

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

AND

IN THE MATTER CONCERNING TRAVIS CURRY MITCHELL

CONSENT RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN:

THE COMMISSIONER, APPOINTED UNDER THE *TEACHERS ACT* (the "Commissioner")

AND:

TRAVIS CURRY MITCHELL ("Mitchell")

BACKGROUND and **FACTS**

- 1. Mitchell held a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No. 2007, issued by the Director of Certification (the "Director") under the *Teachers Act* on January 23, 2018, and was valid from January 23, 2018.
- 2. Mitchell's certificate of qualification was cancelled on November 1, 2021, due to non-payment of fees.
- 3. At all material times, Mitchell was employed as an elementary teacher by School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) (the "District") at a school in the District (the "School").
- 4. On June 12, 2020, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Mitchell, under section 16 of the *School Act*.

- 5. On July 31, 2020, Mitchell signed an undertaking not to teach in any role or position requiring a Ministry of Education Certificate of Qualification, Independent School Certificate, or Letter of Permission as defined in the *Teachers Act*.
- 6. The following events occurred:
 - a. In June 2020, police received a report about inappropriate communications between Mitchell and a minor, in relation to whom Mitchell had been in a position of trust, related to a role outside of the teaching profession.
 - b. On June 9, 2020, Mitchell was arrested. At the time of Mitchell's arrest, his cell phone and computer were seized and child pornography was found on Mr. Mitchell's devices.
 - a. On April 29, 2021, Mitchell pleaded guilty to one count of possession of child pornography, contrary to section 163.1(4).
 - b. On October 13, 2021, Mitchell was sentenced to an 18-month conditional sentence order (the "CSO"), followed by 12 months' probation, with conditions including a prohibition on contact or communication with persons under the age of 16, as well as 10 years' inclusion on the National Sex Offender Registry.
- 7. On November 23, 2021, the Commissioner considered this matter and determined to propose a consent resolution agreement to Mitchell, in accordance with section 53(1)(a) of the *Teachers Act*.

CONSEQUENCES

- 8. This Agreement is made under section 53 and section 43 of the *Teachers Act*.
- 9. Mitchell 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. Mitchell admits that the facts set out in paragraphs 1 to 6 of this Agreement are true.
- 11. Mitchell admits that the conduct described in paragraph 6 of this Agreement constitutes conduct unbecoming and is contrary to Standard #1 and Standard #2 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 2019.
- 12. Mitchell agrees that he will never apply for, and understands the Director of Certification (the "Director") will never 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.
- 13. In determining that a lifetime ban on reapplication and reissuance is an appropriate consequence, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. Mitchell was convicted of a criminal offence that involves the exploitation of minors for sexual advantage;
 - b. Mitchell failed to maintain appropriate boundaries with a minor; and
 - c. Mitchell's conduct was at the serious end of the spectrum and had the potential to undermine the public's confidence in the teaching profession.
- 14. Mitchell 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

- 15. The Director will record the terms of this Agreement on the Ministry of Education's online registry under section 79(d) of the *Teachers Act*.
- 16. Mitchell 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: www.teacherregulation.gov.bc.ca.
- 17. Mitchell 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 Comox this 14 day of July	, B.C.	Travis Curry Mitchell
Signed in Victoria	, B.C.	Hort 20
this 26 day of July	, 2022.	Howard L. Kushner, Commissioner