requirements by November 30, or the stipulated deadline for the completion of STRiVE or the Quality Assurance Program, if different.
- 4. Ms. Harrison must pay the College costs in the amount of \$6,950.00, payable in 40 monthly payments of \$173.75, with the first payment due one (1) month after her return to practice and continuing every month until paid in full.

The complete Decision and Reasons will be available on the <u>Canadian Legal Information</u> Institute (CanLII) website.

Reprimand Delivered to Ms. Harrison

Ms. Harrison, we would like to acknowledge your presence here today and your cooperation in arriving at an Agreed Statement of Facts, which saved the College resources by shortening the hearing. However, the panel expresses deep concern over your conduct, which demonstrated a disregard for your professional obligations by failing to respond to your regulator and failing to complete by the deadline Quality Assurance program requirements that are in place to verify, among other things, that RMTs are practising safely. Ensuring that RMTs complete continuing educational requirements is central to the College's mandate to protect the public.

The panel wants to remind you that being a Registered Massage Therapist is a privilege, not a right. It is our expectation that you have learned from this experience and from your ordered coursework, and that you have re-committed yourself to upholding the highest ethical standards.