

INQUIRY COMMITTEE RECORD OF DECISION

FILE NAME: DH1302

FACTS

On March 22, 2013, a Registrant called the College upon realizing that (s)he had not renewed prior to the end of the renewal period. This was the Registrant's first renewal after graduating the previous year. The Registrant was not aware that his/her registration ended on February 28, 2013, and thought it would expire on the one year anniversary date of initial registration. The College advised that registration and renewal information was available in the Registrant's Handbook, the College Website and noted that several reminder emails had been sent out. The Registrant advised that the email address on file with the College was incorrect and confirmed that (s)he has been practicing since March 1st and would be applying for reinstatement. The College advised the Registrant that (s)he was not licensed to practice until the reinstatement application was approved by the Registrar and that the College had attempted to contact him/her by telephone regarding renewal but the telephone number s(he) had provided was no longer in service. The Registrant was reinstated on March 22, 2013.

On April 8, 2013, the CDHBC Inquiry Committee initiated an investigation under s. 33(4)(a) of the *Health Professions Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 183 (the "Act") to determine whether the Registrant had engaged in the authorized practice of dental hygiene without registration contrary to s. 13 of the Act, ss. 3 and 5(a) of the *Dental Hygienists Regulation* and ss. 47(1) and 49 of the College bylaws.

Under direction of the Inquiry Committee, the CDHBC Registrar notified the Registrant of the investigation and requested the Registrant's response to the investigation, in accordance with s. 33(5) of the Act.

The Registrant provided a written response, explaining that (s)he had been overwhelmed and preoccupied with other personal matters and believed that (s)he had renewed on time. It was not until the Registrant contacted the College to confirm his/her renewal and request a tax receipt that (s)he became aware that (s)he was not currently registered. The Registrant ceased practicing dental hygiene until s(he) was reinstated.

COMMITTEE DECISION

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Inquiry Committee determined that the evidence established that the Registrant had engaged in unauthorized practice without registration contrary to s. 13 of the Act, ss. 3 and 5(a) of the *Dental Hygienists Regulation* and ss. 47(1) and 49 of the College bylaws for the period March 1, 2013 until March 22, 2013.

The Inquiry Committee determined, in accordance with section 33(6)(a) of the *Health Professions Act*, that this was an appropriate case to take no further action on matter DH1302 other than to request the Registrant to voluntarily sign an undertaking not to repeat the conduct of engaging in the unauthorized practice of dental hygiene without full registration with the College, to keep the College apprised of current contact information, and to review and become thoroughly familiar with the requirements set out in the CDHBC Registrant's Handbook.

RELEVANT PROVISION OF ACT, REGULATION, OR BYLAWS: Act, section 33(4); 33(5); 33(6)(a)

STATUS: Closed

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: *Health Professions Act* s 33