

IN THE MATTER OF THE *TEACHERS ACT*, SBC 2011 c. 19

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING

DARREN RICHARD BROWN

SUMMARY OF CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

This summary is published under section 54(3) of the Teachers Act to protect the identity of students who were harmed, abused or exploited by the Teacher.

- 1. Darren Richard Brown holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification No. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on January 18, 2000, is valid from September 1, 1999, and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
- 2. At all material times, Brown was employed as a high school teacher at an independent school in British Columbia (the "School").
- 3. On June 30, 2022, the School principal made a report to the Commissioner regarding Brown, under section 7 of the *Independent Schools Act*.
- 4. Brown sent inappropriate messages on social media to Student A, who had recently graduated. Brown initiated this contact by sending Student A a "wave" emoji and wishing Student A a happy birthday when Student A turned 18 years old. Over the next year, Brown sent messages to Student A, sometimes late at night, in which he complimented Student A and wrote that Student A was his "favourite", a "kind soul", and warmed his heart. He offered to take Student A out for coffee or an "adult beverage". Brown took Student A out for coffee once. Student A began to feel uncomfortable and stopped responding to Brown's messages. Brown sent several more messages to Student A after Student A stopped replying.

- 5. Brown also used social media to send messages to other recently graduated students, asking how they were and saying that he missed them. Some of these messages were sent late at night. One student messaged Brown to give him some advice about the way it looked to send messages to former students late at night.
- 6. Brown also messaged another Student B, who had graduated from the School. Brown asked about what Student B was doing, complimented Student B and sent a message which contained a sexual innuendo. Brown says that he intended to send this message to another person.
- 7. On June 14, 2022, Brown resigned from his employment at the School.
- 8. On November 16, 2022, the Commissioner ordered an investigation under section 47(1) of the *Teachers Act*.
- 9. On May 15, 2024, the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Brown, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.
- 10. On July 24, 2025, Brown entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner, in which he admitted that the conduct set out in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 constitutes professional misconduct under section 63 of the *Teachers Act* and is contrary to Standards #1 and 2 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators* (June 2019).
- 11. In the consent resolution agreement, Brown agreed to a two-week suspension of his certificate of qualification and to successfully complete the course *Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries* at the Justice Institute of B.C. by March 30, 2026.
- 12. In determining that a two-week suspension and completion of the course are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. Brown's conduct in the way that he messaged former students was a breach of his privileged position of power and trust as their teacher.
 - b. His conduct demonstrated a pattern of boundary violations and showed a lack of understanding of appropriate professional boundaries.
 - c. Brown's conduct undermines public confidence in the education system.
- 13. Brown agreed that he will not make any statement orally or in writing which contradicts, disputes or calls into question the terms of the consent resolution agreement or the admissions made in it.