

**INQUIRY COMMITTEE
RECORD OF DECISION**

File Reference: DH1602

ELEMENTS OF COMPLAINT

On March 8, 2016, the College received information suggesting that the Registrant was practicing dental hygiene without valid registration between March 1, 2016 and March 8, 2016.

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 s. 47(1) of the College bylaws prior to renewal of his/her registration.

On April 5, 2016, 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.

On May 4, 2016, the College made further attempts by telephone and email to contact the Registrant as it had not received a response regarding the investigation. On May 15, 2016, the initial notification letter was returned to the College by the courier as it had been unclaimed by the Registrant.

The College made subsequent attempts to contact the Registrant by telephone and email. On June 1, 2016 the Registrar spoke directly with the Registrant regarding his/her outstanding response to the notice of investigation. The Registrant acknowledged having been notified of a courier package but advised s/he had not been able to pick it up.

On June 5, 2016, the College received the Registrant's written response to the investigation, in which s/he advised that all College correspondence had been going to a spam folder and that s/he had not been aware of the investigation until s/he spoke with the Registrar. The Registrant also advised that s/he had created a new email address to prevent this from occurring again. The Registrant further advised that s/he had been experiencing some health issues at the time of renewal, which had affected his/her focus and contributed to misunderstanding the deadlines for renewal.

Upon review of the response, the Inquiry Committee directed the Registrant to attend for an in-person meeting. The Registrant attended a meeting with the Inquiry Committee Panel to discuss his/her conduct.

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, 2016 to March 8, 2016. The Inquiry Committee was also concerned that the Registrant had failed to take steps to ensure that the College had his/her current contact information.

In accordance with section 33(6)(c) of the Act, the Inquiry Committee determined that this was an appropriate case to seek a consent order with terms that required the Registrant not to repeat the conduct of engaging in the unauthorized practice of dental hygiene, to thoroughly review the

requirements set out in the CDBHC College Bylaws, to successfully complete the JEM within ten days of signing the consent order, and to complete the BCDHA's Module F1: Jurisprudence and Ethics, to write an essay of not less than 1000 words outlining the College's annual renewal process and the deadlines that s/he must meet, and to pay \$500 towards the College's costs of investigation in accordance with the College Bylaw's Schedule "G."

RELEVANT PROVISION OF ACT, REGULATION OR BYLAWS

Act, section 13; 33(4); 33(5); 33(6)(c) Bylaws, 47(1); Regulation, 3 and 5(a)

STATUS

Closed.