

**IN THE MATTER OF THE *HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT* RSBC 1996 c. 183  
(the “HPA”)**

**AND IN THE MATTER OF**

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

**AND**

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

**CONSENT ORDER AND REASONS**

Under s. 37.1 of the *Health Professions Act*

The Inquiry Committee of the CMTBC considered the Consent Order Proposal (the “Proposal”) submitted by the Former Registrant on June 11, 2022, concerning a complaint made to the CMTBC. A copy of the Proposal is attached to this Order.

The Inquiry Committee noted the Former Registrant’s admissions as set out in the Proposal that:

10. ... 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.

The Inquiry Committee noted that the Former Registrant agrees to cancel his registration and will not be eligible to apply for reinstatement of registration for a period of 10 years.

The Inquiry Committee noted that if the Former Registrant applies for registration after 10 years, his application will be addressed by the Registration Committee in accordance with section 20 of the *Health Professions Act* and the Bylaws of CMTBC, including as they may be amended. He will not have an automatic right to registration and will be required to meet all legislative and bylaw requirements relating to registration, including those relating to good character; and pursuant to section 54(5) of the CMTBC Bylaws will be required to satisfy the Registration Committee that his registration will not pose an undue risk to public health or safety or otherwise be contrary to the public interest.

Having reviewed the Proposal and based upon the considerations set out above, the Inquiry Committee makes the following orders pursuant to s. 37.1 and 39 of the *Health Professions Act* that:

1. the Former Registrant's registration with the CMTBC is cancelled effective June 29, 2022;
2. the Former Registrant is not eligible to apply for reinstatement of registration with the CMTBC for a period of 10 years from the date of this Order, that is, until June 29, 2032;
3. the Former Registrant shall pay costs in the amount of \$500.00 to the CMTBC with respect to its investigation and discipline of the Former Registrant in this matter.

This Consent Order is made this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022, by the Inquiry Committee:



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Signature of Teresa Budd, Chair



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Signature of Pamela Nonis, RMT, Vice Chair



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Signature of Cary Cowan, RMT



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Signature of Sheila Cessford



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Signature of Jana Konkin, RMT



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Signature of Lynne Harris



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Signature of Barbara Anne Martin