

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

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING

SHAY BERNARD CRAWFORD



CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN:

THE COMMISSIONER, APPOINTED UNDER THE TEACHERS ACT

(the "Commissioner")

AND:

SHAY BERNARD CRAWFORD

("Crawford")

BACKGROUND and **FACTS**

- 1. Crawford holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. 1. issued by the Director of Certification (the "Director") under the *Teachers Act* on September 22, 2020 and valid from the same day.
- 2. At all material times, Crawford was employed as a secondary school teacher by School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) (the "District") at a school in the District (the "School").
- 3. The following events occurred:
 - a. On November 8, 2021, Crawford was charged with one count of sexual assault, contrary to section 271 of the *Criminal Code of Canada*. This charge related to conduct that occurred in 2021.

- b. On December 7, 2021, Crawford notified the Teacher Regulation Branch that he had been charged with a criminal offence. He did not provide further information about the charge. This matter is designated File 01.
- c. On December 16, 2021, the District suspended Crawford from his teaching duties on an indefinite basis.
- d. On August 30, 2022, Crawford was convicted in the British Columbia Provincial Court of one count of sexual assault, contrary to section 271 of the *Criminal Code of Canada* (the "Conviction").
- e. On October 22, 2022, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Crawford, under section 16 of the *School Act*. This report is designated File 02.
- f. On May 17, 2023, Crawford was given a conditional sentence of two years less a day in respect of the Conviction, followed by 12 months of probation. Conditions were imposed, including to: provide his conditional sentence supervisor/ probation officer with details of his employment and intimate relationship status; comply with the *Sex Offender Information Registration Act* for 20 years; attend, participate in and complete any assessment, treatment or program required by his conditional sentence supervisor/probation officer, including any sex offender treatment; have no-contact with the victim; and not possess any firearm or other prohibited weapon for a period of 10 years.
- g. Crawford appealed the conviction to the British Columbia Court of Appeal.
- h. January 28, 2025, the Court of Appeal dismissed his appeal, upholding the Conviction.
- 4. There is a publication ban under section 486.4 of the *Criminal Code of* Canada in respect of the Conviction, which prohibits the publication, broadcast or transmission of any information that could identify a victim or witness.
- 5. On December 7, 2021, the Commissioner ordered an investigation under section 47(1) of the *Teachers Act*.
- 6. On October 20, 2023, Crawford gave an undertaking not to teach in any role or position in the kindergarten to grade 12 education system that requires a certificate or other authorization under the *Teachers Act*, until the final resolution of this matter.
- 7. On February 14, 2025, the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Crawford, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.

CONSEQUENCES

- 8. This Agreement is made under section 53 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 9. Crawford understands and acknowledges that this Agreement is not effective until executed by the Commissioner, and that the date of execution by the Commissioner will be the effective date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date").
- 10. Crawford admits that the facts set out in paragraphs 1 to 6 of this Agreement are true.
- 11. Crawford admits that the conduct described in paragraph 3 of this Agreement constitutes conduct unbecoming and is contrary to Standard #2 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 2019.
- 12. Crawford agrees to a cancellation of his certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(e) of the *Teachers Act*, which will occur on the first business day following the Effective Date.
- 13. Crawford further agrees that for a period of ten years, he will not apply for, and understands the Director of Certification (the "Director") will be required not to issue to him, a certificate of qualification, an independent school teaching certificate or any other authorization to teach in the kindergarten to grade 12 education system under section 64(g) of the *Teachers Act*, or any successor legislation.
- 14. In determining that cancellation and a ten-year ban on issuance of a certificate or other authorization are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. Sexual assault is a serious matter that deprives another person of their bodily integrity.
 - b. In submissions on sentence after the Conviction, Crawford acknowledged that he would lose his entitlement to teach, and this factor was considered in sentencing.
 - c. The trial judge stated in the reasons for sentence that Crawford's "moral culpability and blameworthiness are indeed high", that he was "not genuinely remorseful", and that he made statements that blamed the victim for his offence.
 - d. Crawford is presently not a person of good moral character and otherwise fit and proper to work as a teacher in a position of trust and authority.
- 15. Crawford agrees not to make any statement orally or in writing which contradicts, disputes or calls into question the terms of this Agreement or the admissions made in it.

EFFECT OF THE AGREEMENT

- 16. The Director of Certification will record the terms of this Agreement on the online registry of the Ministry of Education and Child Care, under section 79(d) of the *Teachers Act*.
- 17. Crawford acknowledges that this Agreement will be published in accordance with section 54 of the *Teachers Act*, which includes posting the Agreement, in full, on the following website: https://teacherregulation.gov.bc.ca.
- 18. Notification of this Agreement will be made in accordance with section 55 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 19. If Crawford applies for a certificate of qualification, an independent school teaching certificate, or other authorization to teach in the kindergarten to grade twelve education system after expiry of the period set out in paragraph 14, it is agreed, without limiting any other power of the Director to determine Crawford's fitness and suitability to be granted a certificate of qualification, independent school teaching certificate or letter of permission, that the Director may consider:
 - a. the facts set out and admitted in this Agreement;
 - b. any document or other evidence gathered or prepared by the Branch in any investigation of this matter; and
 - c. any evidence of breach by Crawford of one or more terms of this Agreement.
- 20. Crawford acknowledges that he has voluntarily entered into this Agreement with the benefit of independent legal advice, and that he fully understands the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement.

Signed in	, B.C.		
this 15 Cranbrook	, 2025.	Shay Bernard Crawford	

Signed in New Westminster, B.C.

this 21st day of July , 2025.

Donnaree Nygard, Acting Commissioner