



## DISCIPLINE CASE SUMMARY

- a. Rhoda Nellie Parker (Certificate Issued: 2000.12.06; cancelled in 2004 for non-payment of fees)
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- b. Conduct unbecoming a member of the College
- c. The hearing was held on July 9, 2007, in Prince George, B.C. This matter originated as a report under section 16(2) of the *School Act*.
- d. Ms. Parker was a teacher at an elementary secondary school when the incidents took place in November 2002. Ms. Parker subjected a 15-year-old former female student to verbal abuse, humiliation and intimidation, which resulted in the student's temporary confinement. In addition, Ms. Parker failed to intervene in the bullying, humiliation and intimidation that took place between her husband and the former student.
- e. The Hearing Sub-Committee (the "Committee") was unanimous in its decision that Ms. Parker exhibited behaviour which constituted conduct unbecoming a member of the College.

The Committee determined that the facts in this case clearly indicated that Ms. Parker had an understanding of the unique duty of care that is incumbent of a teacher both on and off duty. Ms. Parker was in a position of trust and influence with her former student and her failure to protect her and provide for her safety had the potential of undermining the confidence the community has in the public school system. This situation was further aggravated because the school community was small and a large number of the residents are related.

- f. The Committee considered the submissions presented by counsel on penalty, publication and costs. The Committee agreed to a penalty of a one-year bar from re-issuance of a College certificate. With respect to costs, the Committee assessed a \$500.00 cost to the respondent. In the matter of publication, the Committee decided that Ms. Parker's name be released in accordance with the *Teaching Profession (Teacher Registration) Amendment Act, 2007*.