



On January 23, 2025 allegations of the Registrant's professional misconduct were referred to the Discipline Committee for hearing, on a date yet to be fixed. Please see the Notice of Hearing below:

**ONTARIO COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORKERS  
AND SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS**

**IN THE MATTER OF** Sections 26 and 28 of the *Social Work and Social Service Work Act*, 1998, S.O. 1998, Chapter 31;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** a hearing directed to be held by the Discipline Committee of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers under the *Social Work and Social Service Work Act*, 1998;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** allegations respecting the professional conduct of Marco Pasinelli, a Social Worker and registrant with the said College;

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

TAKE NOTICE that a hearing will take place on a date to be fixed by the Registrar at the hour of 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon (or as soon after that time as a panel can be convened for the purpose of conducting the hearing) electronically, in writing or in person at the Board Room of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, 250 Bloor Street East, Suite 1000, Toronto, Ontario before the Discipline Committee of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (to be confirmed). The hearing will be held pursuant to the provisions of sections 26 and 28 of the *Social Work and Social Service Work Act, 1998* (the "**Act**") and pursuant to the Regulations made thereunder, for the purpose of hearing and determining allegations of professional misconduct against you, Marco Pasinelli, which allegations were referred to the Discipline Committee pursuant to section 25(1) of the Act.

AND TAKE NOTICE that you are alleged to be guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of section 26(2) of the Act in that you are alleged to have engaged in conduct that contravenes the Act, Ontario Regulation 384/00 (the "**Professional Misconduct Regulation**"), Schedule "A" to By-law No. 66 of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, being the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers Code of Ethics (the "**Code of Ethics**"), and Schedule "B" to By-law No. 66 of the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers, being the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers Standards of Practice Handbook (the "**Handbook**")<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> By-law 24, as amended by By-law Nos. 32 and 48 and revoked effective July 1, 2008 by By-law 66, continues to apply to conduct which occurred prior to July 1, 2008.

**I. The following are particulars of the said allegations:**

1. At all relevant times, you were registered as a social work member with the Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers (the “College”) and employed at [employment].
2. Beginning in or about January 2023, you met [C1] on an online dating app and developed a personal and sexual relationship.
3. During the course of your relationship with [C1], you referred [C1] to services from your co-worker at [employment].
4. In or around the period between June to September 2023, you engaged in sexual activity with [C1] while [C1] was intoxicated and/or without [C1]’s consent.
5. You engaged in unprofessional conduct and/or unprofessional communications, including but not limited to:
  - i. On or around May 31, 2023, you attended a virtual training session. During the training session, you were laying down in your bed with your shirt off, with your camera on.
  - ii. Using dating apps like Grindr or Tinder, while in your work office, in view of your co-workers.
  - iii. Telling co-worker(s) that you love “young fuck boys” and discussing the types of people you are sexually interested in.
  - iv. Commenting that you are “horny but not desperate” to co-worker(s).
  - v. Attending a drag show that one of your co-workers was performing at with [C1], while knowing that [C1] had recently accessed services from the co-worker who was performing at the drag show.
6. When providing counselling and/or social work services to client [C2], you engaged in unprofessional conduct and/or unprofessional communications and/or failed to establish and maintain clear and appropriate boundaries with [C2], including but not limited to:
  - i. Telling [C2] about a time where you father had grabbed your mother’s hand and placed it on your father’s crotch area and telling the client that your parents are pretty open about sex. This conversation did not serve a therapeutic purpose.
  - ii. Telling the [C2] a story about your cousins being drunk and climbing a tree naked and commenting that while they were climbing, all you saw were butts hanging out of a tree. This conversation did not serve a therapeutic purpose.

iii. Telling the [C2] a story about a school trip when you were in high school and stating that there were girls that were really drunk that had taken their bras off and hung them somewhere and commenting that this was fun. This conversation did not serve a therapeutic purpose.

7. In or around the winter of 2024, you failed to appropriately assess and/or respond and/or engage in safety planning with client [C2], when the client informed you that she had a plan to commit suicide.

**II. It is alleged that by reason of engaging in some or all of the conduct outlined above, you are guilty of professional misconduct as set out in section 26(2)(a) and (c) of the Act:**

a) In that you violated **Section 2.2 of the Professional Misconduct Regulation** and:

- i. **Principle I of the Handbook (commented on in Interpretation 1.5 and 1.6)** by failing to be aware of your values, attitudes and needs and how those impact on your professional relationships with clients; and failing to distinguish your needs and interests from those of the client;
- ii. **Principle II of the Handbook (commented on in Interpretation 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.6 and 2.2.8)** by engaging in a professional relationship that constituted a conflict of interest, or that you ought reasonably to have known would put the client at risk; engaging in the practice of social work while suffering from illness or dysfunction which you knew or ought reasonably to have known impaired your ability to practice; and by engaging in conduct which could reasonably be perceived as reflecting negatively on the profession of social work;
- iii. **Principle II of the Handbook (commented on in Interpretation 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 2.1.5)** by failing to be aware of the extent and parameters of your competence and professional scope of practice and limiting your practice accordingly; failing to remain current with emerging social work knowledge and complying with continuing competence measures required by the College; failing to maintain current knowledge of policies and programs related to institutions and services in your area of practice; failing to ensure that any professional recommendations or opinions you provide are substantiated by evidence and supported by a credible body of professional social work knowledge; failing to engage in self-review and seeking consultation where appropriate.
- iv. **Principle III of the Handbook (commented on in Interpretation 3.2 and 3.11)** by failing to deliver client services and respond to client concerns in a timely and reasonable manner; and failing to advocate for and/or with clients where appropriate and inform clients of any action taken and its outcome.

v. **Principle VIII of the Handbook (commented on in Interpretation 8.2.3)** by engaging in behaviour or remarks of a sexual nature towards a client, other than behaviour or remarks of a clinical nature appropriate to the service provided.

b) In that you violated **Section 2.36 of the Professional Misconduct Regulation** by engaging in conduct or performing an act relevant to the practice of the profession that, having regard to all circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Discipline Committee may make an order under Section 26(4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) of the Act, or any of them, in respect of any or all of the above allegations.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the parties (including the College and you) shall be given the opportunity to examine before the hearing any documents that will be given in evidence at the hearing.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that if the hearing is proposed to take place in writing, either of the parties (including the College and you) may, in accordance with the procedures set out in the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, RSO 1990, c S.22 (the “SPPA”) and the Discipline Committee’s Rules of Procedure, seek to require that the hearing be held electronically or orally by satisfying the Discipline Committee that there is good reason for not holding a written hearing.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that if the hearing is proposed to take place electronically, either of the parties (including the College and you) may, in accordance with the procedures set out in the SPPA and the Discipline Committee’s Rules of Procedure, seek to require that the hearing be held orally by satisfying the Discipline Committee that holding an electronic hearing is likely to cause the party significant prejudice.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that at the said hearing, you are entitled to be present and to be represented by counsel.

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND AT THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS NOTICE OF HEARING, THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MAY PROCEED WITH THE HEARING, AND MAY DEAL WITH THE ABOVE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST YOU, IN YOUR ABSENCE AND WITHOUT ANY FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU.

Dated at Toronto, the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2025.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Registrar and CEO  
Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers