



BRITISH COLUMBIA
COMMISSIONER FOR
TEACHER REGULATION

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

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING

ADAM RICHARD MACDONALD



SUMMARY OF CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

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

1. Macdonald holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. [REDACTED]. It was issued by the Director of Certification (the “Director”) under the *Teachers Act* on March 2, 2015, and is valid from March 2, 2015.
2. On February 15, 2024, Macdonald signed an Undertaking Not to Teach in any role or position requiring a Ministry of Education and Child Care Certificate of Qualification, Independent School Teaching Certificate, or Letter of Permission as defined in the *Teachers Act*.
3. At all material times, Macdonald was employed as a teacher by a school district in B.C. (the “District”), at a District school.
4. On February 5, 2024, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Macdonald, under section 16 of the *School Act*.
5. The following events occurred:
 - a. Student A was a student in the District but was not a student at the School at which Macdonald taught. Student A was also a member of a local Indigenous community.
 - b. In January 2016, Student A met Macdonald for the first time on a two-day field trip (the “Field Trip”) which included students and teachers from four different District schools. At the time, Student A was in Grade 11. On the Field Trip, Student A

interacted with Macdonald.

- c. Before the end of June 2016, Student A and Macdonald connected on Grindr, the dating app. At this point in time, Student A was 17 years old but had claimed to be 18 years old in order to access Grindr. Macdonald was unaware of the fact that Student A was a District student during this period. They then ceased communication for several months until the 2016/2017 school year.
 - d. In the 2016/2017 school year, when Student A was in Grade 12, Student A and Macdonald reconnected via Grindr and corresponded on a weekly basis. After reconnecting on Grindr, Student A and Macdonald realized that they had previously met on the Field Trip. Student A and Macdonald switched to messaging via Instagram. They also exchanged messages by regular text messaging after Macdonald gave Student A his telephone number.
 - e. In the summer of 2017, after Student A graduated from high school, Student A and Macdonald met in person at Macdonald's home and engaged in sexualized physical contact. At this time, Student A was 18 years old. Over the course of the next year, Student A and Macdonald continued to periodically engage in physical contact, including kissing, cuddling and, on at least one occasion, oral sex.
 - f. At one point, Macdonald told Student A that the District could not say anything about their relationship as they were at different District schools.
6. On February 5, 2024, Macdonald resigned from the District, effective immediately.
7. The District had previously issued Macdonald a letter of direction on June 14, 2016, in which he was directed to:
 - a. establish and maintain appropriate professional boundaries with students and always be mindful of their individual rights and sensibilities;
 - b. refrain from communicating with students about his own personal sexual experience; and
 - c. participate in a District-approved boundaries course.
8. On [REDACTED] Macdonald entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner, in which Macdonald admitted that the conduct set out in paragraph 5 constitutes professional misconduct and conduct unbecoming under section 63 of the *Teachers Act* and is contrary to Standards #1 and #9 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators* (June 2019).

9. In the consent resolution agreement, Macdonald agreed to cancellation of his certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(e) of the *Teachers Act*.
10. Macdonald further agreed that for a period of eight years, he will not apply for, and understands 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 64(g) of the *Teachers Act*, or any successor legislation.
11. In determining that cancellation of his certificate and an eight-year ban on reapplication are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. Macdonald engaged with a person he knew to be a current District student, on an adult website over several weeks.
 - b. Macdonald engaged in inappropriate physical contact of a sexual nature with a person he knew had recently graduated from a District school.
 - c. Macdonald's behaviour was a serious breach of his position of power and trust as a teacher.
 - d. Macdonald signed an undertaking not to practice in February 2024, and has not been authorized to teach since that time.
12. Macdonald 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.