

College of COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS OF BC

**Type:** Extraordinary Action (IC)

Name: Arthur DeLuis, RMT

Location: Surrey, B.C.

Date of Action: December 30, 2024

**Nature of Action:** Pursuant to section 35(1)(a) of the Health Professions Act (the "Act"), a panel of the Inquiry Committee made an interim order to impose limits and conditions on Arthur DeLuis' registration with the College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC to protect the public during an investigation.

The limits and conditions on Mr. DeLuis' practice of massage therapy are that:

- while treating female patients, the patients must remain fully clothed from the iliac crest to the ankles during treatment;
- he must immediately post a notice, in a prominent position, on all online booking pages associated with him the following statements, in English:
  - when treating female patients, Arthur DeLuis, RMT, must ensure the patient remains fully clothed from the iliac crest to the ankles during treatment, by order of the Inquiry Committee of the College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC, dated December 30, 2024. The order is available on the College website at: <u>For the Public | CCHPBC</u>;
- he must post in a prominent and visible place in any waiting room of any clinic where he provides massage therapy treatment, a notice that is printed on 8 x 11 inch paper and in large font stating:
  - when treating female patients, Arthur DeLuis, RMT, must ensure the patient remains fully clothed from the iliac crest to the ankles during treatment, by order of the Inquiry Committee of the College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC, dated December 30, 2024. The order is available on the College website at: <u>For the Public | CCHPBC</u>;
- he must also post in a prominent place in any treatment room where he provides massage therapy treatment, a notice that is printed on 8 x 11 inch paper and in large font stating:
  - when treating female patients, Arthur DeLuis, RMT, must ensure the patient remains fully clothed from the iliac crest to the ankles during treatment, by order of the Inquiry Committee of the College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC, dated December 30, 2024. The order is available on the College website at: <u>For the Public | CCHPBC</u>;
- he must, by 6:00 p.m. every Friday, while these limits or conditions are in effect, provide the College with, or electronic access to, his calendar, including the name and contact information for each patient he treated in the preceding week; and
- he will be subject to random on-site audits of his practice by a College-appointed inspector to ensure compliance with the orders of the Inquiry Committee, with the frequency and timing of the random on-site audits to be at the sole discretion of the College. Without limiting the foregoing, an inspector may inspect any patient booking process (whether that occurs physically, by telephone, or otherwise electronically) and any file or record of any patient treated by him.



**Reasons:** The December 30, 2024 order was made following the receipt of a complaint from a female patient of the Registrant. In relation to this complaint, the Inquiry Committee panel found that there was a *prima facie* case of the allegations that, during the provision of treatment to the patient, the Registrant engaged in sexual misconduct.

The Inquiry Committee panel considered the allegations serious and found that there are some factors that render the alleged conduct likely to recur. Therefore, the panel determined that the public must be protected by an interim order during the investigation, pending any disciplinary hearing.

The panel considered what interim measures should be sufficient and proportionate in this case. Having weighed the different options and the circumstances of this case and having considered the impact on the Registrant, the Inquiry Committee panel concluded that the above-described limits and conditions are proportionate and sufficient to protect the public during the investigation or pending a discipline hearing.

**Important Note:** Limits, conditions and suspensions ordered by the Inquiry Committee under section 35(1) of the Act are made to protect the public during an investigation or pending a hearing of the Discipline Committee. Measures taken under section 35(1) of the Act pertain to allegations which are and remain unproven unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee.