

DISCIPLINE CASE SUMMARY

a. John Graham MacPherson (DOB 1941/02/22)

- **b.** Professional Misconduct.
- **c.** The hearing was held October 22, 2001 at the College offices. The matter was brought to the attention of the College through a letter from Mr MacPherson's Superintendent in accordance with Section 16 of the *Teaching Profession Act*. The report and recommendations of the hearing panel were presented to Council on December 6, 2001.
- **d.** Mr MacPherson admitted that he engaged in improper sexual conduct with a student in his class involving hugging the student and kissing her on the lips. He further admitted that he engaged this student in private conversations concerning personal and sexual relationships. Mr MacPherson agreed that this behaviour constituted professional misconduct. The hearing panel determined that John Graham MacPherson's actions constituted professional misconduct. The panel based its determination on the following reasons:

• The panel finds that Mr MacPherson's conduct was a violation of the trust placed in him as a teacher.

• Mr MacPherson abused his position of power with regard to a student by engaging in improper sexual conduct.

- His actions frightened a student and made her uncomfortable to be around him.
- **e.** In considering penalty the hearing panel determined that Mr MacPherson's actions were a serious breach of professional conduct.
- **f.** The panel recommended to Council that John Graham MacPherson's certificate of qualification be cancelled and his membership in the British Columbia College of Teachers be terminated.