

COLLEGE OF LICENSED COUNSELLING THERAPISTS OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Notice of Discipline Committee Decision respecting Joy Gawor

Following a meeting on March 4, 2022, the Discipline Committee (“Committee”) of the College of Licensed Counselling Therapists of New Brunswick (“College”) issued a decision of the same date wherein it concluded that a Member, Joy Gawor, demonstrated professional misconduct in that the Member engaged in a relationship with a vulnerable client (the “Client”) and engaged in sexual relations with the Client following the termination of their counselling sessions.

Based on the evidence received, including a submission from the Member and the Member’s testimony heard at the meeting on March 4, 2022, the Committee found that:

1. The Member continued a personal relationship with a vulnerable client after the therapeutic relationship ended;
2. The Member did not maintain professional boundaries with the Client after the counsellor-client relationship was terminated;
3. The Member engaged in sexual relations with the Client prior to a minimum of three (3) years having passed as required by the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (“CCPA”) Code of Ethics and the Standards of Practice of the CCPA (“Standards of Practice”) adopted by the College;
4. The Member’s relationship with the Client constitutes professional misconduct as it violated the Code of Ethics and the Standards of Practice.

Based on the evidence and the findings, the Discipline Committee ordered that:

1. The Member is reprimanded and this reprimand shall be recorded in the registration records of the Member for a period of two (2) years.
2. The Member’s registration is hereby suspended for a period of nine (9) months and shall remain suspended unless and until she fulfills the following conditions:
 - (a) the Member shall provide to the Registrar proof of successful completion of the ethics course referred to in her submission;
 - (b) the Member shall provide to the Registrar proof of successful completion of the CCPA Ethics Refresher course and the ethics course from the Canadian Psychological Association entitled “Being an Ethical Psychologist”; and
 - (c) the Member shall, at her expense, provide evidence of a psychological assessment by a health professional approved in advance by the Registrar, setting out a detailed assessment of the Member’s mental health and ability to safely practise counselling or counselling therapy.
3. Once the Member has fulfilled all of the conditions outlined in paragraph 2, she shall be eligible to receive a conditional registration as a Student Member of the College on the following conditions:

- (a) the Member shall complete her current supervised hour requirements on an individual basis as provided for in the College's Act and By-laws;
 - (b) upon completion of the supervised hour requirements provided for in paragraph 4(a), the Member shall be supervised by a member of the College to be approved by the Registrar ("Supervisor") for an additional minimum period of 12 months, at the Member's expense ("Supervision Period"); and
 - (c) during the Supervision Period, the Member shall meet with the Supervisor on an individual basis a minimum of once per month and shall arrange for supervision reports to be forwarded to the Registrar on a monthly basis.
4. The Member shall pay to the College a fine of \$2,000 and costs of \$2,500 within 24 months of the date of this Decision.
5. Upon compliance with all of the above, and subject to the Member's continued compliance with all of the College's registration requirements, the conditions imposed under this Order shall automatically be lifted.