



**Discipline Summary**  
**Gary Canhoto (Cambridge, ON)**  
**March 3, 2026**

**Decision**

On March 3, 2026, the Ontario Massage Therapists Discipline Tribunal (Tribunal) found that Mr. Canhoto committed the following acts of professional misconduct:

1. sexual abuse of a patient;
2. abusing a patient verbally and physically;
3. contravening a standard of practice of the profession or a published standard of the College, or failing to maintain the standard of practice of the profession, in particular, the standards for *Prevention of Sexual Abuse, Consent and Draping and Physical Privacy*;
4. doing anything to a patient for a therapeutic, preventative, palliative, cosmetic or other health-related purposes in a situation in which a consent is required by law, without such consent; and
5. 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 members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional.

The Tribunal found that Mr. Canhoto touched a patient's sensitive areas without consent and in a sexual manner, touched prohibited areas of a patient's body, made sexualized remarks to the patient, and failed to maintain professional boundaries by improperly draping the patient.

**Penalty and Costs**

The Tribunal made the following order on penalty and costs:

1. Mr. Canhoto must appear before the panel to be reprimanded immediately following the hearing of this matter, with the fact of the reprimand and the text of the reprimand to appear on the public register of the College;
2. The Tribunal directs the Registrar to revoke Mr. Canhoto's Certificate of Registration effective March 3, 2026;

3. Mr. Canhoto must reimburse the College for funding that has been and that may in the future be provided to the patient under the program established under section 85.7 of the Code, up to the maximum amount allowable;
4. Mr. Canhoto must post security in the amount of \$6,000 to guarantee payments of any amount he is required to pay pertaining to the patient under paragraph 3 above, which can be paid in 18 monthly installments, with the first payment in the amount of \$390 due 30 days from March 3, 2026, and with 17 subsequent payments in the amount of \$330 due monthly;
5. Mr. Canhoto must pay the College costs in the amount of \$5,110, which can be paid in monthly installments of \$330 until paid in full, with the first monthly payment due 30 days from the date he completes the security payment in paragraph 4 above, or due September 1, 2027, whichever is earlier, and every subsequent payment due monthly.
6. Any amount of security provided by Mr. Canhoto pursuant to paragraph 4 that has not been used by September 19, 2028 will be first applied towards the costs he owes pursuant to paragraph 5, with any unapplied balance returned to Mr. Canhoto.

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

### **Reprimand Delivered to Mr. Canhoto**

The following reprimand was delivered by a panel of the Tribunal:

Mr. Canhoto, you are appearing before us having been found to have engaged in serious misconduct, including sexual abuse, that undermined patient safety and public confidence in the profession. Both the legislation governing regulated health professionals and the standards of practice of this College emphasize the zero-tolerance approach to sexual abuse and the importance of maintaining professional boundaries in clinical care. Sexual abuse is especially egregious misconduct because it exploits the inherent power imbalance in the massage therapist and patient relationship.

Your conduct also breached several standards of practice when you inappropriately draped the patient, touched sensitive areas without consent and in a sexual manner, made sexualized remarks, and touched prohibited areas of a patient's body that a Registered Massage Therapist is never permitted to touch.

Your actions demonstrate a lack of professional judgement and reflect negatively on the profession. The panel wishes to remind members of the profession that being a Registered Massage Therapist is a privilege and not a right. We hope that the outcome in this case, which includes the revocation of your certificate of registration, sends a clear message that the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario and this Tribunal have zero tolerance for the sexual abuse of patients and that the conduct will be met with serious consequences.