

**COLLEGE OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
BOARD MEETING (PUBLIC PORTION)  
304-1212 West Broadway, Vancouver  
Friday, November 27, 2020  
MINUTES**

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**Board Members in attendance** (via videoconference):

Robin Perry (Chair)	Laura Dunkley
Jana Konkin (Vice Chair)	Thomas Klie-Cribb
Kristen Burrows	Nick Aubin
Taylor James Laviolette	Harman Pandher
Joti Dhesi	

**Also attending** (via videoconference):

Eric Wredenhagen (Registrar/CEO)  
Annette Ruitenbeek (Director, Professional Practice)  
Kate Parisotto (Director, Inquiry and Discipline)  
Kate Irvine (Paralegal/Administrator, Inquiry and Discipline) (Recording)  
Patricia Bentley (Court Reporter, Charest Reporting Inc.)

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:25 p.m.

**2. Roll call of members present**

A roll call was conducted.

**3. Approval of previous minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the meeting minutes from the public portion of the August 28, 2020 meeting as circulated before the meeting. *Carried.*

**4. Approval of this agenda**

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

**5. Board Member declarations of conflicts of interest regarding any agenda item(s)**

None.

**6. Registrar's report**

Mr. Wredenhagen discussed current working arrangements for CMTBC staff and the registration renewal. After working mostly remotely since on the onset of the pandemic in March, office staff had begun to return to the office in early November when new provincial health orders were made recommending working from home where possible. The majority of staff are now again working from home. Mr. Wredenhagen informed the Board of the changes made to ensure workplace safety, such as office safety protocols

and improvements to office air quality.

Mr. Wredenhagen then updated the Board on the current status of registration renewal, and also advised that the majority of registrants have now completed the online course on the standards of practice on boundaries and consent, and that CMTBC has received positive feedback about the course.

**Motion:** To receive the Registrar's report. *Carried.*

## **7. Chair's report**

Mr. Perry spoke about the combined effort of CMTBC and the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of B.C. (RMTBC) to make the online course on the standards of practice on boundaries and consent free for registrants in 2020. He advised that he was pleased to see CMTBC and RMTBC working together.

Mr. Perry also recommended to the Board a governance course he recently completed.

## **8. New business**

### **8.1 Committee reports**

#### **8.1.1 Discipline Committee report**

A written report from the Discipline Committee was circulated. Ms. Parisotto stated that two discipline hearings are scheduled for December and two additional discipline hearings are scheduled for 2021.

#### **8.1.2 Inquiry Committee report**

A written report from the Inquiry Committee was circulated. In response to a question from a Board member, Ms. Parisotto explained the provisions of the *Health Professions Act* relating to investigation timeliness.

#### **8.1.3 Finance and Audit Committee report**

Mr. Wredenhagen spoke about the Finance and Audit Committee report that was circulated, relating to a recent meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee.

#### **8.1.4 Registration Committee report**

Ms. Parisotto spoke about the Registration Committee report that was circulated, relating to a September meeting of the Registration Committee. She advised that the Registration Committee would meet again in December.

#### **8.1.5 Quality Assurance Committee report**

Ms. Ruitenbeek spoke about the Quality Assurance Committee report that was circulated, relating to an October meeting of the Committee at which criteria for Cycle 13 of the Quality Assurance program were discussed.

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

## **8.2 Strategic plan progress update**

Mr. Wredenhagen provided an overview of the three-year strategic plan that was approved in November 2019. He noted that at the time the strategic plan was approved, the Board and staff were not yet aware of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic which would be seen in 2020. Mr. Wredenhagen advised that COVID-19 pandemic has required some shifting of priorities, but that nonetheless good progress has been made in relation to the strategic priorities adopted by the Board.

Mr. Wredenhagen reviewed the first strategic priority: “We will continue to develop clear, consistent standards of practice and professional ethics for massage therapists. The standards will be patient-centred and reinforced through a new evidence-informed quality assurance program.” He stated that in 2020, a new standard of practice (on the practice environment) has been approved and it will come into effect on January 15, 2021, along with a revised Code of Ethics.

Mr. Wredenhagen reviewed the second strategic priority: “We will build and solidify resilient human, technological and office infrastructure and systems.” He advised that CMTBC has strengthened its infrastructure to allow staff to work remotely.

Mr. Wredenhagen reviewed the fourth strategic priority: “We will continue to strengthen communication with registrants.” He noted that CMTBC has released 36 bulletins to registrants relating to the pandemic and current public health measures in 2020.

Mr. Wredenhagen also reviewed the fifth strategic priority: “We will identify and strengthen productive stakeholder relationships in the public interest”. He discussed recent communications and engagement with other health regulatory colleges and the Ministry of Health.

Finally, Mr. Wredenhagen reviewed the third strategic priority: “We will maintain and improve rigorous and consistent entry to practice requirements and processes in British Columbia and promote harmonization of standards across regulated jurisdictions in Canada.” He spoke about the work done by CMTBC to proceed with sittings of the registration examination during the pandemic. He also discussed that further work in relation to this priority would be undertaken in 2021.

## **8.3 Bylaw amendment update**

Mr. Wredenhagen advised that this matter is still in progress and he would have an update for the Board at the next Board meeting.

## **8.4 2021 Board meeting dates**

Mr. Wredenhagen and Ms. Parisotto discussed with the Board some proposed meeting dates in 2021. There was some discussion about preferred days of the week for meetings. It was decided that staff would follow up with Board members after the meeting regarding their preferences and then set Board meeting dates for 2021.

## 8.5 Discussion re: inter-jurisdictional practice competencies and resources

Following an open discussion, Ms. Burrows put forward a new motion to the CMTBC to reach out to the members of the Federation of Massage Therapy Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FOMTRAC) to gauge interest in the following recommendations:

1. Review and adapt the Inter-Jurisdictional Competencies and Performance Indicators for Entry to Massage Therapy document, specifically Part 2 Assessment section (page 16) and Part 3 Treatment Methods (page 19) and investigate the evidence supporting the validity and reliability of the Assessment and Treatment Methods referenced in the document.
2. Work together with the other regulated provinces and the CMTCA to investigate and compile the most valid and reliable source material for which the content of the competencies can be found.
3. Generate an appendix to the IJCPI document that cites specific source material for the competencies (e.g. which textbook reference each competency is based on, and/or which research literature supports the approach).

Discussion following the initial presentation of the draft motion included consideration of whether it should be sent to other stakeholders as well, specifically the Canadian Massage Therapy Council for Accreditation (CMTCA), and Ms. Burrows adopted this as part of the motion.

Mr. Wredenhagen provided some background on the development of the Inter-Jurisdictional Competencies and Performance Indicators for Entry to Massage Therapy document, and also suggested that any initial communication from CMTBC be to massage therapy regulators and to FOMTRAC, but not to CMTCA – it would be for FOMTRAC to decide on a course of action initially, and then communicate a collective position or request to CMTCA.

Board members discussed the scope and the exact wording of the motion proposed by Ms. Burrows, and ultimately decided to put the motion to a vote as proposed by Ms. Burrows, with the amendment suggested by Mr. Wredenhagen regarding communication with CMTCA.

**Motion:** To accept the motion proposed by Ms. Burrows. *Carried.*

## 9. Adjournment

**Motion:** The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm. *Carried.*



Registrar



Chair