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 -

CHRISTOPHER SAXTON

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 Christopher Saxton to the Discipline Committee of the College. The allegations were referred in accordance with section 26 of the Health Professions Procedural Code. The statement of specified allegations is attached to this Notice of Hearing. A panel of the Discipline Committee 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 case management conference may be held at a date and location to be set by the Registrar. Note that in accordance with Rule 6.01(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the Discipline Committee of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario, the presiding officer may direct a case management conference to be held electronically. A discipline panel will convene at a location to be set by the Registrar, or electronically, at a time and 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 your certificate of registration.
- 2. Direct the Registrar to suspend your certificate of registration for a specified period of time.
- 3. Direct the Registrar to impose specified terms, conditions, and limitations on your certificate of registration for a specified or indefinite period of time.
- 4. Require you to appear before the panel to be reprimanded.
- 5. Require you 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 you 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 you to post security acceptable to the College to guarantee the payment of any amounts you 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*, as amended.

You, or your representative, may contact the lawyer for the College, Rebecca Durcan, in this matter:

Rebecca C. Durcan

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

Telephone: (416) 644-4783 Facsimile: (416) 593-7867

Email: rdurcan@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 *Procedure 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: September 11, 2023

Ofders

DEBORAH ADAMS

Registrar and CEO

College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario

TO: CHRISTOPHER SAXTON



STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS

The Registrant

1. Christopher Saxton (the "Registrant") has been a registrant of the College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario (the "College") since on or about June 24, 2015.

Quality Assurance Program Regulation – Ontario Regulation 34/14

- 2. Section 4 of the Quality Assurance Program Regulation (Ontario Regulation 34/13) made under the *Psychotherapy Act, 2007* provides that, "Every member shall participate in the program."
- 3. Section 5 of Ontario Regulation 34/14 provides that, "Every member shall participate every two years in self-assessment and professional development activities in order to maintain the knowledge, skill and judgment required to practise the profession in accordance with the standards of practice and ethics set by the College."
- 4. Section 6(1) of Ontario Regulation 34/14 provides that, "Every member shall keep records of his or her participation in self-assessment and professional development, in the form and manner approved by the Committee and for the period of time specified by the Committee."
- 5. Section 6(2) of Ontario Regulation 34/14 provides that, "At the request of the Committee, an assessor or an employee of the College, a member shall provide to the Committee, (a) accurate information about his or her self-assessment and professional development activities; and (b) his or her records described in subsection (1)."

Failure to comply with the College's Quality Assurance Program ("QAP")

- 6. On or about November 15, 2021, the College advised the Registrant that he was due to report his Professional Development ("PD") requirements for the reporting cycle that started on or about December 1, 2019, and ended on or about December 31, 2021 (the "Reporting Cycle").
- 7. The Registrant was advised that by no later than January 15, 2022 (the "First Deadline"):
 - a. He was required to attest whether he completed his PD requirements and submit his attestation form: and/or
 - b. He was required to complete and submit a self-assessment during the Reporting Cycle.
- 8. The Registrant failed to submit his attestation form and/or self-assessment by the First Deadline.

- After the First Deadline passed, the College's Quality Assurance Team provided the Registrant with multiple additional opportunities to complete the outstanding QAP requirements.
- 10. Despite numerous attempts by the College between on or about November 15, 2021 and October 28, 2022, to remind the Registrant to complete the outstanding QAP requirements, the Registrant failed to so by all the required deadlines, and/or failed to reply appropriately, or at all, to the inquiries/requests from the College.

Referral to the Quality Assurance Committee

11. On or about December 16, 2022, a panel of the Quality Assurance Committee referred the matter to the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee.

Professional Misconduct Alleged

- 12. It is alleged that the above conduct constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to clause 51(1)(c) of the Health Professions Procedural Code and as defined in one or more of the following paragraphs of section 1 of Ontario Regulation 317/12 made under the *Psychotherapy Act, 2007* (the "Act"):
 - a. Paragraph 1 (contravening, by act or omission, a standard of practice of the profession or failing to maintain the standard of practice of the profession);
 - b. Paragraph 42 (contravening, by act or omission, a provision of the Act, the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* or the regulations under either of those Acts);
 - c. paragraph 50 (failing to reply appropriately and within 30 days to a written inquiry or request from the College); and/or
 - d. 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).
- 13. It is also alleged that the above conduct constitutes professional misconduct pursuant to clause 51(1)(b.0.1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code as he failed to cooperate with the Quality Assurance Committee.

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

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