DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE OF THE COLLEGE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

BETWEEN:

COLLEGE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

- and -

SUREKKANTH SURESH NADARAJAH RECE # 108742

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Complaints Committee of the College of Early Childhood Educators has directed the matter regarding your conduct, as set out in the attached statement of allegations, to be referred to the Discipline Committee pursuant to paragraph 31(5)(a) of the Early Childhood Educators Act, 2007 (the "Act").

A panel of the Discipline Committee (the "Panel") will hold a hearing pursuant to paragraph 33(1)(a) of the Act on **July 10, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., electronically by videoconference**, to determine whether you engaged in professional misconduct and/or are incompetent.

If you prefer to communicate with the College in French, or would like the hearing of your case to be conducted in French, then you must notify the College as soon as possible so that it can make reasonable attempts to accommodate your request.

The Act provides that where the Panel finds a member guilty of professional misconduct and/or to be incompetent, it may make an Order doing one or more of the following:

- 1. Directing the Registrar to revoke the member's certificate of registration.
- 2. Directing the Registrar to suspend the member's certificate of registration for a specified period, not exceeding 24 months.
- 3. Directing the Registrar to impose specified terms, conditions or limitations on the member's certificate of registration.

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4. Requiring that the member be reprimanded, admonished or counseled by the Committee

or its delegate.

5. Imposing a fine in an amount that the Committee considers appropriate, to a maximum of

\$2,000, to be paid by the member to the Minister of Finance for payment into the

Consolidated Revenue Fund.

6. Fixing costs to be paid by the member.

The Panel may also direct the Registrar to not carry out a direction made under paragraphs 1, 2

or 3 above for a specified period and to not carry out the direction at all if specified terms are met

within that period. The Panel may specify the terms it considers appropriate, including but not

limited to terms requiring the successful completion of specified courses of study.

In making an order under paragraphs 1, 2 or 3, the Panel may also fix a period during which the

member may not apply to have a new certificate issued, to have the suspension removed, or to

vary the terms, conditions and limitations.

The Rules of Procedure of the Discipline Committee and of the Fitness to Practise Committee

can be found on the College's website at college-ece.ca. The Rules can also be made available

to you upon request.

IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND AT THE HEARING, IN PERSON OR BY REPRESENTATIVE, THE

PANEL MAY PROCEED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY

FURTHER NOTICE OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

DATE:

June 4, 2024

Beth Deazeley

Registrar & CEO

College of Early Childhood Educators

STATEMENT OF ALLEGATIONS

SUREKKANTH SURESH NADARAJAH, RECE # 108742

- At all material times, Surekkanth Suresh Nadarajah (the "Member") was a member of the College of Early Childhood Educators and was employed as an Early Childhood Educator ("ECE") at Childventures Early Learning Academy in Milton, Ontario (the "Centre").
- On or about the morning of March 27, 2023, the Member engaged in the following aggressive, forceful and/or demeaning conduct towards children he was responsible for supervising in the Centre's JK/SK room:
 - a. At approximately 11:27 a.m., three children ("Child 1", "Child 2" and "Child 3") were standing next to a table and playing with toy blocks. The Member abruptly grabbed Child 1 by her elbows, lifted her and forcefully seated her on the floor. The Member then grabbed Child 2 by her arm, pulled her away from the table and pushed her to the floor, causing her to fall onto her knees. Child 3 observed the Member's interaction with Child 1 and Child 2 and attempted to run away from the Member. The Member grabbed Child 3 by her arm and forced her to return to the table.
 - b. At approximately 11:28 a.m., Child 1, Child 2, and Child 3 were under the table picking up toy blocks from the floor. The Member grabbed Child 1 from under the table and pulled her to a standing position. The Member then forced Child 1 to place the toy blocks into a container. When Child 3 tried to assist in putting the blocks into the container, the Member stopped her by grabbing her wrists.
 - c. At approximately 11:29 a.m., Child 2 was kneeling next to the table and putting toy blocks into the container. The Member angrily pushed a chair against the table, shifting the table forwards, and then abruptly took the container from Child 2. He then lifted Child 2 from the floor and repositioned her at the table.
 - d. The Member yelled at the children to line up against the wall, causing Child 1 and Child 2 to cover their ears. The Member grabbed another child "(**Child 4**") by the wrist and directed him to the wall. The Member angrily pushed a chair against the table, and then gestured with his arms in a frustrated manner, while Child 1 and Child 2 continued covering their ears. The Member then knocked a toy structure on the table and tossed it to the floor.

- e. At approximately 11:30 a.m., the Member walked over to another table while the children remained seated against the wall. The Member picked up a container of toy blocks and angrily slammed it on the table, causing some pieces to scatter on the floor. The Member then approached Child 2, who still had her hands covering her ears and was attempting to crawl on her knees away from the Member. The Member grabbed Child 2's arm and directed her to the table. The Member then pushed Child 1 towards the table.
- f. At approximately 11:31 a.m., Child 1 and Child 2 attempted to collect the toy blocks from the floor into the container. The Member approached Child 2, grabbed her by her upper arms, lifted her onto her knees, and moved her to the table. The Member then approached Child 1 and pushed her down to the floor, causing her head to move abruptly as she fell to the floor. The Member then grabbed Child 1 by the upper arms, lifted her to a standing position and pushed her to the table.
- g. At approximately 11:32 a.m., the Member approached another child, who was on the floor picking up toy blocks and putting them into a container on a table ("Child 5"). The Member grabbed Child 5 by the upper arms and lifted him to a standing position. The Member then held Child 5's hands and forced him to put toy blocks into the container. The Member then approached Child 1, who was at a different table taking toy blocks and dropping them into a tray on the floor. The Member grabbed Child 1's hands and forced her to collect some toy blocks. The Member then approached another child who was helping Child 1 by putting toy blocks into a container ("Child 6"). The Member forcefully grabbed the container out of Child 6's hand and dumped the contents onto the table, before pulling Child 6 away from the table.
- h. At approximately 11:38 a.m., a child crawled out from under a table next to the Member ("Child 7"). The Member grabbed Child 7 by the arm and pulled him to a standing position before pushing him towards a table.
- 3. By engaging in the conduct set out in paragraph 2 above, the Member engaged in professional misconduct as defined in subsection 33(2) of the *Early Childhood Educators Act*, 2007, S.O. 2007, c. 7, Sch. 8 in that:
 - a) The Member physically abused a child who was under his professional supervision, contrary to Ontario Regulation 223/08, subsection 2(3.1);

- The Member verbally abused a child who was under his professional supervision, contrary to Ontario Regulation 223/08, subsection 2(3);
- c) The Member psychologically or emotionally abused a child who was under his professional supervision, contrary to Ontario Regulation 223/08, subsection 2(3.2);
- d) The Member failed to maintain the standards of the profession, contrary to Ontario Regulation 223/08, subsection 2(8), in that:
 - The Member failed to be knowledgeable about a range of strategies that support ongoing positive interactions with children and families, contrary to Standard I.B.2 of the College's Standards of Practice;
 - ii. The Member failed to engage in supportive and respectful interactions with children to ensure they feel a sense of security and belonging, contrary to Standard I.C.2 of the College's Standards of Practice;
 - iii. The Member failed to work in partnership with children, families and colleagues to create a safe, healthy and inviting environment that promotes a sense of belonging, well-being and inclusion, contrary to Standard III.C.1 of the College's Standards of Practice;
 - iv. The Member failed to know the current legislation, policies and procedures that are relevant to his professional practice and to the care and education of children, contrary to Standard IV.B.1 of the College's Standards of Practice; and/or
 - v. The Member failed to model professional values, beliefs and behaviours with children, families and colleagues, and/or he failed to understand that his conduct reflects on him as a professional and on his profession at all times, contrary to Standard IV.C.4 of the College's Standards of Practice.
- e) The Member acted or failed to act in a manner that, having regard to the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable or unprofessional, contrary to Ontario Regulation 223/08, subsection 2(10); and/or
- f) The Member acted in a manner that is unbecoming a Member, contrary to Ontario Regulation 223/08, subsection 2(22).