



## DISCIPLINE CASE SUMMARY

a. Christopher John Banmen

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b. Professional misconduct and conduct unbecoming a member of the College.

c. The hearing was held August 25, 2010, at the College's offices in Vancouver, British Columbia. This matter originated as a Registrar's Report under section 28(4) of the *Teaching Profession Act*.

d. In 2009, Mr. Banmen pled guilty in the Supreme Court of British Columbia to sexual assault and the production and possession of child pornography.

e. The Hearing Sub-Committee (the "Panel") was unanimous in its decision that Mr. Banmen engaged in professional misconduct and conduct unbecoming a member of the College due to his guilty pleas to charges of sexual assault and the production and possession of child pornography. The Panel found that the acts of Mr. Banmen were particularly repugnant for a member of the teaching profession, who is in a position of trust and responsibility towards children. The Panel found that the conduct to which Mr. Banmen pleaded guilty violated Standard 2 of the *Standards for the Education, Competence and Professional Conduct of Educators in British Columbia*, which expects that teachers will be role models and act with integrity to maintain the dignity and credibility of the profession. The Panel found that Mr. Banmen's conduct was clearly not that of a role model and that Mr. Banmen was accountable for his conduct while off duty because his conduct had an effect on the dignity and credibility of the education system. The teaching profession is impaired when one of its members violates the trust of children.

f. In a finding of guilt, the Panel agreed that Mr. Banmen not be issued a certificate of qualification for an indeterminate period. Mr. Banmen's certificate of qualification was cancelled in November 2008 for non-payment of fees. With respect to publication, the Panel recommended that publication of a case summary with the member's name be made in compliance with the *Teaching Profession Act* and the College's bylaws and policies. In the matter of costs, the Panel recommended that the College not assess costs for the disciplinary proceedings against Mr. Banmen. The Panel agreed that Mr. Banmen did not place any obstacles in the way of having the hearing proceed.