

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 183
(the “HPA”)**

AND IN THE MATTER OF

**THE COLLEGE OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA (“CMTBC”)**

AND

**PAUL CHRISTOPHER
(the “Registrant”)**

**CONSENT ORDER PROPOSAL
(the “Proposal”)**

BACKGROUND

1. This Proposal is made by the Registrant to the Inquiry Committee of CMTBC (the “Committee”) under section 37.1 of the HPA.
2. On August 19, 1998, CMTBC registered the Registrant under No. 4271.
3. On January 6, 2020, a female complainant submitted a complaint to CMTBC with respect to events that formed the basis of a criminal complaint of sexual assault against the Registrant which was alleged to have occurred on January 4, 2020, during the course of a massage.
4. On January 6, 2020, the Registrant became a former registrant when he resigned his registration with CMTBC.
5. At some point after January 6, 2020, CMTBC posted a Public Notification of Action stating that the Registrant had voluntarily resigned during an investigation arising from his conduct while practicing massage therapy and that he was not entitled to practice as a registered massage therapist in British Columbia or use protected titles reserved for registrants of CMTBC.
6. CMTBC opened a complaint file under No. 2020-00001. On January 10, 2020, the Committee initiated an investigation. As a criminal investigation was ongoing, CMTBC elected to hold part of its investigation in abeyance pending the conclusion of criminal proceedings.
7. In or about March 2020, the Crown elected not to proceed with charge approval against the Registrant, which the College received confirmation of in or about December 2020.
8. On August 25, 2021, the Committee directed the issuance of a citation in this matter.

9. On March 16, 2022, a citation was issued against the Registrant.

ADMISSIONS

10. The Registrant admits that in January 2020, during a massage therapy appointment of a female patient he:
- a. failed to provide options for disrobing in breach of the CMTBC's Consent Standard of Practice, although he left the treatment room for her to disrobe;
 - b. commented on the size of her breasts which was unprofessional, inappropriate and of a personal nature to her in breach of the CMTBC's Boundaries Standard of Practice;
 - c. made statements and inquiries with respect to her personal life, including how she met her boyfriend, which were of an unprofessional, inappropriate and of a personal nature to her in breach of the CMTBC's Boundaries Standard of Practice;
 - d. made statements with respect to his preferences in a romantic partner, including age and body type, which were of an unprofessional, inappropriate and of a personal nature in breach of the CMTBC's Boundaries Standard of Practice;
 - e. made statements with respect to his personal life, including online dating and his dating profile, which were of an unprofessional, inappropriate and of a personal nature in breach of the CMTBC's Boundaries Standard of Practice; and
 - f. unbuttoned his shorts and unbuttoned and untucked his shirt prior to treatment and provided treatment with his shorts unbuttoned and his shirt untucked and unbuttoned, and removed his shoes during treatment, in breach of the CMTBC's Code of Ethics and Boundaries Standard of Practice.
11. The Registrant admits that the conduct set out in each of the paragraphs 10a – 10f, above, amount to separate acts of professional misconduct.

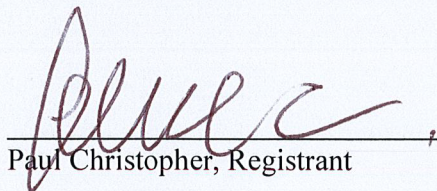
CONSENT TO ORDER

12. The Registrant proposes resolution of this matter on the following terms:
- a. that, pursuant to section 39(2) of the HPA, his registration with CMTBC is cancelled effective the date of the Committee's approval of this Proposal;
 - b. that, pursuant to section 39(8) of the HPA, the Committee order that he not be eligible to apply for reinstatement of registration for a period of 10 years from the Committee's approval of this Proposal; and
 - c. the Registrant shall pay costs in the amount of \$500.00 to the CMTBC with respect to its investigation and discipline of the Registrant in this matter.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

13. The Registrant acknowledges that, if this Proposal is accepted by the Committee, it will issue a Consent Order consistent with this Proposal that is considered to be an order of the discipline committee made under section 39 of the HPA. If the Proposal is rejected, the hearing will proceed as though the Proposal had not been made and without consideration of its contents.
14. The Registrant acknowledges that, if this Proposal is accepted by the Committee, publication of this Proposal and the Consent Order issued will be made in accordance with section 39.3 of the HPA.
15. The Registrant acknowledges that in the event a Consent Order is issued in accordance with this Proposal, and he applies for registration after 10 years, his application will be addressed by the registration committee in accordance with section 20 of the HPA and the Bylaws of CMTBC. He will be required to meet the standard for good character and all other registration requirements.
16. The Registrant acknowledges that he has had an opportunity to obtain legal advice and representation throughout CMTBC processes and before making this Proposal and that he fully understands and agrees to the terms and conditions set out herein.

SIGNED in VICTORIA, B.C. the 11 day of JUNE, 2022.



Paul Christopher, Registrant

Signature of Paul Christopher witnessed on above date by:



Witness Name (Please Print) and Signature