ONTARIO CHIROPDISTS AND PODIATRISTS DISCIPLINE TRIBUNAL

BETWEEN:

COLLEGE OF CHIROPODISTS OF ONTARIO

(the "College")

-and-

NADIA BELLE MARTINEAU

(the "Registrant")

NOTICE OF HEARING

On April 29, 2025, a panel of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee of the College referred specified allegations of the Registrant's professional misconduct to the Tribunal.

In this proceeding, the term "Registrant" means a "member" as set out in the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, the *Health Professions Procedural Code* (Code), the applicable health profession Act, and the regulations thereto.

The allegation(s) are that the Registrant:

- 1. Has committed an act of professional misconduct under:
 - a. Subsection 51(1)(c) of the Code, which is Schedule 2 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, and as defined in one or more of the following paragraphs of section 1 of the *Professional Misconduct Regulation* (O. Reg. 750/93) under the *Chiropody Act, 1991*:

- (i) paragraph 2 failing to meet or contravening a standard of practice of the profession) and, in particular, the College's standards pertaining to:
 - a. Assessment and Management;
 - b. Patient Relations;
 - c. Records; and/or
 - d. Prescription Custom Foot Orthoses;
- (ii) paragraph 10 practising the profession while the member is in a conflict of interest;
- (iii) paragraph 17 failing to keep records as required by the regulations;
- (iv) paragraph 18 falsifying a record relating to the member's practice;
- (v) paragraph 20 signing or issuing, in the member's professional capacity, a document that contains a false or misleading statement;
- (vi) paragraph 21 submitting an account or charge for services that the member knows is false or misleading;
- (vii) paragraph 30 contravening the Chiropody Act, 1991, the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, or the regulations under either of those Acts, including, but not limited to, Ontario Regulation 203/94, Part III (Records); and/or

(viii) paragraph 33 – engaging in conduct or performing an act, in the course of practising the profession that, having regard to all the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, or unprofessional.

Further information about these allegations is set out below:

- 1. The Registrant was first registered with the College on June 27, 2019. At all times material to the allegations, the Registrant was registered with the College in the chiropodist classification to practise chiropody in Ontario.
- During the relevant period, the Registrant practised at Ortho World, located at 108
 1250 South Service Road in Mississauga (the "Clinic").
- 3. On or about September 20, 2024, the College received a complaint from Sun Life about the Registrant relating to her practice at the Clinic.
- 4. As identified in the investigation, Sun Life regularly conducts reviews with respect to services and/or products that are provided to Sun Life plan members and/or their dependents.
- 5. In or about June 2024, Sun Life conducted a review related to the Registrant. As part of that review, the Registrant was requested by Sun Life to validate services and/or products for benefit claims that had been submitted to Sun Life.
- 6. In response to Sun Life's request, the Registrant confirmed that she was working at the Clinic on December 13, 2023, during the hours from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Registrant also confirmed that she had completed assessments for twenty-two (22) patients and had dispensed orthotics to nineteen (19) patients on that date.
- 7. In particular, in completing the validations for Sun Life, the Registrant verified that she had assessed thirteen (13) Sun Life plan members and dispensed orthotics to eleven (11) Sun Life plan members between 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

- 8. The Registrant was also requested and provided Sun Life with the patient records for the plan members that were the subject of the review.
- 9. In conducting the review, Sun Life confirmed directly with several plan members that the Registrant had validated claims for orthotics that she had not dispensed and the orthotics had been dispensed by Clinic staff and/or a non-registrant of the College.
- 10. In addition, in reviewing the records, it was noted by Sun Life that the Registrant had entered clinical notes in 2024 indicating that the Registrant had dispensed orthotics to certain patients.
- 11. On or about July 15, 2024, during a discussion with Sun Life, the Registrant confirmed that she had not dispensed some and/or all of the orthotics in question. The Registrant also confirmed that:
 - (i) validations provided by her to Sun Life were false or misleading;
 - (ii) patient records created by her were false or misleading; and/or
 - (iii) orthotics were re-ordered and/or dispensed by Clinic staff in circumstances in which she had not seen the patients and/or conducted an assessment.
- 12. Any further information and disclosure about the allegations against the Registrant will be provided in advance of the hearing.

The Tribunal will hold a hearing under sections 38 to 56 of the Code, the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, and the *Hearings in Tribunal Proceedings (Temporary Measures) Act, 2020*, on a date or dates to be set at a case management conference, to decide whether the Registrant has committed an act or acts of professional misconduct and/or is incompetent.

The College will file this Notice with the Tribunal. The Tribunal will then set a date for the first case management conference and send it to the parties with more information about the Tribunal's process.

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If the Registrant or their representative does not attend the case management

conference or the hearing, the Tribunal may proceed in the Registrant's absence

and the Registrant is not entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

If the Tribunal finds the Registrant committed an act or acts of professional misconduct,

it may make one or more of the following orders under subsections 51(2) of the Code.

direct the Registrar to revoke the Registrant's certificate of registration.

direct the Registrar to suspend the Registrant's certificate of registration for a

specified period of time.

direct the Registrar to impose specified terms, conditions and limitations on the

Registrant's certificate of registration for a specified or indefinite period of time.

require the Registrant to appear before the Tribunal to be reprimanded.

require the Registrant to pay a fine of not more than \$35,000 to the Minister of

Finance.

• if the act of professional misconduct was the sexual abuse of a patient, require the

Registrant to reimburse the College for funding provided for that patient under the

program and/or require the Registrant to post security acceptable to the College

to guarantee this payment.

The Tribunal may, under subsection 53.1 of the Code, require the Registrant to pay all or

part of the College's costs and expenses. The Tribunal's website includes the Tribunal's

Rules of Procedure, Practice Directions and guides to the process.

Date: April 30, 2025

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On behalf of the College: Nicole Zwiers, Registrar and CEO College of Chiropodists of Ontario 180 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M5G 1Z8

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Lawyers for the Registrant

NADIA BELLE MARTINEAU (the "Registrant")

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE COLLEGE OF CHIROPODISTS OF ONTARIO

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