

Discipline Summary

Jeffrey Pitts (Brantford, ON)

March 17 and May 29, 2025

Decision

On April 28, 2025, the Ontario Massage Therapists Discipline Tribunal (Tribunal) found that Mr. Pitts engaged in the following acts of professional misconduct:

1. sexual abuse of a client;
2. physical abuse of a client;
3. contravening a standard of practice of the profession or a published standard of the College, in particular the *Standard for Maintaining Professional Boundaries and Preventing Sexual Abuse*; and
4. engaging in conduct or performing 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.

The Tribunal found that during a Massage Therapy appointment in 2018, Mr. Pitts treated two of the client's sensitive areas when it was not clinically indicated and he had not obtained prior written consent. The misconduct also extended to repeatedly touching the client's head with his groin and exposing a sensitive area of the client's body by not securing the draping.

The complete decision and reasons are available online from the [Canadian Legal Information Institute \(CanLII\)](#).

Penalty and Costs Award

On May 29, 2025, the Tribunal made the following order on penalty and costs:

1. Mr. Pitts is required to appear before a panel of the Tribunal on a date to be set by the Registrar 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 Mr. Pitts' Certificate of Registration for a period of eight months commencing on the date of his reinstatement if Mr. Pitts' Certificate of Registration is ever reinstated; and
3. Mr. Pitts is required to pay the College costs in the amount of \$11,704 within 30 days of May 29, 2025.

The complete decision and reasons will be available online from the [Canadian Legal Information Institute \(CanLII\)](#).

Reprimand

Mr. Pitts, the panel found that you engaged in behaviour of a sexual nature toward your client, an act that undermined the public's confidence in the profession and caused your client serious emotional harm. As a Registered Massage Therapist, you were in a unique position of trust and were responsible for helping clients, often when they were at their most vulnerable. You took advantage of that trust by treating sensitive areas of a client's body when it was not clinically indicated and exposing the client's sensitive areas, among other acts. Your behaviour was disgraceful, dishonorable, and unprofessional. You displayed unacceptable behaviour and a total lack of professional judgment.

The panel wishes to send an unequivocal message of the importance of Registered Massage Therapists preserving the trust and respect of the therapeutic relationship by maintaining professional boundaries with clients.