



# STUDENT SUCCESS

## Student Learning

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### STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to fully participate in all aspects of the program, including actively engaging in all classroom activities. Successful completion of the program will require periods of collaboration with classmates, recognizing that supporting other learners is of mutual benefit. Students are expected to work with all members of their cohort. Students are encouraged to ask course-related questions, seek additional help and engage in class discussions under the direction of the instructor who reserves the right to ask students to hold their questions and comments until a time that the instructor deems appropriate.

Students are encouraged to pre-read and engage in the material presented and to work with a variety of classmates, especially in treatment classes.

### STUDENT SUPPORT

To support student success, VCMT makes available a number of staff members for student consultation and support.

All members of faculty are available by appointment to discuss college-related items. Questions regarding tuition, attendance, the student contract and policies should be directed to VCMT Administration. Concerns regarding the classroom, assignments, exams, duties and clinic should be addressed with the particular instructor first. Please email the faculty member in question to set up a convenient meeting time.

Students who have significant concerns related to their studies are encouraged to discuss the matter confidentially with VCMT's Senior Administrator. Providing advance notice of extenuating circumstances which may impact a student's capacity to successfully complete a course or term are best addressed as early in the program as possible.

### CLINIC/OUTREACH PLACEMENTS

Through the internship component of the program, students will receive placements at various off-site outreach locations and provide massage to a variety of patient populations. This will allow students to integrate the academic, professional and practical knowledge in an applied setting in preparation for a varied, successful career.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

Periodically, representatives from various professions are invited to speak at VCMT on a range of topics related to business, finance, motivation, career planning, customer service etc. Guest speakers bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise and are often leaders in their respective areas. They do not directly represent VCMT, and their views and perspectives may not necessarily reflect those of VCMT, but it is important for learners to be introduced to the varying opinions that reflect the diversity of thought within registered massage and parallel/supporting industries.

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Students who are struggling academically will meet with the Senior Administrator or other member of VCMT's management team to discuss their progress in the program. The purpose of the meeting will be to clarify the reasons behind the student's performance and to collaboratively fashion a strategy for improvement. Ultimately, if no effective means of accountability and support can be implemented, a student may be dismissed from the program.

VCMT's primary objective is to ensure the overall success of our students. As part of this goal, VCMT is structured to allow students to progress as one consistent cohort throughout the program. To



support student success, VCMT provides access to a student mentoring and tutoring program, encouraging students to take advantage of those initiatives as the need arises.

## **TUTORS**

As students move through the program, they may decide that in addition to their scheduled classes, they may benefit from additional tutorial sessions. These sessions are scheduled on the student's own time and will incur an additional cost, born by the student. VCMT has partnered with several alumni who are willing to provide tutorials for current students. If you decide that you would like to get a tutor, please let the Dean know which subject is involved and they will connect you with the appropriate alumni.

## **MEETING WITH INSTRUCTORS**

From time to time students may want to schedule a meeting with an instructor to discuss their performance in the classroom or perhaps review an evaluation. While students are encouraged to do so, they should recognize that the vast majority of VCMT Instructors are professionals with a private practice who may have limited opportunity to meet outside of their scheduled instructional days. Instructors will respond to emailed requests, but students should maintain reasonable expectations regarding response times and should also ensure that such conversations are respectful in tone and expectation.

## **Preparing for the Profession**

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### **EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION**

VCMT prepares students for employment and a successful career as a massage therapist. This is accomplished by providing a high-quality education within a professional learning environment. We set high standards and ask students to conduct themselves responsibly and to think and respond like professionals. We believe that this will enable our students to make a smoother transition into the workforce. Our intentions are reflected not only in the demanding curriculum and performance standards, but also in our high levels of accountability around organizational matters such as our dress code, conduct expectations and attendance policies.

### **CONSIDERATIONS FOR BODYWORK PRACTICE AS A STUDENT**

There are various reasons why a student may wish to create a bodywork practice outside VCMT, including:

- Practice assessment and manual skills learned in class;
- Provide treatment to family and friends; and
- Earn income as a bodyworker.

If a student wishes to earn income as a bodyworker prior to registration as an RMT, below are four considerations:

- Refer to CCHPBC's reserved titles (found [here](#) in Notices to the Profession, November 25, 2018) to ensure compliance in identification in accordance with CCHPBC requirements. During clinical internship at VCMT, the titles Student Intern or Massage Intern are used.
- Refer to the CCHPBC Code of Ethics and Standard of Practice to develop a practice and provide massage aligned with the College. (found [here](#))
- Do not use the VCMT name or VCMT branding in promotional material.
- Consider obtaining student malpractice insurance. RMTBC offers insurance to student members. Contact them for more information: <https://www.rmtbc.ca/membership/>.



**PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING A JOB BOARD**

Many local clinics post current opportunities on VCMT's website under <https://vcmt.ca/job-postings/>