

## Discipline Summary

### Yatin Syal (Cambridge, ON)

### December 18, 19 and 21, 2023

#### Decision

On February 7, 2024, the Discipline Committee found that Mr. Syal committed acts of professional misconduct in that he:

1. sexually abused a client;
2. contravened a Standard of Practice of the profession or a published Standard of the College, or failed to maintain the Standard of Practice of the profession, in particular, the Standards for *Client-Centered Care, Consent, Prevention of Sexual Abuse, and Professional Boundaries*;
3. physically abused a client; and
4. 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.

Mr. Syal contravened published Standards of the College when he massaged a client's glutes without obtaining written consent before assessing and treating that sensitive area. This occurred at two Massage Therapy appointments in June 2022. Mr. Syal also engaged in sexual abuse by touching the client's labia during a third treatment in July 2022.

#### Interim Suspension

Given that the sexual abuse involved touching of a sexual nature of the client's genitals, the Discipline Committee immediately suspended Mr. Syal's Certificate of Registration pursuant to subsection 51(4.2)(c) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, S.O., c.18. This order remains in effect until the Discipline Committee issues its penalty order.

A penalty and costs hearing is scheduled in May 2024, with further details posted on the College [website](#).

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