



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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Serving the public through excellence and professionalism in medical practice

NOTIFICATION – June 29, 2016

Dr. HEPBURN, David Frederick

Victoria, BC

When reporting this release, please provide the name and location of the physician in full in order to avoid confusion with any other physician who may have a similar name or initials.

VANCOUVER, BC: Dr. David Frederick Hepburn, a family physician, has admitted to engaging in unprofessional conduct by accepting a substantial amount of money from a former patient in circumstances where he ought to have declined such monies.

Following the issuance of a disciplinary citation, Dr. Hepburn consented to the following disposition by the College:

- (a) Dr. Hepburn will not apply to the College for reinstatement of registration until July 1, 2018;
- (b) If he applies for registration after July 1, 2018, his application will be considered by the College's Registration Committee in accordance with the *Health Professions Act* and the College Bylaws. He will be required to meet the standard for good character and all other registration requirements;
- (c) Prior to applying for registration, Dr. Hepburn will:
 - (i) attend the College's Professionalism in Medical Practice: Avoiding the Pitfalls (formally the College's boundary course), or a similar course at the direction of the registrar;
 - (ii) complete eight to ten additional hours of continuing medical education/professional development in the areas of ethics and professionalism and boundary management as directed by the College and will provide to the registrar a written report or confirmation, in a form acceptable to the College, of successful completion of such education, instruction or courses; and
 - (iii) prior to his return to practice attend a meeting(s) at the College to discuss the education undertaken and his current understanding and insight in these areas;
- (d) Dr. Hepburn acknowledges that in the event he were to apply to be registered at some point in the future, then the College may register him in the Conditional – Disciplined class, subject to the following limits and conditions:
 - (i) Dr. Hepburn will not socialize with any patients and, in the event of incidental social contact, clearly record such an event in the patient's clinical record;
 - (ii) Dr. Hepburn will not perform house calls; and

- (iii) Dr. Hepburn will comply with any monitoring of his practice established by the College. Such monitoring will include, but is not limited to, attendance at interviews with the registrar staff of the College upon request, and provision of access to the registrar or a nominee of the registrar, to the medical office records of Dr. Hepburn and provision of reports required by this Agreement;
- (e) Dr. Hepburn will be formally reprimanded in writing by the Board of the College; and
- (f) Dr. Hepburn will pay to the College costs in the amount of \$10,000.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons is the licensing and regulatory body for all physicians and surgeons in the province. Governed by provincial legislation, the College's role is to protect the public by establishing, monitoring and enforcing high standards of qualification and ethical practice across the province.

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Media inquiries:

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