

COLLEGE OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
BOARD MEETING – PUBLIC PORTION
304-1212 West Broadway, Vancouver
Friday, June 23, 2017 at 9:33 AM
MINUTES

In Attendance:

Brent Rowland, in the Chair (Vice Chair)
Lynne Harris (via teleconference)
Ashley Leighton
Lorna Pawluk (via teleconference)
Marilynne Waithman
Michael Wiebe
Marieka Zimmerman

Regrets:

Nicholas Aubin
Claudia Lee
Catherine Ryan (Chair)
Perminder Tung

Also Attending:

Eric Wredenhagen (Registrar/CEO)
Annette Ruitenbeek (Director, Professional Practice)
Kate Parisotto (Director, Inquiry and Discipline)
Alison Skoda (Assistant, Inquiry and Discipline) (Recording)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m.

2. Roll Call of Members Present

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion: To approve the previous minutes as circulated before the meeting. **Carried.**

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda as circulated before the meeting, with one revision (removing item 9.1 as the discussion will take place in conjunction with the discussion of item 8.1). **Carried.**

5. Board Member Declarations of Bias/Conflicts of Interest re Agenda Items

None.

6. Chair's Report

Mr. Rowland advised the Board that the Chair, Catherine Ryan, was unable to attend the meeting at the last minute due to a family emergency. He stated that he did not prepare a Chair's report, given the short notice.

7. Registrar's Report

Mr. Wredenhagen presented a report to the Board. He discussed a number of topics, including the following:

- The College has received positive feedback about the Annual General Meeting, held on April 29.
- Staff members of the College attended intensive requirements meetings in April and May with Thentia in relation to the College's new registrant and applicant database and online portal. After June 30, Thentia will begin developing and coding the new database and portal. Mr. Wredenhagen and other staff members are pleased that to date, the prototype viewed has been very intuitive and easy to use. As staff members are working with Thentia, improvements are also being made to other aspects of the College's processes such as registration and renewal.
- A Transitional Council for the College of Massage Therapy of Alberta (TC-CMTA) has been established.
- Mark MacKinnon, the Executive Director of the Professional Regulation and Oversight branch of the Ministry of Health, and Bradley Chisholm, Acting Director of Strategy at the College of Registered Nurses of B.C., will be attending the September Board meeting to provide Board training.
- Mr. Wredenhagen, Ms. Ruitenbeek and Dr. Waithman recently met with Brenda Locke and Gordon MacDonald of the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of B.C. to discuss upcoming changes to the College's Quality Assurance Program.

8. Business Arising

8.1 Canadian Massage Therapy Council for Accreditation (CMTCA)

The Board discussed a written request from the Okanagan Valley College of Massage Therapy (OVCMT) to change the College's *Basis of Accreditation* document and reduce the required hours of clinical education from 550 hours to 330 hours in advance of the planned transition to CMTCA of the College's role in providing subject matter expertise for accreditation of massage therapy programs by the Private Institutions Training Branch.

Points discussed included the following:

- OVCMT has a recognition agreement in place until 2020 that reflects standards published in CMTBC's *Basis of Accreditation*. The agreement requires that OVCMT maintain 550 hours of clinical education in its curriculum.
- OVCMT contacted CMTBC with its goal to change its clinical education program to 330 hours, reflecting the curriculum standard published in CMTCA's accreditation requirements.

- OVCMT was invited by CMTBC to transfer from CMTBC's standards to CMTCA accreditation standards (including 330 hours of clinical education). The school has asked instead for CMTBC to change its standards and provide for ongoing recognition from CMTBC until its agreement expires in 2020.
- OVCMT and other stakeholders in the accreditation and recognition of massage therapy education programs in B.C. signed a *Transition Plan* in 2013 that states, "When a national accreditation agency and process are established, provincially accredited/approved programs will continue without change until the expiry of their active term of accreditation/approval."

Motion: To deny the request from the Okanagan Valley College of Massage Therapy. **Carried.**

The Board also discussed whether to instruct staff to draft into the proposed budget for the 2018 fiscal year a provision for funding of CMTCA.

Motion: To incorporate a financial contribution to CMTCA in the budget for the 2018 fiscal year, with the imposition of certain conditions on which the funding will be provided, and to direct Mr. Wredenhagen to discuss with the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of B.C. (RMTABC) whether they will contribute any funding. **Carried.**

9. New Business

9.2 Consideration of Annual General Meeting (AGM) Resolutions

9.2.1 "Registration Renewal Reminders" (Moved by Tilman von der Linde)

The Board reviewed and considered the resolution. During the discussion, Mr. Wredenhagen advised the Board that College staff members were in agreement with providing increased reminders during the 2018 renewal period. He also advised that this would be facilitated by the new registrant database and online portal. The Board determined that a formal motion of the Board was not needed as staff members have already made a commitment to provide registrants with more reminders (including personalized reminders) during the renewal period for 2018.

The Board also discussed whether the renewal deadline should be moved to December 31 (instead of December 15) as proposed, but was of the view that this was not necessary and that it would create operational challenges for the College and for registrants. The Board declined to change the renewal deadline.

9.2.2 "Pre-Requisites for Entry into a Massage Therapy Program in British Columbia" (moved by Anne Horng)

The Board reviewed and considered the resolution. The Board agreed that there is no jurisdiction for the College to require massage therapy programs to require pre-requisites. Staff members will prepare a fulsome response to this resolution to be posted

on the College's website. The Board determined that no further action would be taken on this resolution, except communicating back to registrants.

9.2.3. "Quality Assurance Program" (moved by Anne Horng)

The Board reviewed and considered the resolution. Staff members indicated that the College will be communicating its Quality Assurance program to registrants in more detail. Staff members also indicated that the outcome of the meeting with the RMTABC which was referenced by Mr. Wredenhagen in his Registrar's report was positive and that the College and the RMTABC would continue discussions about upcoming changes to the Quality Assurance program. The Board determined that these actions were responsive to the concerns set out in the resolution.

9.2.4 "Consultation and Collaboration between RMTBC and CMTBC" (moved by Anne Horng)

The Board reviewed and considered the resolution. The Board noted that there has been increased communication between the College and the RMTABC. Mr. Wredenhagen stated that he has concerns about the wording of the resolution, as collaboration with a professional association should only take place where it serves a regulatory purpose and furthers the College's mandate. As well, a general direction to College staff to collaborate with the RMTABC would be akin to an order and is not appropriate. It was agreed that the College would communicate that the Board agrees with the spirit of the resolution and would like to engage in collaboration and communication with the RMTABC, but only where this serves a regulatory purpose and furthers the College mandate. It was also agreed that defining the standards of practice for the profession is a key regulatory function and that it is not appropriate for a professional association to be involved in the initial definition of those standards, although consultation would be appropriate once the standards have been sufficiently developed.

9.2.5 "CEC for Upcoming Cycle 12 Change" (Moved by Linda Ann Farruggia)

The Board reviewed and considered the resolution. Dr. Waithman, the Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee, advised that the Quality Assurance Committee would be talking about Cycle 12 at its next meeting and would be in a better position to communicate back to registrants after that time.

9.3 Registration/Renewal Fee Discounts for Seniors

Mr. Wredenhagen advised the Board that registrants who are aged 65 or older are currently being charged 50% of the applicable registration or renewal fee for a year, whether they are Active or Inactive. Mr. Wredenhagen stated that this practice is not formally authorized by Bylaw or policy. He asked for direction on the Board about whether to establish a Bylaw or policy to continue this practice or whether the practice should be discontinued.

Board members agreed that, if a reduced fee were to be offered, it would be discriminatory to offer it only based on age; rather, it should be on the basis of part-time practice. However,

it would be an administrative hardship for the College to administer a part-time registration status with its current resources.

Board members discussed whether a “Retired” registration status could be created, to provide an alternative for registrants who are aged 65 or older who do not practice but want to maintain a formal status with their regulatory body.

Motion: To cease the practice of providing informal discounts for registrants who are aged 65 or older and to direct staff to do research on a potential “retired” registration status.
Carried.

9.4 Committee Reports

9.4.1 Inquiry Committee Report

Ms. Pawluk referred to her written report, which was circulated before the meeting. She noted that Committee members recently attended a training session. She also advised that the current workload of the Committee is heavy.

9.4.2 Discipline Committee Report

Dr. Waithman advised that no discipline hearings have been held in 2017 and that currently there are no discipline hearings scheduled for 2017.

9.4.3 Patient Relations Committee Report

Mr. Wiebe reported that the Patient Relations Committee had recently met to discuss its priorities for the implementation of the Patient Relations Program Framework which was developed by the B.C. Health Regulators and which has been adopted by this Board. He advised that the Committee had a good discussion, which included discussion of what types of information should be available both to registrants and members of the public on the College’s new website.

9.4.4 Quality Assurance Committee Report

Dr. Waithman advised that the Quality Assurance Committee would be meeting later in the month.

9.4.5 Registration Committee Report

Dr. Waithman delivered the report on behalf of Ms. Ryan.

Dr. Waithman advised that the Committee recently received training on the topics of the role of the Registration Committee, good character, and fitness to practice. A Committee meeting was held following the training session, at which the Committee approved in principle funding for an exam project for improvement to the credential and prior learning assessment process. Funding was also approved in principle for a course that will be made available to massage therapy students via the College’s learning management system, which will focus on regulation.

Dr. Waithman also advised that 153 candidates were successful at the March sittings of the registration examinations.

Motion: To accept all Committee reports as presented. **Carried.**

10. Adjournment

Motion: The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. **Carried.**



Registrar



Chair