

Man charged with sexual assault at Aurora spa

By Brock Weir

York Regional police have charged a 33-year-old Toronto man in connection with a sexual assault at an Aurora spa.

Investigators handling the case urge anyone with information to contact police and believe there may be more victims out there who have not come forward, according to Constable Laura Nicolle of the York Regional Police.

On February 18, a 37-year-old female came forward to police and reported that a massage therapist had touched her sexually during a treatment session, said Constable Nicolle. The victim advised police she had attended a massage and facial spa and saw a registered massage therapist for a standard session. During the session the accused touched the victim sexually without her consent.

The suspect was employed as a registered massage therapist at two separate legitimate businesses in Aurora and Toronto since November 2014.

The accused, Jasil Puniyanikodan, was arrested in Newmarket Friday without incident. He is scheduled to appear in Newmarket Courts next Tuesday.

The charges have not been proven in court.

A sexual assault includes any non-consensual contact of a sexual nature [and] York Regional Police encourages anyone who feels they may have been a victim of a sexual assault to come forward and report the incident to police, added Constable Nicolle. There is no statute of limitations for sexual offences and offenders can be prosecuted well after the date of the offence.

Anyone with information is asked to call the York Regional Police's #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423 x7071 or anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.