



BC College of Teachers

March 12, 2007

College agrees to remove Tom Ellison's ability to teach

VANCOUVER — The BC College of Teachers and Mr. Tom Ellison have signed an agreement that effectively removes Mr. Ellison's ability to return to teaching in the K-12 system.

In the agreement, Mr. Ellison agrees that he is guilty of professional misconduct and conduct unbecoming a member. The agreement also stipulates that the College will not issue Mr. Ellison a teaching certificate for an indeterminate period of time. A teaching certificate from the BC College of Teachers is necessary to teach in all public schools and most independent schools in British Columbia.

“The College's primary responsibility is to protect students by ensuring those who teach in this province are fit and proper people,” said Richard Walker, Chair of Council, “The College views Mr. Ellison's actions as clearly unacceptable to teachers, the greater educational community and to the public at large. We have moved quickly to ensure that Mr. Ellison cannot regain a position of trust in our schools.”

All teacher certification boards in Canada and the United States have been notified of this agreement, and a summary of this agreement will be made available on the College's website and in *TC*, the official magazine of the College.

Mr. Ellison has not held a valid College certificate for some time, but the College retains jurisdiction over anyone who has ever held a teaching certificate in BC. In this circumstance, the College is limited to a reprimand or setting a period of time (either set or indeterminate) where a former member will not be issued a certificate.

The College is the self-regulatory body for educators in BC. The College's responsibilities include licensing, disciplining and setting standards for educators. The College has 65,000 members. Members of the College include classroom teachers, principals and vice-principals, district administrators and superintendents.

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