

## DISCIPLINE CASE SUMMARY

- **a.** Henry John van der Molen (DOB 1954/03/17)
- **b.** Professional Misconduct.
- **c.** The hearing was held December 2, 2002 at the College offices. The report and recommendations of the hearing panel were presented to Council on January 24, 2003.
- **d.** Mr van der Molen acknowledged the following facts:
  - 1. Mr van der Molen interacted with students via email and face to face in an inappropriate manner. Further, his inappropriate foot massages given to students were wrongful physical contact. He persisted in contacting an individual exchange student at a neighbouring university-college after she directed him to stop.
  - 2. Mr van der Molen professed his "love" for foreign exchange students to school staff members.
  - 3. Mr van der Molen used a school computer during school hours to view internet web sites which featured and displayed pornographic images of females including females who were purported to be teenagers.
  - 4. The computer on which Mr van der Molen stored his inappropriate material was accessible to students and the internet password was clearly written beside it.
- **e.** The Hearing Panel determined that Henry John van der Molen was guilty of professional misconduct.
- **f.** The reasons for the determination of the Hearing Panel were as follows:
  - 1. The pattern of conduct engaged in by Mr van der Molen constitutes a serious transgression of the boundaries of the profession. His inappropriate interest and affections for young female students, and his use of the internet on a school computer to access pornography are testament to these transgressions.
  - 2. Mr van der Molen was the principal of the school. He was the person of highest authority and responsibility in the school. No student, parent, teacher, or board member could have confidence in his leadership or fitness to work with young women.
  - 3. Teachers are inextricably linked to the integrity of the school system. Teachers occupy positions of trust and confidence, and must act accordingly. The Panel recommended to Council that Mr van der Molen's certificate of qualification be cancelled and his membership in the British Columbia College of Teachers be terminated.
- **g.** Council considered the report and recommendations of the Hearing Panel and cancelled Mr van der Molen's certificate and membership in the College of Teachers.