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

File No.: 24-002-RP

BETWEEN:

College of Registered Psychotherapists and Registered Mental Health Therapists of Ontario

College

- and -

Gordon Riddell

Registrant

The following Reprimand was delivered by videoconference on Tuesday, March 26, 2024.

NOT AN OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

Mr. Riddell, on June 27, 2019, you held the position of co-founder and President of Transformational Arts College of Spiritual and Holistic Training ("TAC") in Toronto, Ontario. On that date, a compliance order was issued by the Superintendent of Private Career Colleges to TAC requiring you to: (1) Stop offering or providing unapproved vocational programs contrary to subsection 8(1) of the *Private Career Colleges Act*; and (2) Stop advertising the provision of unapproved vocational programs contrary to subsection 11(2) of the *Private Career Colleges Act*. You breached this order and in doing so, engaged in professional misconduct. Your failure to follow government rules and orders has brought discredit to yourself and the profession.

The privilege of self-regulation in the public interest is built on a foundation of respect for the rules established by the government and the CRPO, your regulator. As a professional, it is important that you comply with any orders or rules that affect you and your work.

You have failed in your professional role as a registered psychotherapist, having permitted false or misleading statements regarding the status of TAC's program to be made to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities and the CRPO, as well as having permitted TAC to advertise and provide a diploma program. This behaviour shows a disregard to the consequences of your actions on students of TAC.

We appreciate that you have decided to take responsibility for your actions here and that you were willing to admit misconduct. We also expect that with the benefit of the PROBE ethics course, the College's Jurisprudence e-Learning module and your own introspection, that this conduct will not be repeated in the future.

This oral reprimand will appear permanently on the public register.