## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE COLLEGE OF REGISTERED PSYCHOTHERAPISTS AND REGISTERED MENTAL HEALTH THERAPISTS OF ONTARIO

BETWEEN:

### COLLEGE OF REGISTERED PSYCHOTHERAPISTS AND REGISTERED MENTAL HEALTH THERAPISTS OF ONTARIO

- and -

#### **GORDON RIDDELL**

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

THE INQUIRIES, COMPLAINTS AND REPORTS COMMITTEE of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario (the "College") has referred specified allegations against Gordon Riddell to the Discipline Committee of the College. The allegations were referred in accordance with section 26 of the Health Professions Procedural Code, being Schedule 2 to the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (the "Code"). The statement of allegations is attached to this Notice of Hearing. A panel of the Discipline Committee (the "Panel") will hold a hearing under the authority of sections 38 to 56 of the Health Professions Procedural Code, as amended, for the purposes of deciding whether the allegations are true. A pre-hearing conference may be held at a date and location to be set by the Registrar. A discipline panel will convene at a location to be set by the Registrar, at 10:00 a.m. on a date to be set by the Registrar, or as soon as thereafter as the panel can be convened, for the purposes of conducting the discipline hearing.

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND ON THE DATE FOR THE HEARING IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, THE DISCIPLINE PANEL
MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY
FURTHER NOTICE IN THE PROCEEDINGS.

If the discipline panel finds that you have engaged in professional misconduct, it may make one or more of the following orders:

- 1. Direct the Registrar to revoke the member's certificate of registration.
- 2. Direct the Registrar to suspend the member's certificate of registration for a specified period of time.
- Direct the Registrar to impose specified terms, conditions and limitations on the member's certificate of registration for a specified or indefinite period of time.
- 4. Require the member to appear before the panel to be reprimanded.
- 5. Require the member to pay a fine of not more than \$35,000.00 to the Minister of Finance.
- 6. If the act of professional misconduct was the sexual abuse of a patient, require the member to reimburse the College for funding provided for that patient under the program required under section 85.7.
- 7. If the panel makes an order under paragraph 6, require the member to post security acceptable to the College to guarantee the payment of any amounts the member may be required to reimburse under the order under paragraph 6.

The discipline panel may, in an appropriate case, make an order requiring you to pay all or part of the College's costs and expenses pursuant to section 53.1 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*, as amended.

You are entitled to disclosure of the evidence against you in accordance with subsection 42(1) of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*.

You, or your representative, may contact the lawyer for the College, Ahmad Mozaffari, in this matter:

#### Ahmad Mozaffari

Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc Barristers & Solicitors 401 Bay Street, P.O. Box 23 Suite 2308 Toronto, ON M5H 2Y4

Telephone: (416) 583-2551 Facsimile: (416) 593-7867

Email: amozaffari@sml-law.com

You must also make disclosure in accordance with section 42.1 of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*, which states as follows:

Evidence of an expert led by a person other than the College is not admissible unless the person gives the College, at least ten days before the hearing, the identity of the expert and a copy of the expert's written report or, if there is no written report, a written summary of the evidence.

Further, you must also make disclosure in accordance with Rule 7.01(2) of the *Rules* of the Discipline Committee of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario, which states the following:

- 7.01(2) The parties shall make disclosure as is required by law. In addition, the parties shall, at least 10 days in advance of the hearing,
  - (a) in the case of written or documentary evidence, provide an opportunity for the opposing party to examine evidence;
  - (b) in the case of evidence of an expert, provide the opposing party of the identity of the expert and a copy of the expert's written report or, if there is no written report, a written summary of the evidence; and
  - (c) in the case of a witness, provide the opposing party with the identity of the witness.

Date: May 5, 2023

Ofdens

#### **Deborah Adams**

Registrar and CEO

College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario

TO: GORDON RIDDELL

86 Gloucester Street, Suite 607 Toronto, ON M4Y 2S2

## Specified Allegations of Professional Misconduct Gordon Riddell (R2122-73)

#### The Registrant

- Gordon James Riddell (the "Registrant") has been a registrant of the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario (the "College") since on or about October 29, 2018.
- 2. The Registrant was the co-founder and/or President of Transformational Arts College of Spiritual and Holistic Training ("TAC") in Toronto, Ontario.

#### **Compliance Order**

- 3. In or around June, 2019, the Superintendent of Private Career Colleges (the "PCC") issued a Compliance Order to TAC pursuant to section 46(1) of the *Private Career Colleges Act* (the "Order"). The Order required TAC to:
  - a. Stop offering or providing unapproved vocational programs contrary to subsection 8(1) of the *Private Career Colleges Act*; and
  - stop advertising the provision of unapproved vocational programs contrary to subsection 11(2) of the *Private Career Colleges Act*.

#### **Breach of Order**

- 4. Between in or around June, 2019 and in or around December, 2021, the Registrant made and/or permitted to be made false and/or misleading statements regarding the status of TAC's program with the Ministry of College and Universities and the College.
- 5. Between in or around June, 2019 and in or around February, 2021, the Registrant permitted TAC to advertise and/or offer and/or provide the diploma program.

- 6. It is alleged that the conduct described in paragraphs 4 and 5 above amounts to breaches of the Order.
- 7. It is alleged that between in or around June, 2019 and in or around October, 2022, TAC was found to have breached the Order on one and/or more occasion.

#### Allegations of professional misconduct

- 8. It is alleged that the above constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to subsection 51(1)(c) of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*, being Schedule 2 to the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (the "Code") as set out in one or more of the following paragraphs of section 1 of Ontario Regulation 317/12 made under the *Psychotherapy Act, 2007*:
  - a. Paragraph 52 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 and/or
  - b. **Paragraph 53**: Engaging in conduct that would reasonably be regarded by members as conduct unbecoming a member of the profession.

#### **APPENDIX**

- 1. The documents to be tendered in evidence at the hearing have been sent with this Notice of Hearing.
- 2. The Rules of Procedure of the Discipline Committee have been sent with this Notice of Hearing.
- 3. Take notice that the documents that have been and may later be disclosed to you will be tendered as business documents pursuant to the *Evidence Act* of Ontario.
- 4. All documents that are disclosed to you in this matter are disclosed on the basis that they are to be used solely for the purpose of this proceeding and for no other purpose.

# DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE COLLEGE OF REGISTERED PSYCHOTHERAPISTS AND REGISTERED MENTAL HEALTH THERAPISTS OF ONTARIO

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

#### STEINECKE MACIURA LEBLANC

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#### **Ahmad Mozaffari**

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Lawyers for the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario