



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

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER CONCERNING**

**JONNY KARL TOMA**

**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. Toma held an Interim Professional Certificate of Qualification. It was issued by the B.C. College of Teachers (the “College”) under the *Teaching Profession Act* on May 20, 1992, and was valid from January 1, 1992, until August 31, 1999.
2. Toma currently holds a valid Professional Certificate of Qualification, No [REDACTED]. It was issued by the College under the *Teaching Profession Act* on April 12, 1999, is valid from January 1, 1999, and continued under the *Teachers Act* as of January 9, 2012.
3. On July 5, 2022, Toma signed an Undertaking Not to Practice in any position requiring a Certificate of Qualification, Independent School Teaching Certificate or Letter of Permission as defined in the *Teachers Act*.
4. At all material times, Toma was employed as a secondary school teacher by a school district in B.C. (the “District”) at a District school (the “School”).

**L133306-03: Matter 1**

5. On June 8, 2022, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Toma, under section 16 of the *School Act*. This has been designated Matter 1.
6. In March 2022, Toma made highly inappropriate comments to an at-risk student (“Student A”) at the School when Student A was going through a particularly difficult period. Toma also put his arm around Student A.

7. On March 31, 2022, the District issued Toma a letter of discipline and suspended him for three days without pay.

**L133306-04: Matter 2**

8. On June 20, 2022, the District made a report to the Commissioner regarding Toma, under section 16 of the *School Act*. This has been designated Matter 2.
9. In May and June 2022, Toma comforted another vulnerable student at the School (“Student B”) by holding Student B’s hand and hugging Student B. Student B viewed Toma as their “safe person”. Toma held hands and hugged other students at the School as well.
10. On June 17, 2022, the District issued Toma a letter of discipline and suspended him without pay from June 20 to June 30, 2022, inclusive.
11. On June 17, 2022, Toma resigned from the District, effective June 30, 2022.
12. On August 16, 2023, Toma entered into a consent resolution agreement with the Commissioner in which Toma admitted that his conduct described in paragraphs 6 and 9 above constitutes professional misconduct and is contrary to Standard #1 of the *Professional Standards for BC Educators*, June 19, 2019.
13. Toma agreed to a three-week suspension of his certificate of qualification under sections 53 and 64(b) of the *Teachers Act*. Toma will serve the suspension from September 5, 2023, to September 25, 2023, inclusive.
14. Toma also agreed under sections 64(f) and (h) of the *Teachers Act*, that after Toma has served his suspension, the Director of Certification will place a limitation on his certificate of qualification prohibiting him from teaching 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* until Toma has completed the course, *Reinforcing Respectful Professional Boundaries* (the “Course”) through the Justice Institute of B.C. and has provided satisfactory proof of completion of the Course to the Director.
15. In determining that a three-week suspension and course requirement are appropriate consequences, the Commissioner considered the following factors:
  - a. Toma failed to model respectful behaviour expected of an educator.
  - b. Toma’s conduct showed a lack of understanding of appropriate professional boundaries.

- c. Toma had previously been reminded about the importance of maintaining professional boundaries with students.
- d. Toma's conduct involved vulnerable female students who were all minors under his care at the time.