



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

AND

**IN THE MATTER CONCERNING
DOUGLAS SERGEI DAVID RYGA
CONSENT RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

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

1. Ryga holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers under the *Teaching Profession Act* on December 5, 2000, is valid from September 1, 2000, and was continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
2. At all material times, Ryga was employed as a secondary school music teacher by School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) (the “District”) at a school in the District (the “School”).
3. In 2021, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Ryga under section 16 of the *School Act*.
4. In 2021, Ryga singled out a student (“Student A”) in class by making an inappropriate comment to Student A.
5. The District suspended Ryga for six days.
6. The District had previously warned Ryga about making inappropriate comments to students and behaving unprofessionally with students, by letters in 2019, 2008, and 2004.
7. On November 15, 2022, Ryga entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner in which Ryga admitted that his conduct described in paragraph 4 above constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 19, 2019.
8. Ryga agreed to a reprimand and to successfully complete the “Professional Boundaries”

course through the Justice Institute of British Columbia (the “Course”) under sections 53 and 64(a), (f) and (h) of the *Teachers Act*.

9. In determining that the reprimand and the Course are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
 - a. Ryga failed to care for students’ emotional safety in singling out Student A with a public and inappropriate comment.
 - b. Ryga was previously warned about similar behaviour.
 - c. Ryga has been disciplined by the District for the Comment and has taken steps to address personal issues that may have contributed to his behaviour.