

Report



As part of the 2022 Regional Tour, the Réseau visited 6 cities across Quebec. The team went out to meet with members in order to discuss the approaches to favour in order to foster recognition of Quebec's massage therapists and better oversight of the profession.

The tour kicked off in June and the Réseau travelled to Brossard, Trois-Rivières, Laval and Montreal. Then in September, the association continued its visits in Mont-Tremblant and Quebec City.

On site, we noted that most members present had a strong interest in taking part in this type of event. The people involved demonstrated their motivation to us to gather and discuss the profession with their colleagues.

At the 6 consultation meetings, we asked the same 4 questions of participants in order to orient and structure discussions:

QUESTION 1 : Do you think that massage therapy in Quebec is lacking recognition? If so, tell us from whom and why, in your opinion.

QUESTION 2 : Are the basic training requirements to practice massage therapy appropriate?

QUESTION 3 : In your opinion, what are the strong points of the current oversight model and its weaknesses? Is massage therapy ready for a new form of oversight?

QUESTION 4 : Does oversight by a single official organization that would control access to the profession and the title of massage therapist, other than a professional order, seem like an appealing approach to you? If so, what conditions should be met in order for such a transition to be beneficial for massage therapists and the public?

In all groups, discussions were highly constructive and lively. Each question brought its share of discussions and members were able to state their opinions openly. Notably, subjects were repeatedly raised, such as the lack of recognition for the profession by various stakeholders, basic massage therapy training requirements or the number of hours of continuing training to be completed.

Certain elements also saw a consensus among participants, such as interest in a title reserved for massage therapists, a better standardization of the theoretical component of the basic training and assessments as well as a better harmonization of oversight practices implemented by associations.

In light of these findings, we want to expand on certain subjects by polling all our members in December 2022.

